

Spring 2026 ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure Pre-ID and Non-College Reportable (NCR) Details

The ACT with Writing, PreACT Secure, and PreACT 9 Secure Pre-ID is available in ISBE's Student Information System (SIS). All students enrolled in SIS are automatically included in the Pre-ID for the ACT assessments as described below, unless the student's enrollment in SIS indicates IDEA Services = "Yes" **and** Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA) = "Yes" under the Program Indicators tab.

- An **ACT with Writing** record is automatically created when a student is enrolled in SIS as grade 11.
- A **PreACT Secure** record is automatically created when a student is enrolled in SIS as grade 10.
- A **PreACT 9 Secure** record is automatically created when a student is enrolled in SIS as grade 9.

Grade 12 Students

Some students in grade 12 may also be rostered to take the ACT with Writing, based on the logic described in this flowchart: www.isbe.net/Documents/Grade_12_Testers_Flow_Chart.pdf. If your district believes a grade 12 student is erroneously identified as being required to participate in the ACT with Writing or vice versa, please contact the Assessment Department by calling 866-317-6034 or writing to assessment@isbe.net. Grade 12 students who are required to test must do so only if they are still enrolled in SIS during the testing window. Students who are scheduled to graduate and receive a regular high school diploma before the spring 2026 administration should not test. Rather, the district awarding the diploma may submit a diploma exemption request on the student's behalf. More details about how to submit a request are posted on the ISBE high school website under "[Overview and General Information](#)."

Home, Serving, Service Provider and Testing Region-County-District-Type-School (RCDTS) Codes

The Pre-ID report shows a student's Home RCDTS code and Serving RCDTS code from their active SIS enrollment. The Testing RCDTS code exists only on the Pre-ID and is initially populated using the student's Serving RCDTS code or, if different from both the Home and Serving RCDTS code, the Service Provider RCDTS code. Some students have "split" enrollments, meaning multiple Serving RCDTS codes with less than 1.0 for the Percent of Day Attended (PDA). In these cases, the Serving RCDTS code with the *higher/highest PDA* is used to initially populate the Testing RCDTS code. If the PDA values are all 0.50 and the Serving RCDTS code is a [category 1, 2, 3, 6, or C](#) entity, the Home RCDTS code is used to initially populate the Testing RCDTS code. If the Serving RCDTS code is a [category 9](#) entity, the Home RCDTS code is used to initially populate the Testing RCDTS code, regardless of PDA. In all cases, please coordinate with the student's serving school or service provider to determine where the student will test, and edit the Testing RCDTS code in the Pre-ID accordingly.

Online Process: Edit Testing RCDTS code or Test Format for ACT with Writing

Log into SIS. On the left, select **Assessment**, then **Pre-ID**, then **ACT/PreACT Secure**.

1. Search for the student by SID and one of the three: First Name, Last Name, or Date of Birth; select Search.
2. Edit Testing RCDTS code (as needed) and select Submit.
3. **ACT with Writing only:** Edit the Test Format from Online to Paper if a student needs a paper format as an accommodation. Write to assessment@isbe.net with questions about using a paper format.

Note: Accommodations (including paper format) and English Learner (EL) supports for students taking PreACT 9 Secure or PreACT Secure will be transmitted by school staff into ACT Now and do not require ACT approval. Visit the [PreACT 9 Secure](#) or [PreACT Secure](#) links on the [ACT-hosted web page for Illinois](#) for details. Resources are available under "Step 1: Pre-Administration" under the "Manage Accommodations and English Learner (EL) Supports" heading. The test format for all PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure records will be transmitted to ACT Now as "Online" since this field does not affect the accommodations/EL supports selections in ACT Now.

Batch Process: Edit Testing RCDTS code

Schools may edit the Testing RCDTS code via batch using the ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID template. The template and directions for its use are available under the "Assessment" tile on the [SIS page](#). Because students are expected to test online, schools must identify any student who requires paper testing for the ACT with Writing individually, using the online process described above.

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Confirming Participation in ACT Now

Schools must confirm participation for each assessment separately in [ACT Now](#), ACT's test administration setup application, no later than February 13, 2026. Participation may be confirmed in ACT Now for ACT with Writing starting on November 3, 2025, and for PreACT Secure and PreACT 9 Secure starting on January 5, 2026. Participation status for each school will be posted and updated regularly on the [ISBE high school website](#).

Transmission Schedule for Student Registrations into ACT Now

Please keep your SIS enrollments up to date. ISBE is scheduled to transmit the first student registration file to ACT Now on **Wednesday, January 14, 2026**. Subsequent updates are scheduled as noted in the chart below. **IMPORTANT:** Any edits made to student data only in ACT Now must also be made in the student's enrollment record in SIS.

