

## Late Options for ACT + Science + Writing – Illinois Spring 2026

**Audience for this guidance:** Schools with students who were eligible for ACT accommodations and/or English learner (EL) supports but did not submit requests by March 11, 2026.

Deadline reminder: The final date to submit ACT-approved accommodations and/or English learner (EL) supports was March 11, 2026. If a student was eligible but a request was not submitted by the deadline, schools must select one of the three options below based on the student’s circumstances.

### Overview of Late Options

*Alt text (Overview table): A 4-column table lists Option, Who This Applies To, College-Reportable status, and Test Format for QED, Standard Time, and NCR. QED and Standard Time are college-reportable; NCR is not and requires paper testing.*

Option	Who is Eligible	College-Reportable	Test Format
Qualified Exception to the Deadline (QED)	Students with qualifying changes after March 11, 2026	Yes	Online or Paper (as approved)
Standard Time Testing	Students who will not use accommodations/EL supports	Yes	Online
Non-College Reportable (NCR)	Students requiring accommodations/EL supports who do not qualify for QED	No (Accountability only)	Paper only

### Option 1: Qualified Exception to the Deadline

Qualified Exception to the Deadline (QED) applies only to students whose eligibility circumstances changed after March 11, 2026. It is not an extension and does not allow reconsideration.

#### Eligible Situations

- Student transferred after March 11, 2026 (official transfer documentation and prior/current IEP/504 or accommodations plan required).
- New English learner (EL) identification after the deadline (current proficiency scores for all four domains or dated, signed parent notification).
- Grade level change after the deadline (system documentation or registrar letter with effective dates).
- Newly identified disability with an initial IEP/504 or accommodations plan and evaluation report.
- Newly arrived student from outside the U.S. requiring EL supports (official school letter).

Submit in [ACT’s Test Accessibility and Accommodations \(TAA\) system](#). Upload the [QED form](#) and all required documentation. Choose "Illinois Spring 2026 QED (Event 3 Testing)" in TAA.

QED submission deadline: April 17, 2026.

**Approved students may test in Test Event 3 only.** No reconsideration window is available for QED.

### Option 2: Standard Time Testing (College-Reportable)

Students eligible for accommodations and/or EL supports may test without using them, with appropriate parent/guardian notification and agreement. Scores are college-reportable.

### Option 3: Non-College Reportable (Paper Testing Required)

Non-College Reportable (NCR) applies to students who require accommodations and/or EL supports, do not qualify for QED, and will not test under standard time conditions. Scores are not college-reportable but will be reported to ISBE for accountability.

## NCR Test Events and Deadlines

*Alt text (NCR events table): A 4-column table shows Test Event, Testing Window, Earliest Materials ship week, and the deadline to assign NCR for Events 1–3.*

Test Event	Testing Window	Earliest Materials	Deadline to Assign NCR
Event 1	March 24 – April 3, 2026	Week of March 2	March 20, 2026
Event 2	April 7 – April 17, 2026	Week of March 30	April 3, 2026
Event 3	April 21 – May 1, 2026	Week of April 13	April 17, 2026

Important scheduling note: NCR testing may be completed on any day during the Test Event to which the student is assigned. NCR materials are specific to each Test Event and may not be used in a subsequent Test Event. Schedule multi-day testers early in the Test Event to ensure completion within the same Test Event.

## Available NCR Accommodation Materials

- NCR Audio – ACT Writing/Science
- NCR Large Type – ACT Writing/Science
- NCR – ACT Writing/Science (use for extra time or EL supports not otherwise listed)
- NCR Reader – ACT Writing/Science
- NCR UEB Braille, Raised Line, Math/Science – ACT Writing/Science
- NCR UEB Braille, Raised Line – ACT Writing/Science
- NCR UEB Braille, Math/Science – ACT Writing/Science
- NCR UEB Braille – ACT Writing/Science

## Selecting NCR in ACT Now (Step-by-Step)

1. Log in to ACT Now.
2. Select: The ACT State – ACT Illinois Spring 2026 – Illinois State Board of Education.
3. Open the Students tile and select the student record.
4. Select Edit student information.
5. Change test format to Paper.
6. Select Non-College Reportable.
7. Choose applicable NCR materials from the dropdown.
8. If no listed material applies, select NCR – ACT Writing/Science.
9. Save the student record.

## Important SIS Reminder (Required to Prevent NCR Removal)

Because NCR requires paper testing, update the student's SIS Pre-ID record from Online to Paper. If this is not updated, subsequent SIS transmissions to ACT Now may revert the student to Online and remove the NCR designation.

## Contacts

- QED and accommodations questions: ACT – 1-800-553-6244, ext. 1788 | [ACTStateAccoms@act.org](mailto:ACTStateAccoms@act.org)
- NCR testing questions: ACT – 1-855-730-0400, option 1 | [StateTesting@act.org](mailto:StateTesting@act.org)
- SIS data questions: ISBE – 1-866-317-6034 | [assessment@isbe.net](mailto:assessment@isbe.net)