

# WELCOME!

The webinar will begin shortly.

## FOR THE BEST EXPERIENCE

- Use Google Chrome.
- Use a stable, high-speed internet connection.
- Close any unnecessary applications.
- Refresh (F5) your browser if the session freezes or becomes choppy.
- Engagement tools are resizable and movable.

## DON'T FORGET:

- To submit questions at any time, use the Q&A window.
- This webinar is being recorded. You will receive an email within one week after the event when it is ready to view.
- The resources window has additional materials you may wish to reference.

# Linking the ACT and North Carolina Standards to Drive Student Success

**ACT**<sup>®</sup>

May 22, 2024



# Welcome and Introductions



**Dr. Bryan Williams**  
Program Director,  
ACT Implementation  
Services



**Dr. Jeremy Heneger**  
Director, ACT State  
and Federal Programs



**Chris Lefevre**  
Senior Account  
Executive, ACT Client  
Relations

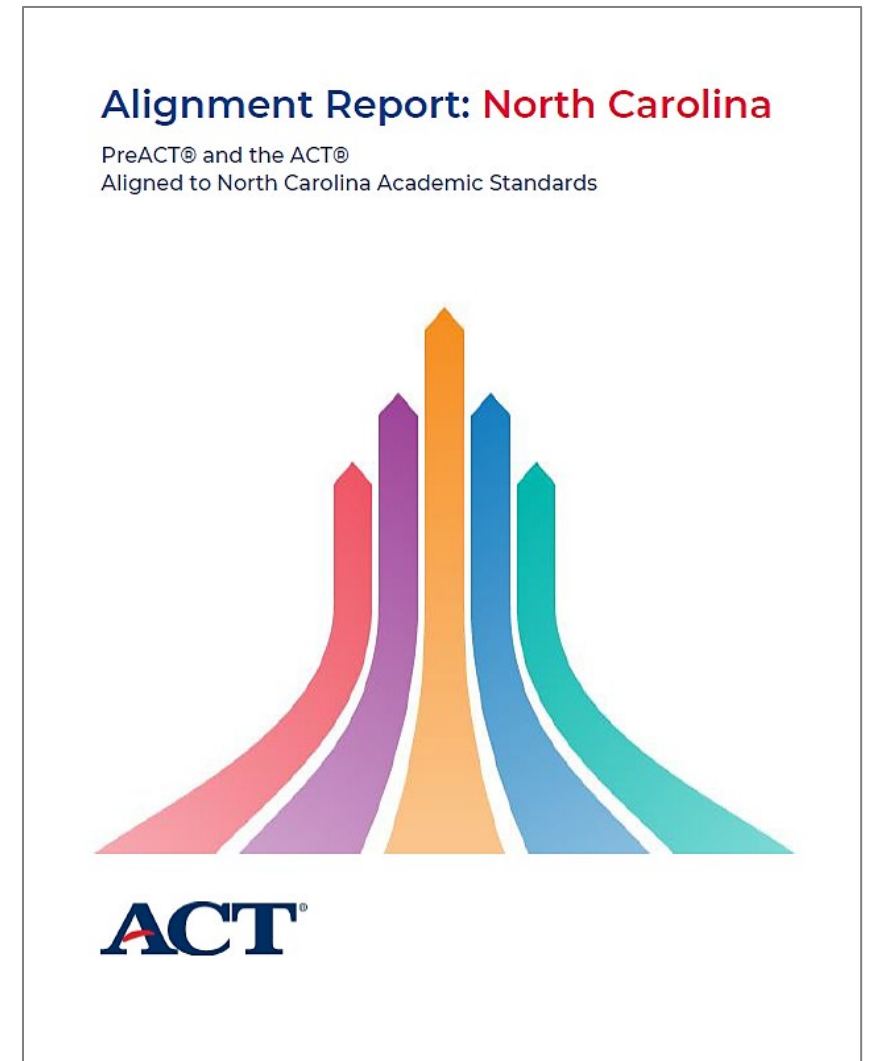


**Lydia Griffin**  
Senior Account  
Executive, ACT Client  
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# Purpose of the Alignment Report

The alignment analysis presented in this report shows the linkage between North Carolina's grades 9-12 academic standards in ELA, mathematics, and science, and the ACT assessments.

