



Texas Education Agency ACT Voucher Testing Spring 2010 Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are the basics of the Spring 2010 TEXAS College Preparation Program?

A. Grade 11 students who are enrolled in a Texas public school district or charter school have an opportunity to take one free college admissions test funded by the state. Thanks to funding from the Texas Legislature, the Texas Education Agency has contracted with ACT to make free ACT tests available this spring and early summer. This is part of a larger effort to increase college preparation efforts in the state. The first part of the initiative begins immediately with spring 2010 ACT testing. Students who choose to take the ACT with state funding will need to submit a voucher in lieu of payment.

Q. What students are eligible to take the ACT at TEA's expense using a voucher?

A. Only students enrolled in grade 11 at a Texas public or charter school are eligible to use a 2009-2010 Texas Education Agency ACT Voucher. The state will fund only one college readiness exam per student this spring.

Q. How can vouchers be obtained?

A. An initial quantity of vouchers for the ACT is being shipped to the "Director of Counseling" at each public high school in Texas to arrive by April 9. Quantities are a percentage of the total grade 11 students enrolled at that school. Information about ordering additional vouchers is included with the shipment.

Q. On which ACT test dates can the voucher be used?

A. The voucher can be used to register online or by mail for the June 12, 2010, ACT national test date. The voucher can also be used to request a refund for students who paid the registration fee and tested on the April 10, 2010 test date, or who have paid to register for the June test date prior to the distribution of the vouchers. Instructions for how to obtain a refund are printed on the vouchers. Students with disabilities that cannot be accommodated at a national test center may submit the voucher as payment with a request for Special Testing (see <http://www.act.org/aap/disab/opt3.html>). If approved, Special Testing must be completed by June 26, 2010.

Q. How do students register for an ACT test date?

A. Students must follow the instructions on the voucher to apply it to their registration fee. The voucher covers the cost of regular registration for either the ACT (No Writing) or the ACT Plus Writing. The voucher does not pay for any other fees (e.g., late fee). Fees are posted at www.actstudent.org.

Q. Is there a deadline for submitting the voucher?

A. May 7, 2010, is the registration deadline for the June 12, 2010 ACT test date, the deadline for submitting a Special Testing request, and the deadline for submitting a request for a refund the registration fee paid for the April or June test date.

Q. Who is responsible for informing students about the voucher program?

A. Districts/schools are responsible for informing students about the voucher program and monitoring the one-time use of vouchers by their students. Once a voucher is submitted, the voucher is used, whether or not that student tests on the requested test date.

Q. What do we tell students who have already registered for the April or June ACT test date and now realize that they could have used a voucher?

A. ACT will honor vouchers submitted by students who previously registered and tested on the April 2010 test date or who have paid to register for the June 2010 test date. Instructions for submitting the voucher as a refund request appear on the back of the voucher.

Q. What do students do if they have already registered for the National test using a fee waiver?

A. Students who previously paid for April or June testing with a fee waiver may submit the voucher as a request for a refund. If funding is still available, the voucher will be applied which will enable the student to submit a waiver in the future.

Q. Can students take the test on April 10th at their own expense and also take the test on June 12th at the state's expense?

A. Yes. The only restriction is that TEA will fund only one grade 11 college admissions assessment per student.

Q. What does a student do if he/she submits a voucher registration for the June National Test Date, and is absent that day? Can they apply the voucher to pay for a test at a later date?

A. The printed voucher policy states that the voucher may be used to register for a single test date. Once a student has registered, the voucher is considered used even if the student does not test. Students may register at their own expense to test on future test dates.

Q. Who do we call if we have questions about the ACT vouchers?

A. Please contact ACT Registration at 319/337-1843.