

Your Question:

You asked how many states require all students to take an assessment, such as the ACT or SAT. And of those states administering ACT or SAT tests to all 11th grade students:

- How many also allow/require a PSAT for all students? If so, in which grade(s)?
- Do they have a partnership with Khan Academy (or another entity to assist students with test prep)?
- If they have such an arrangement with Khan-like entity, is it free of cost to students? What about transportation costs?
- Do they have a limit of how many times a student can take the ACT or SAT?
- If students are allowed to repeat, is it free of cost to students?
- Do any of these states also require a state test (such as SBAC) to be taken in addition to ACT or SAT?

How many states have submitted an alternate test as part of their ESSA State Plan?

- Of these, how many have submitted for peer review?

Our Response:

The section that follows answers each question individually.

Statewide Administration of ACT/SAT

The table below indicates states that administered the ACT or SAT to all 11th grade students in the 2017-18 school year.

ACT	SAT
Alabama	Colorado
Arkansas	Connecticut
Kentucky	Delaware
Louisiana	Idaho
Mississippi	Illinois
Montana	Maine
Nebraska	Michigan
Nevada	New Hampshire
North Carolina	Rhode Island
North Dakota ¹	West Virginia
Utah	
Wisconsin	
Wyoming	

In addition:

- Ohio and Oklahoma: Districts determine whether the ACT or SAT will be administered to all 11th grade students.

¹ Or ACT WorkKeys for CTE concentrators.

- Tennessee: Districts choose to administer the ACT or SAT, or make both available and allow students to decide which assessment to take.
- District of Columbia: The SAT is optional.
- Hawaii: The ACT is optional.
- Minnesota: The ACT and SAT are offered at no cost to students in grades 11 and 12.
- South Carolina: The ACT and SAT are optional. Districts choose which assessment to administer, but student participation is not mandated.

States That Allow/Require PSAT for all Students

The following states made the PSAT available at no cost to all students in the 2017-18 school year.

Optional	Mandatory
Alabama (grade 11)	
Colorado (grades 9 and 10)	
Georgia (grade 10)	
Idaho (grade 10)	
Illinois (grades 9 and 10)	Rhode Island (grade 10)
New Mexico (grade 10)	
North Carolina (grade 10)	
Oregon (grade 10)	
South Carolina ² (grade 10)	

In addition:

- North Carolina 10th grade students [must take the preACT](#).
- Wisconsin 9th and 10th grade students must take the ACT Aspire.

Khan Academy or Other Test Prep

Both ACT-for-all and SAT-for-all states make test prep available to all students at no cost through several options:

- Khan Academy.
- ACT Online Prep.
- Partnerships with Course Providers.
- A Free ACT/SAT Practice Exam.
- Other State-Supported Online Providers of ACT/SAT Review.

Because these test prep programs are offered online (or in the District of Columbia, face-to-face at a student’s high school), transportation funds are unnecessary.

Khan Academy

Through a partnership with the Khan Academy, the College Board makes available [free online SAT practice](#) to all students nationwide. Students in states that administer SAT to all public high school 11th grade students³ - [Colorado](#),

² Students may choose to take PSAT, pre-ACT or 10th Grade Aspire.

³ In Ohio and Oklahoma, districts choose whether to administer ACT or SAT to all 11th grade students. In Tennessee, districts choose whether to administer ACT or SAT to all 11th grade students or offer both and allow students to select the assessment.

[Connecticut](#), [Delaware](#), [Idaho](#), [Illinois](#), [Maine](#), [Michigan](#), [New Hampshire](#), Rhode Island and [West Virginia](#) – and who create a free Khan Academy student account have access to official full-length SAT practice tests including two SAT with Essay practice tests, as well as thousands of practice questions. Additional details about Khan Academy SAT practice resources in the screenshot below.

Free Student Practice for the SAT through Khan Academy®

The College Board has partnered with online educational provider Khan Academy® to provide free online SAT practice to all students.

By creating a free Khan Academy student account, students are able to take eight official full-length SAT practice tests including two SAT with Essay practice tests, access thousands of practice questions, video lessons, and hints, and receive study and test-taking tips. In addition, students can personalize their SAT practice by taking eight diagnostic quizzes, or seeing personalized practice recommendations based on the student's PSAT 10 results by linking their College Board and Khan Academy accounts.

Creating a College Board and/or Khan Academy account is optional and voluntary for students. The Colorado Department of Education strongly recommends that students and parents review and discuss the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policies of these organizations prior to creating an online account.

Source: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/assessment/coloradosat>

A contact at the Connecticut State Department of Education indicated the state is not charged additional costs for making Khan Academy resources available to students in the state.