At the core of ACT's integrated system of college and career readiness tools are its assessments for grades 9-12: PreACT and the ACT.



# Presentation Overview

## Introduce the ACT Alignment Report: North Carolina

1. Purpose of the Alignment Report
2. Introductory and Supporting Information
3. How to view the Alignments

# Executive Summary

Overall, 96% of North Carolina's standards in the subjects analyzed for alignment were found to link directly or partially with one or more items on the PreACT and the ACT.

Together we will explore the different elements of the document.

***Welcome to the ACT Alignment Report for North Carolina.***

# Elements of the Guide

Section I Introduction: the alignment report

Section II Overview of the ACT Assessments: subjects, test lengths, question formats, blueprints, reporting categories/skills targeted

Section III Alignment Summary: North Carolina Standards ↔ the ACT Assessments

Section IV Detailed Alignment Results: NC ELA, Mathematics and Science

Educator's Guide: supplemental resource with suggestions for different stakeholders

# ACT Reporting Categories and North Carolina Standards

Content experts follow this three-step process for each subject area:

1. They **analyze** each of the North Carolina standards to determine which ACT reporting category, if any, best matches the intent of the North Carolina standard.
2. Using their deep knowledge of the ACT test content, they **indicate** which content skill area (or areas) includes one or more items that assess a given North Carolina standard.
3. Finally, they **record** the alignment in alignment tables.



# ACT Reporting Categories and North Carolina Standards

The crosswalk indicates which North Carolina standards have an alignment with ACT content reporting categories and skill areas.

	North Carolina ELA Standards, Grades 11-12	The ACT English Reporting Categories and Skill Areas	The ACT Reading Reporting Categories and Skill Areas
Standard Number	Standard		
	<b>Reading</b>		
<b>RL</b>	<b>Reading Standards for Literature</b>		
	Key Ideas and Evidence		
<b>RL.11-12.1</b>	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves <u>matters</u> uncertain.		<b>Key Ideas and Details:</b> Close Reading

# Overview of the ACT

- English, reading, math, and science
- Administered as a battery
- Composite and subject scores
- Each subject score is sub-divided into multiple reporting categories

# Student Data – ACT and PreACT

## Where students find scores by Reporting Categories

### Your Detailed PreACT Results

The scores below represent your performance on reporting categories measured by the test. Reporting category designations are provided to help you to start to focus on strengths and weaknesses. Categories with only a few items may be less representative of your overall performance in that category.

MATH			ENGLISH		
	Correct/Total	Percent Correct		Correct/Total	Percent Correct
Preparing for Higher Math	13/21	62%	Production of Writing	10/14	71%
• Number & Quantity	3/3	100%	Knowledge of Language	5/7	71%
• Algebra	3/5	60%	Conventions of Standard English	14/24	58%
• Functions	4/5	80%			
• Geometry	2/5	40%			
• Statistics & Probability	1/3	33%			
Integrating Essential Skills	7/15	47%			
Modeling	4/10	40%			
<b>SCIENCE</b>					
Interpretation of Data	6/12	50%			
Scientific Investigation	6/10	60%			
Evaluation of Models, Inferences & Experimental Results	2/8	25%			

### Detailed Results

Reporting Category	Correct/Total	Percent Correct	ACT Readiness Range
<b>MATH 19</b>			
Preparing for Higher Math	13 of 21	62%	Below
• Number & Quantity	3 of 3	100%	Above
• Algebra	3 of 5	60%	Below
• Functions	4 of 5	80%	Below
• Geometry	2 of 5	40%	Below
• Statistics & Probability	1 of 3	33%	Below
Integrating Essential Skills	7 of 15	47%	Below
Modeling	4 of 10	40%	Below
<b>SCIENCE 18</b>			
Interpretation of Data	6 of 12	50%	Below
Scientific Investigation	6 of 10	60%	Below
Evaluation of Models, Inferences & Experimental Results	2 of 8	25%	Below

Reporting Category	Correct/Total	Percent Correct	ACT Readiness Range
<b>ENGLISH 24</b>			
Production of Writing	10 of 14	71%	Below
Knowledge of Language	5 of 7	71%	Below
Conventions of Standard English	14 of 24	58%	Below
<b>READING 23</b>			
Key Ideas & Details	17 of 24	71%	Below
Craft & Structure	9 of 18	50%	Below
Integration of Knowledge & Ideas	6 of 8	75%	Below
Understanding Complex Texts			Below

**Understanding Complex Texts:** This indicator lets you know if you are understanding the central meaning of complex texts at a level that is needed to succeed in college courses with high reading demand.