Spring 2026 Schedule: ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID Transmissions into ACT Now	
<i>Transmissions from SIS to ACT Now occur after 4:00 p.m. and will override edits made only in ACT Now.</i>	
Initial Transmission: Wednesday, January 14, 2026	Update: Friday, March 13, 2026
Update: Friday, January 23, 2026	Update: Friday, March 20, 2026
Update: Friday, January 30, 2026	Update: Friday, March 27, 2026
Update: Friday, February 6, 2026	Update: Friday, April 3, 2026
Update: Friday, February 13, 2026	Update: Friday, April 10, 2026
Update: Friday, February 27, 2026*	Update: Friday, April 17, 2026
Update: Friday, March 6, 2026	Update: Friday, April 24, 2026

IMPORTANT: There will be no transmission on February 20, 2026.

*Starting with the February 27 transmission, ISBE will edit the Testing RCDTS code to the Home RCDTS code for any student whose Testing RCDTS code is identified as "Not Participating" as of the participation confirmation deadline of 02/13/2026.

Additional Details about Student Transmissions into ACT Now

SIS transmissions to ACT Now will move students from one school to another if the Testing RCDTS code in the Pre-ID file changes. However, SIS transmissions **will not remove student registrations** from ACT Now in the following circumstances: (1) the student is exited from SIS but not enrolled in another Illinois school, (2) the student's "test to be taken" is edited to DLM-AA, or (3) the student's grade level change affects the test to be taken (e.g., a student is promoted from grade 10 to grade 11). Staff with the [User role](#) **District Test Coordinator** or **School Test Coordinator** may use the **Unenroll student** feature in ACT Now to remove any unneeded test registrations or may simply unassign the student from the Test Event in ACT Now. If a student does not appear in ACT Now and testing is scheduled to occur before the next scheduled SIS transmission, staff with the [User role](#) **District Test Coordinator** or **School Test Coordinator** may manually add individual students into ACT Now, being careful that all data matches the SIS enrollment.

ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID Reports

The ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID "Summary" report provides overall counts for each assessment. The ACT/PreACT Secure Pre-ID "Details" report provides a roster of each student, along with data element details. ISBE recommends reviewing the "Details" report to ensure all expected students are included. Be sure to review all grade 12 students. To do this, select the "Details" report and filter by grade 12 or use "Sort By" and select "Grade 12 Required to Test." Finally, be sure to review the Testing RCDTS code for all students, and ensure the testing location confirms participation to be a test site.

For Further Assistance

Contact the SIS Help Desk for technical assistance by calling 217-558-3600 and choose Option 3, or access the [Contact Us](#) webpage to submit a ticket. Contact the Assessment Department with any policy questions by writing to assessment@isbe.net or by calling 866-317-6034. Please refer to the [ISBE High School Assessment website](#) for details about the spring 2026 administration.

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A benefit of the ISBE-provided ACT with Writing is that scores can be used by students for a variety of purposes, including college admission, scholarships, and NCAA eligibility if taken with ACT Standard Time or ACT-authorized accommodations or ACT-authorized English Learner (EL) supports.

Non-College Reportable (Accommodations)

A student who does not receive ACT-authorized accommodations or EL supports approval from ACT, even under [Qualified Exception to the Deadline](#) (QED) criteria, will not test with standard time, and needs to test with accommodations and/or EL supports may still test with the needed accommodations and/or EL supports using Non-College Reportable Accommodations test materials. This option requires students to test on paper. Scores for tests taken under these conditions are not eligible to be reported to colleges but will still be provided to ISBE to be used for accountability purposes. Student reports for NCR administrations will be available via ACT's Success website but will not be available in a student's MyACT account if the student has opted to create an account. When students are marked as NCR in ACT Now, an additional order is automatically generated and shipments are based on the test event to which the student is assigned. Material deliveries match the delivery dates listed below for each test event.

Non-College Reportable (Non-Accommodations)

ISBE has received inquiries regarding students who do not desire that their scores be college reportable due to a variety of reasons (e.g., student already achieved high ACT scores, etc.). To address the concern, ACT has implemented a temporary solution.

Temporary Solution Overview

School staff may contact ISBE to request, on behalf of students, that a student's scores be updated to NCR. Students may test online and have their scores updated to NCR status after testing but before score release.

Submission Deadlines

- Test Event 1 (March 24-April 3, 2026): ISBE must receive request(s) no later than 4:00PM on **Friday, April 3, 2026**.
- Test Event 2 (April 7-17, 2026): ISBE must receive request(s) no later than 4:00PM on **Friday, April 17, 2026**.
- Test Event 3 (April 21-May 1, 2026): ISBE must receive request(s) no later than 4:00PM on **Friday, May 1, 2026**.

Important Details

- NCR scores will **not appear in MyACT**.
- NCR scores **cannot be used** for college or scholarships.
- NCR scores will be available **only in Online Reporting**.
- Schools must **print and distribute NCR letters** to students.

Important Business Rules

- ACT will provide confirmation to ISBE when scores have been converted to NCR scores, and ISBE will provide confirmation to the school from which the request was made.
- Once scores are converted to NCR, they **cannot be reverted** to be College Reportable.
- ACT Customer Support will **not provide this option to schools**.
- All inquiries and submissions should be directed to assessment@isbe.net.