



January 27, 2022

College
101:



The **ACT**[®]

So, you have (or will have before winter break) **submitted your ACT test registration.** Great! This is the one test that truly has the potential to impact every student's future choices. It is worth preparing for the big day (beyond the practice you may do in class) sooner rather than later. **Winter break/J-term represent a great opportunity to begin your individual efforts** (before the demands of 2nd semester courses undermine good intentions)!

Studying for the ACT begins with a practice exam to: gauge what the test entails, develop a sense of the time constraints, and anticipate potential scores. Click [here](#) for sample exams. It helps to keep in mind that **the ACT doesn't measure your intelligence or what you've learned in school -- it tests how quickly you can evaluate a question and select the best answer.**

Full length practice exams take 2 hours and 55 minutes for the 4 academic subjects tested. Setting an alarm for each section (English - 45 minutes, Math - 60 minutes, Reading - 35 minutes, Science - 35 minutes) before you commence ensures that your score reflects what you can do in actual testing conditions (not what you would do if you had an unlimited amount of time to consider your answers). Once you have your baseline score, you can create a study plan designed to move your results into your "desired" range.

Step 1 is to analyze your pretest. Low math score because you didn't remember your geometry formulas? What kind of mistakes did you make in the English section? Which section had the most guess answers and why? **Step 2 is to put ACT study into your daily planner.** The basic rule of thumb is 10 hours per month of study time per point improvement. **To move an ACT composite score 1 point requires** (with rounding) **at least a 1-point improvement in 2 or more individual sections or a 2** (or more) **point improvement in 1 of the sections.** Ultimately, the best study plan is focused on individual areas that could achieve the quickest results. Reading score strong? Put that section aside and focus on one of the other areas that have more room for improvement.

Knowing your potential scores in advance makes it possible to begin developing a list of "good fit colleges" (ones that are likely to accept you) as well as begin to consider further test preparation strategies that will help you improve your scores and expand your list of potential colleges. Preparation is key to having the score you need.

Important information for college applications:

SPCPA School Code: 242 284

Counselor: Alison Green
(greena@spcpa.org)

School Information:
16 W 5th St
St Paul, MN 55102
(651) 290-2225

The **ACT**[®]

When: Tuesday March 8, 2022

Where: SPCPA

What: ACT Test Prep Resources

- "Official" [ACT Test Resources](#):
The ACT organization offers a variety of testing resources/materials/online tutoring for a fee via this website.
- Practice [tests by section](#):
Magoosh offers automatically scored, online tests by section (English, math, reading, science) making it easier to assess the success of your focused study efforts.
- [ACT guide/flash cards](#):
Don't have time to read *The Real ACT Prep Guide* mentioned on the ACT website? Union Test Prep provides tips by section.
- The [Critical Reader](#):
This website may help students struggling with the amount of reading/English sections in the ACT.
- Critical [math formulas](#):
Need help with math formulas? One of the key differences between the ACT and the SAT is fact that the ACT does not provide this information. This website lists the formulas and explains their use.



College 101: ACT Scores & College Scholarships

Standardized tests (such as the ACT and SAT) may play more than one role in the college admissions process. Many colleges and universities use them in conjunction with GPAs and academic course evaluations to determine a student's preparation for the academic rigors of their institution. Schools that offer merit (or non-need based "free" money) may also consider these scores when determining financial aid awards. For many students, receiving a merit aid award is the difference between attending and not attending the school of their choice.

In the first example, Baldwin Wallace, a private institution in Ohio that attracts students interested in pursuing performing arts, has a [middle 50% ACT range](#) of 21-27. Depending on the student's [GPA/ACT combination](#), students in the middle 50% could be awarded anywhere from \$10,000 - \$14,000 in merit aid each year. Receiving a 28 on the ACT pushes that number up to \$21,000 assuming the student has a 3.0 or higher GPA.