## PreACT Item Response Summary: Online View

Reporting Category	Item Information		Response Analysis					
	Item	Key	A / F	B / G	C / H	D / J	E / K	Omit
Conventions of Standard English	35	C/H	13	29	*33	16	0	10
Conventions of Standard English	37	A/F	*37	21	10	21	0	11
Conventions of Standard English	39	A/F	*36	24	8	19	0	13
Conventions of Standard English	40	D/J	16	13	26	*32	0	14
Conventions of Standard English	42	A/F	*43	12	16	13	0	15
Knowledge of Language	3	D/J	13	10	7	*70	0	1
Knowledge of Language	14	A/F	*64	14	12	10	0	0
Knowledge of Language	17	D/J	45	26	3	*26	0	0
Knowledge of Language	18	A/F	*68	17	9	5	0	1
Knowledge of Language	36	D/J	15	22	33	*20	0	11
Knowledge of Language	38	D/J	34	13	9	*31	0	13

# PreACT Item Response Summary: Download View

## Things to look for...

Item Summary Report: PreACT, Silverpine High School, 2022-2023 (ACT Sample Data Set)								
Subject	Reporting Category	Item Information		Response Analysis				
		Item	Key	A/F	B/G	C/H	D/J	Omit
English	CSE	2	B/G	7	*71	9	13	1
English	CSE	5	B/G	20	*67	5	8	0
English	CSE	6	C/H	10	*10	65	14	0
English	CSE	7	D/J	4	25	13	*57	1
English	CSE	9	D/J	3	7	49	*41	0
English	CSE	25	A/F	*80	2	6	10	2
English	CSE	28	B/G	13	*50	20	13	3
English	CSE	29	C/H	25	10	*49	11	5
English	CSE	31	C/H	10	19	*46	19	6
English	PW	32	D/J	7	13	4	*70	6
English	PW	35	B/G	11	*47	30	4	8
English	PW	36	B/G	13	*52	12	10	12
English	PW	37	C/H	7	6	*49	24	14
English	PW	38	A/F	*22	6	45	12	15
English	PW	41	A/F	*55	7	6	10	23
English	KL	43	A/F	*31	8	14	22	24
English	KL	13	D/J	0	50	0	*50	0
English	KL	8	A/F	*56	10	4	30	0
English	KL	13	D/J	17	9	14	*60	0
English	KL	17	B/G	11	*34	15	40	0

Large percentage of students selecting the same incorrect response





# PreACT Item Response Summary: Download View

## Things to look for...

Item Summary Report: PreACT, Silverpine High School, 2022-2023 (ACT Sample Data Set)								
Subject	Reporting Category	Item Information		Response Analysis				
		Item	Key	A/F	B/G	C/H	D/J	Omit
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English	PW	37	C/H	7	6	*49	24	14
English	PW	38	A/F	*22	6	45	12	15
English	PW	41	A/F	*55	7	6	10	23
English	KL	43	A/F	*31	8	14	22	24
English	KL	13	D/J	0	50	0	*50	0
English	KL	8	A/F	*56	10	4	30	0
English	KL	13	D/J	17	9	14	*60	0
English	KL	17	B/G	11	*34	15	40	0

Incorrect responses spread across all choices

# PreACT Item Response Summary: Download View

## Things to look for...

Item Summary Report: PreACT, Silverpine High School, 2022-2023 (ACT Sample Data Set)								
Subject	Reporting Category	Item Information		Response Analysis				
		Item	Key	A/F	B/G	C/H	D/J	Omit
English	CSE	2	B/G	7	*71	9	13	1
English	CSE	5	B/G	20	*67	5	8	0
English	CSE	6	C/H	10	*10	65	14	0
English	CSE	7	D/J	4	25	13	*57	1
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English	CSE	25	A/F	*80	2	6	10	2
English	CSE	28	B/G	13	*50	20	13	3
English	CSE	29	C/H	25	10	*49	11	5
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English	PW	41	A/F	*55	7	6	10	23
English	KL	43	A/F	*31	8	14	22	24
English	KL	13	D/J	0	50	0	*50	0
English	KL	8	A/F	*56	10	4	30	0
English	KL	13	D/J	17	9	14	*60	0
English	KL	17	B/G	11	*34	15	40	0

