



February 17, 2010

Dr. Rick Reedy, Superintendent
Frisco ISD
6942 Maple St
Frisco, TX 75034

Dear Superintendent Reedy:

We would like to take this opportunity to update you in regard to an ACT policy that if utilized will provide greater opportunities for your students to attend college and to be more prepared once there. ACT offers students who qualify two fee waivers to take the ACT College Entrance Exam. Any student that qualifies for free/reduced lunch automatically qualifies for these ACT waivers. This opportunity to take a **curriculum-based** college entrance exam will help more of your students achieve their college aspirations, while providing meaningful data for improving instruction and raising the achievement levels for **ALL** students.

Our research indicates that students who take the ACT for the first time as juniors and re-test as seniors obtain higher scores than those students that take the test only once during their senior year. For Texas' 2009 graduates, the average score for students who took the ACT more than once beginning in the junior year was **22.4**, compared with a score of **19.7** for students who took it only one time as seniors. By offering two fee waivers for qualifying students, we hope to see an increase in the number of students prepared for and attending postsecondary institutions, particularly those that would be first-generation college students.

There are several advantages to first taking the ACT test during the junior year and retesting in the senior year:

- Schools and districts can see positive changes in their ACT averages.
- ACT's *College Readiness Standards* can be employed with the junior year ACT results to give students a virtual roadmap for what they need to do to improve their score in their senior year.
- Utilizing the results from the junior year test provides opportunities for counselors to make positive interventions regarding senior year course selections, college choices, and potential college majors based on the results of the UniACT interest inventory.

There are two test dates remaining for the current school year:

Test Date - April 10, 2010:

Regular Registration Deadline - March 5, 2010

Test Date - June 12, 2010:

Regular Registration Deadline - May 7, 2010

ACT hopes that more students will have an opportunity to earn a college degree and secure a productive future for themselves, their families and for future generations. Thank you for your role in preparing your students and strengthening the future of Texas.

Sincerely,

John Clark, Kira Holt, Randy Palmatier
ACT Secondary Education Consultants Serving Texas