FALL 2022

Cumulative Weighted High School GPA	Merit Scholarships	
3.90+	President's Scholarship	\$21,000
3.75-3.89	Trustees' Scholarship	\$19,000
3.35-3.74	Deans' Scholarship	\$17,000
3.00-3.34	Fellows' Scholarship	\$15,000
under 3.00	BW Yellow Jacket Success Grant	\$12,000

SAT SCORE -OR- ACT SCORE	1130-1190	1200-1250	1260-1320	1330+
	23-24	25-26	27-28	29+
4.0+	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000
3.90-3.99	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000
3.80-3.89	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000
3.70-3.79	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
3.60-3.69	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
3.50-3.59	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
3.40-3.49	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
3.30-3.39	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
3.20-3.29	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Like all public institutions, Colorado State University charges out-of-state residents higher total fees (nearly \$49,600) than in-state students (\$29,600). To attract these potentially higher paying applicants, they also offer [non-resident merit aid](#) to offset at least a portion of this higher tuition. For applicants with a 3.6 GPA, a one-point higher ACT score (27 vs 26) is worth an additional \$2000 per year. Interested in learning which public (state) schools have scholarships for out-of-state students? Click [here](#).

Need more incentive to make preparing for the ACT a priority? Non-institutional scholarships (those that don't come directly from the college or university) may also be impacted by this score. Click here to review [Scholarship.com's lists](#). Click [here](#) to see which schools have merit based (GPA and/or ACT dependent) scholarships. With all the obligations a typical junior is trying to manage, **studying for the ACT over the coming weeks** may not seem like a priority, but **come senior year you will be happy you did!!!**

Home > Financial Aid > College Scholarships > Scholarship Directory > ACT Score > ACT

ACT Scores From 21 To 25 Scholarships

Scholarship Title	Amount	Due Date
ACF Kiwanis Club of Albuquerque Scholarship Program	\$1,000	04/17/2022
Alfred State Academic Distinction Scholarships	\$4,000	03/01/2022
Alfred State All-American Scholarship	Varies	03/01/2022
Alva Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Scholarship	\$1,000	02/01/2022
Associated Grocers - Sam S. Politz Scholarship Fund	Varies	03/01/2022
Auburn University Alabama Resident Merit Scholarships	\$42,000	Varies
Ave Maria University Michigan Homeschooled Faith Scholarship	\$9,000	Varies
Bemidji State Music Scholarships	Varies	01/31/2022
Boise State WUE Award	\$51,544	Varies
Careers through Culinary Arts Program (C-CAP) Scholarships	Varies	Varies
Catch A Break! Scholarship Program	\$44,000	03/15/2022
CGCS-Bernard Harris Scholarship Program	\$5,000	05/04/2022
Chicago Engineers Foundation Awards for Graduating HS Seniors	\$1,000	04/15/2022
Chicago Engineers' Foundation Incentive Award	\$1,000	04/01/2022
CIA Undergraduate Scholarship Program	Varies	06/15/2022
CITE Incoming Student Tuition Scholarship	\$2,000	01/14/2023
College of Saint Rose Academic Scholarships	\$22,000	02/15/2022
Colorado Christian University Deans' Scholarship	\$56,000	Varies
Colorado Christian University Honors Scholarship	\$40,000	Varies
Colorado Christian University President's Scholarship	\$64,000	Varies
Colorado Mesa University Academic Achievement Award	\$1,250	Varies

1. BG Success Scholarship for Out-of-State Students

Eligibility

- Not a resident of Ohio
- Meet one of the following minimums: 3.0 GPA, 20 ACT, or 1040 SAT
- incoming freshman

For non-Ohio students who want to attend Bowling Green State University, the BG Success Scholarship for Out-of-State Students can help cut costs. This award provides \$4,000 to each winner, which is enough to cover half of the extra non-resident tuition costs. There's no need to fill out a separate application; incoming freshmen are automatically considered when they apply for admission at BGSU.

Scholarship Website

2. Manoa Academic Merit Scholarship

Eligibility

- incoming freshman
- enrolling the semester after high school graduation
- enrolled full-time
- GPA of 3.0 or higher
- ACT of 25 or higher or SAT of 1200 or higher

The Manoa Academic Merit Scholarship gives non-Hawaii residents \$3,000 to help with the cost of tuition at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. It's also available to residents. Winners automatically get this scholarship every year, as long as their GPA stays at 3.0 or higher and they maintain a 12-credit load every fall and spring semester. Submit an admission for application to UH Manoa by January 5th to be considered.