High percentage of omits



## Using the Guide: Reporting Category Descriptions

The ACT Mathematics Reporting Category Descriptions

Reporting Category	Skill Area	Description/Examples
<i>Preparing for Higher Mathematics:</i> Number and Quantity	Rational and Irrational Numbers	Use and apply the properties of rational and irrational numbers.
	Properties of Exponents	Use and apply the properties of exponents.

- Learn the terminology on ACT score reports and the underlying skills that are a component of each score.
- Help students interpret their test results, making links with course content.
- Understand the terminology used in the Guide's Crosswalk tables.

# Reporting Category Descriptions – English

Each set of descriptions provides helpful information.

## The ACT English Reporting Category Descriptions

Reporting Category	Skill Area	Description/Examples
Production of Writing	<i>Topic Development— Purpose and Focus:</i> Involves the ability to make content and stylistic choices that provide support for a text's rhetorical purpose.	Determine if a text's purpose is supported by organizational structure and content. Revise text to enhance the focus and cohesion.
	<i>Organization, Unity, and Cohesion:</i> Involves the ability to support a text's purpose by progressing from point to point logically and smoothly.	Order sentences and paragraphs and use transitions to enhance overall purpose, unity, and logical cohesion. Frame texts effectively with transitions, introductions, and conclusions.

# Reporting Category Descriptions – Math

For example, in Math you find a list of the skills associated with Integrating Essential Skills.

p. 28-29

Integrating Essential Skills

Properties of Real Numbers

Interpret and apply the properties of real numbers to aid problem solving.

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Computation and Problem-Solving with Real Numbers

Use all types of real numbers to compute and answer questions.

Ratio, Proportion, and Percent

Use ratios, proportions, and percents in problem-solving situations.

---

Writing Algebraic Expressions

Write algebraic expressions to represent situations including linear and polynomial expressions.

---



# Reporting Category Descriptions – Science

In Science the description of Interpretation of Data breaks that reporting category into 3 skill areas (levels).

Consider the cognitive level of each of these skills. p. 32

Reporting Category	Skill Area	Description/Examples
Interpretation of Data	Locating and Understanding	Locate one or more pieces of data and understand features of graphics and tables, such as units, legends, and axes.
	Inferring and Translating	Use data from one or more graphs and/or tables to identify trends, make inferences and comparisons, or translate into other graphic formats.
	Extending and Reevaluating	Make predictions based on trends in data.

# Alignment Summary

The summary results of the alignment begin on page 52 of the guide. Here you will find detailed information specific to each subject area followed by a notes section. p. 54

## The ACT:

ACT Alignment with North Carolina's ELA and Literacy Standards, Grades 11 & 12	
Content Area	Alignment Strength (Number of Standards Measured)
<b>ELA &amp; Literacy</b>	Strong (48 of 55)
Reading Standards for Literature	Strong (8 of 9)
Reading Standards for Informational Text	Very Strong (9 of 10)
Writing	Strong (22 of 27)
Language	Very Strong (9 of 9)

## Notes

- North Carolina's Speaking and Listening standards in ELA were excluded from the analysis because ACT assessments are not intended to measure the knowledge and skills in these standards.

# Crosswalk Tables

These tables begin on page 60 with the Reading Standards for literature.

Note: The table focuses on your NC ELA Standards for grades 11-12.

Standard RL.11-12.1 aligns with ACT Reading standards and the Reporting Category of Key Ideas and Details.

