

# New 2025 ACT

## TIMELINE:

**February 2025** = Only the current “old” version offered

**April 2025** = New test only offered online. Students can still take “old” test on paper.

**September 2025** = New test offered online or on paper. “Old” test no longer offered.

*In 2025, the ACT is changing significantly. Similar to the recent SAT redesign, the ACT is introducing a new format with several key changes: a shorter test, an optional Science section, and the option to choose between paper and digital versions.*

*The total question count will decrease, giving students 44 fewer questions and more time per question. Also, the Science section will now be optional.*

## 2025 ACT

- 44 fewer questions
- Shorter test length: 125 minutes vs. current 195 minutes
- More time per question
- Math question answer choices reduce 5 to 4.

If students opt to take only the English, Math, and Reading sections, the test duration will be two hours and five minutes:

- **English:** 35 minutes/50 questions (42 seconds per question)
- **Math:** 50 minutes/45 questions (one minute and seven seconds per question)
- **Reading:** 40 minutes/36 questions (one minute and seven seconds per question)

If a student chooses to add the Science or Writing sections (or both) to their ACT test, they will stay in the testing room after the other students are dismissed. Both Science and Writing sections are 40 minutes each:

- **Science:** 40 minutes/40 questions (about one minute per question)
- **Writing:** 40 minutes/one writing prompt

# New 2025 ACT

## Other Significant Changes Between the Current ACT and the 2025 ACT:

- In the Reading and English sections, passages will be shorter. Thus, many students will find these sections more manageable by helping them maintain focus that will increase comprehension.
- The new Superscore will only include the English, Math, and Reading sections. The Science and Writing sections (now optional) will be separate scores.
- Students will have the option to take the ACT either on paper or online: content will be identical.

## Key Differences Between the SAT and 2025 ACT:

- SAT uses an adaptive format\* while the ACT will stay a linear test, meaning ACT's format and questions will be identical in both the paper and digital versions.
- SAT is offered only in a digital format, whereas students can choose to take the ACT on paper or online.

\*SAT Adaptive Format: The SAT is composed of two sections: Reading/Writing and Math. Each section is divided into two equal length modules. The first module of each section (reading/writing and math) contains a mix of easy, medium, and hard questions. Based on how students perform on the first module, the second module will either be easier or more difficult.