ACT Online Prep

[Alabama](#), [Montana](#) and [Nebraska](#) appear to pay an additional cost to make ACT Online Prep available to all public high school 11th grade students. ACT Online Prep makes two practice exams available, as well as thousands of practice questions.

Additional details about ACT Online Prep are available in the screenshot below.

Help your students prepare for the ACT test.

As your students get ready to take the ACT® test, you want them to do their best. You can help your students prepare with ACT® Online Prep—an engaging, interactive test prep program developed by the makers of the ACT using the same research and expertise that has made the ACT the most widely used college entrance exam in the nation.

- Flexible, personalized learning paths customized to each student's needs and test timeframe so they can review material at their own pace
- Two full-length tests and thousands more practice questions help students become familiar with the ACT format and build their confidence so there are no surprises on test day
- Engaging games they can play with other students encourage them to test their knowledge

Students can access the program online or through a free mobile app at school, home, or on the go, anytime.

Administrator dashboards let you track students' progress at an individual and aggregate level, including time spent on the program, performance on the practice questions and tests, and areas in which an entire class may need help.

Plus, teachers can assign work in ACT Online Prep for students to complete as part of test prep within a classroom or as learning enhancement.

Source: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/act-online-prep/act-online-prep-schools.html>

The **Wisconsin** Department of Public Instruction [ACT test prep webpage](#) also links to Kaplan online prep, with free sessions on the website.

Partnerships with Course Providers

The **District of Columbia** Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) makes available an OSSE-funded administration of the SAT to DC public high school students. OSSE additionally provides an [SAT Preparation Expansion Grant](#). In 2017-18, the grant is awarding a total of \$260,000 to applicant partnerships between a DC local education agency (LEA) and test preparation company through a request for applications (RFA) process.

Additional Free SAT/ACT Practice Exam

Ohio requires all districts to administer either the ACT or SAT to all public school 11th grade students. The Ohio Department of Education [website](#) provides an additional free practice ACT or SAT exam through [OhioMeansJobs](#).

Other State-Supported Online Providers of ACT/SAT Review

The **Nevada** System of Higher Education has procured a membership to the [NROC Project](#), defined on the Nevada Department of Education [website](#) as “a national, community-guided non-profit project focused on college and career readiness.” This membership provides all Nevada juniors, seniors and NSHE students with access to [EdReady](#). While not intended exclusively for ACT preparation, the application allows 11th and 12th grade students to assess their math readiness and receive a personalized study path to prepare them for postsecondary math coursework.

North Dakota’s RUPrepare.ND.gov provides [online test prep services](#) for North Dakota students.

According to the **South Carolina** Department of Education [website](#), “VirtualSC offers test preparation free-of-charge to any public, private, or home school student in the state of South Carolina whether they are enrolled in the VirtualSC or not.” Content was “developed by Shmoop, a digital curriculum test prep company[.]” More details [here](#).

Per [this page](#), South Carolina also makes EdReady math support available to students.

South Dakota’s SDMyLife.com provides free ACT review through [ACT Method Test Prep](#). More details in the screenshot below.



ACT Method Test Prep

Log in to access this free, online test preparation that helps students build math, reading, science, English, and ACT test prep skills.

- Hear audio explanations of test questions
- Access strategy guides for each test
- Complete practice tests and quizzes
- Read explanations to every question
- Track strengths on each test
- Get valuable test-taking tips

Source: <http://sdmylife.com/students/testing/>

[Utah](#) also makes ACT test prep by Shmoop available at no cost to high school teachers, students (including home-schooled students), counselors and administrators statewide. More information [here](#) on Shmoop offerings available to Utah high school students and educators.

Limit on Number of Times a Student May Take the ACT or SAT

Generally speaking, states pay for students to take the ACT or SAT once, in the grade level in which the assessment is administered statewide.

However, Tennessee appears to offer ACT retakes to 12th grade students at no cost. (Education Commission of the States would need more time to verify this.)

States That Require a State Test (Such as SBAC) to Be Taken in Addition to ACT or SAT

At least 12 states that administer ACT or SAT statewide use another assessment to meet federal testing requirements: Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Tennessee, Utah and Wisconsin.

Wyoming uses ACT **and another assessment** to meet federal testing requirements in high school.

States That Have Submitted an Alternate Test as Part of Their ESSA State Plan

The following 13 states that administer ACT or SAT statewide use a college entrance exam as the only high school math and English language arts assessment to meet federal testing requirements: Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Rhode Island and West Virginia.

Of these, how many have submitted for peer review?

In April 2017, WestEd's Center on Standards and Assessments Implementation published a brief [State Use of ACT—Peer Review Results](#). The director of the Center, [Bryan Hemberg](#), would be happy to answer any questions on state submission of ACT or SAT for peer review.