ELA

Table 1: North Carolina Standards: English Language Arts (ELA), Grades 11-12 (adopted 2017) – Aligned to the ACT

	North Carolina ELA Standards, Grades 11-12	The ACT English Reporting Categories and Skill Areas	The ACT Reading Reporting Categories and Skill Areas
Standard Number	Standard		
	<b>Reading</b>		
RL	Reading Standards for Literature		
	Key Ideas and Evidence		
RL11-12.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.		Key Ideas and Details: Close Reading
RL11-12.2	Determine two or more themes of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text development.		Key Ideas and Details: Central Ideas, Themes, Summaries
RL11-12.3	Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama.		Key Ideas and Details: Relationships Craft and Structure: Text Structure Purpose and Point of View



# Crosswalk Tables – English

	North Carolina ELA Standards, Grades 11-12	The ACT English Reporting Categories and Skill Areas	The ACT Reading Reporting Categories and Skill Areas
Standard Number	Standard		
	<b>English</b>		
L	Language		
	Conventions of Standard English		
L.11-12.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking; demonstrate proficiency within the 9-12 grammar continuum. (See Language Standards – Grammar Continuum page 7.)	Conventions of Standard English: Sentence Structure and Formation Usage Conventions Punctuation Conventions	
L.11-12.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing; demonstrate proficiency within the 9-12 conventions continuum. (See Language Standards – Conventions Continuum page 10.)	Conventions of Standard English: Punctuation Conventions	

The Language tables begin on page 69.

NC ELA standards begin with Language, Conventions of Standard English.

This is also the name of the Reporting Category for the ACT.



# Crosswalk Tables – Math

## Mathematics

Table 2: North Carolina Standards: Mathematics, Math 1 (adopted 2017) – Aligned to the ACT

North Carolina Mathematics Standards, Math 1		The ACT Mathematics Reporting Categories and Skill Areas
Standard Number	Standard	
	<b>Standards for Mathematical Practice</b>	
1	Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.	<b>Modeling:</b> Producing Interpreting Understanding Evaluating
2	Reason abstractly and quantitatively.	<b>Modeling:</b> Producing Interpreting

These tables begin on page 71.

Math begins with the standards for Math 1 – Mathematical Practice, which aligns with the ACT Math reporting category of Modeling.



# Crosswalk Tables – Math

	Algebra	
A-SSE	Seeing Structure in Expressions	
	Interpret the structure of expressions.	
NC.M1.A-SSE.1	Interpret expressions that represent a quantity in terms of its context.	<b>Algebra:</b> Linear Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities Quadratic Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities <b>Functions:</b> Exponential and Logarithmic Functions Properties of Functions <b>Integrating Essential Skills:</b> Writing Algebraic Expressions

*This table has been created  
for Math 1, 2 and 3.*

The NC standard coding for Algebra – NC.M1.A-SSE.1 Aligns with the ACT Reporting Categories of Algebra, Functions, and Integrating Essential Skills.

Refer to the Reporting Category descriptions for more info on the ACT Math Reporting Categories.

# Crosswalk Tables – Math

The Reporting Category Descriptions for ACT Math provide the Skill Area and Description/Examples that can be very helpful to both the teacher and the student.

The ACT Mathematics Reporting Category Descriptions

Reporting Category	Skill Area	Description/Examples
<i>Preparing for Higher Mathematics:</i> Number and Quantity	Rational and Irrational Numbers	Use and apply the properties of rational and irrational numbers.
	Properties of Exponents	Use and apply the properties of exponents.
	Vectors and Matrices	Model situations, perform operations, and solve problems involving vectors and matrices.
	Complex Numbers	Perform operations and solve equations involving complex numbers.
	Quantities and Units	Reason quantitatively and use units to solve problems.
<i>Preparing for Higher Mathematics:</i> Algebra	Linear Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities	Model situations, solve problems, and perform operations involving linear expressions, equations, and inequalities.
	Quadratic Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities	Model situations, solve problems, and perform operations involving quadratic expressions, equations, and inequalities.
	Rational and Radical Expressions and Equations	Model situations, solve problems, and perform operations involving rational and radical expressions and equations.
	Polynomial Expressions and Equations	Model situations, solve problems, and perform operations involving polynomial expressions and equations.
	Systems of Equations and Inequalities	Write, solve, and graph systems of equations and inequalities.

# Crosswalk Tables – Science

## Science

Table 5: North Carolina Standards: Science, High School (adopted 2016) – Aligned to the ACT

North Carolina Science Standards, High School			
Standard Number	Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
	<b>Biology</b>		
	Structure and Functions of Living Organisms		
Bio.1.1	Understand the relationship between the structures and functions of <u>cells and their organelles</u> .	Bio.1.1.1	<u>Summarize the structure and function of organelles in eukaryotic cells (including the nucleus, plasma membrane, cell wall, mitochondria, vacuoles, chloroplasts, and ribosomes) and ways that these organelles interact with each other to perform the function of the cell.</u>
		Bio.1.1.2	Compare <u>prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells in terms of their general structures (plasma membrane and genetic material)</u> and degree of complexity.

These tables begin on page 101.

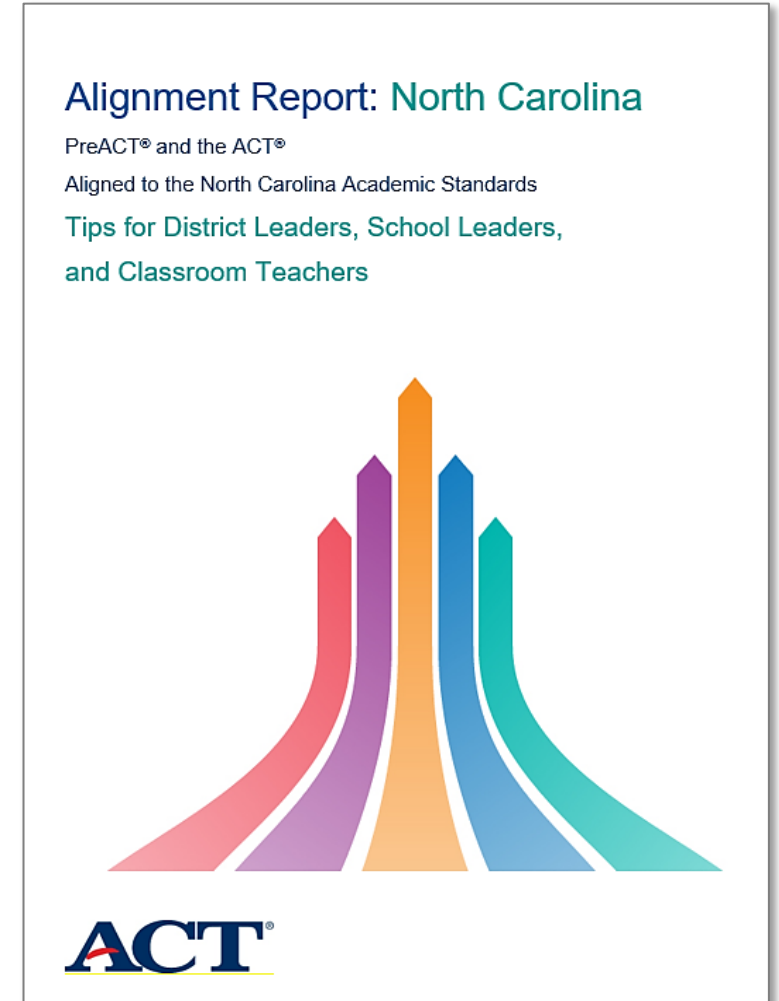
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth Systems, Structures, and Processes
- Physical Science

# Educator's Guide to the Alignment Report: North Carolina

The Alignment Report contains material you will want to review and discuss with other educators in your district or school.

This supplement provides tips to help jump start your use of the Alignment Report and focuses on three audiences:

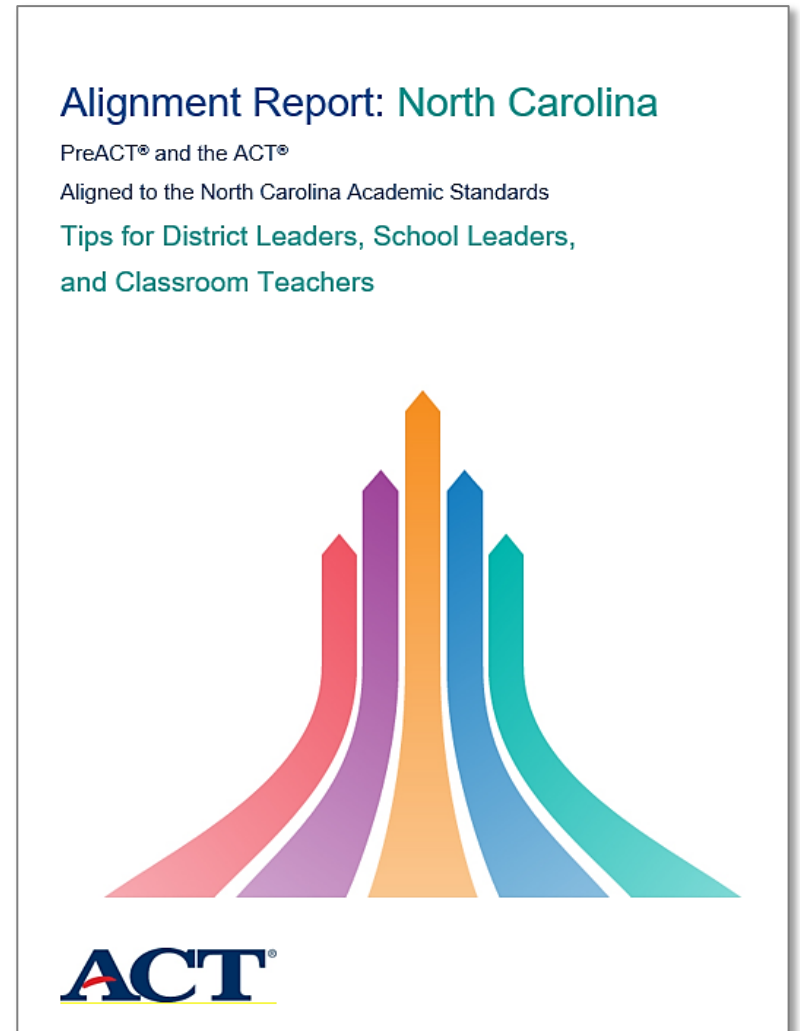
- District Leaders
- School Leaders
- Classroom Leaders



# Educator's Guide to the Alignment Report: North Carolina

Some tips are repeated as they apply to more than one group or element. Tips fall into the following categories:

- Best practices
- Consistency of emphases
- Content coverage
- Curriculum and assessment design support
- Data for improvement
- Professional development planning
- Response opportunity
- Sharing with students and families
- Skills language
- Test frequency and design model



# ACT INSTRUCTIONAL MASTERY



*Who dares to teach must never cease  
to learn.*

— John Cotton Dana



# AIM Participants Speak...

95% of more than 500 participants say  
“Yes, I would recommend this workshop to other educators”

It was much more engaging and interactive than I expected, so I retained a lot of what was said and reviewed.

I liked when it discussed the mistakes and how to avoid them.

Good mix of whole group, small group, individual activities.

I did not realize how much I did not know about the English section of the test.

It brought the test to life instead of just pages of script. Collaboration was very beneficial as the test was analyzed.

I actually altered what I left for my sub this morning based on what I learned yesterday about the types of grammar concepts.



# ACT Resources

## ACT test questions by Reporting Categories

2023|2024

### Preparing for the ACT® Test

**What's Inside**

- Full-length practice ACT test, including the optional writing test
- Information about the multiple-choice and writing sections
- Test-taking strategies
- What to expect on test day

Esta publicación también se puede ver o descargar en español

The **ACT** [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

**1** ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ **1**

**PASSAGE II**

**Glowing on an Adventure**

As I pulled my camera out of my backpack, I felt a tap on my arm.

“No photographs,” whispered the woman next to me, pointing up to the cave ceiling. “The flash will <sup>16</sup>

make them stop glowing,” she said, whispering.

She was referring to the thousands of glowworms <sup>17</sup> that clung to the limestone ceiling and, with their radiant

**16. F. NO CHANGE**  
**G. me, and then pointing**  
**H. me and she pointed**  
**J. me, she pointed**

**17. A. NO CHANGE**  
**B. glowing,” she said as she pointed up to the ceiling.**  
**C. glowing,” she said in a hushed, whispering voice.**  
**D. glowing.”**

2176CPRE

### Test 1: English—Scoring Key

	Key	Reporting Category*		
		POW	KLA	CSE
1.	C			
2.	J	—		
3.	A		—	
4.	F	—		
5.	C			
6.	J			—
7.	B			
8.	G	—		

	Key	Reporting Category*		
		POW	KLA	CSE
39.	C			
40.	F			—
41.	C			—
42.	J			—
43.	B	—		
44.	G	—		
45.	C	—		
46.	J			—

**\*Reporting Categories**  
**POW** = Production of Writing  
**KLA** = Knowledge of Language  
**CSE** = Conventions of Standard English

# Resources

Download [The PreACT and ACT Alignment Report: North Carolina](#)

Download the [Educator Supplement](#)

Link the Guide to other ACT Resources

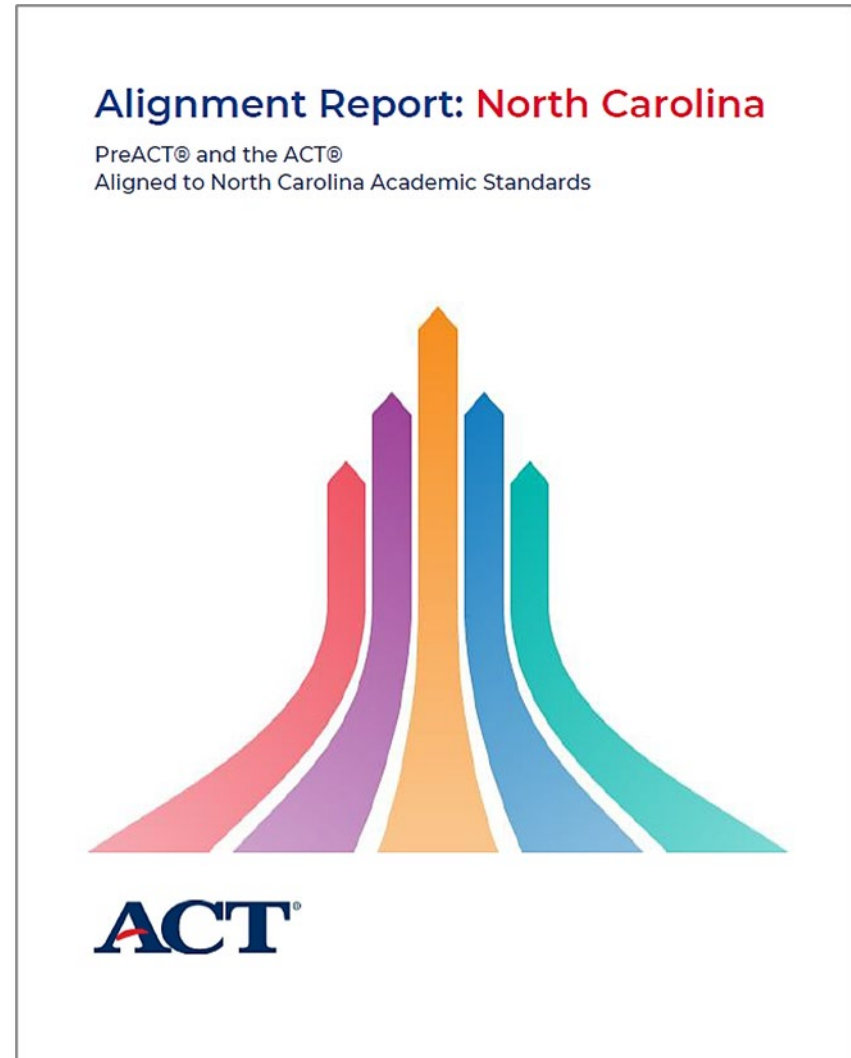
- [Preparing for the ACT, 2022/2023](#)
- [Sample questions at ACT.org](#)
- [ACT/PreACT Online Reporting Guide](#)
- [ACT Content Standards and Ideas for Progress](#)

Learn about Professional Development Supports

- [ACT Instructional Mastery](#)
- [ACT Professional Services Course Catalog](#)



What questions do you have?



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ACT<sup>®</sup>



**Thank You!**