

**Idaho Remediation Summit
April 25-26, 2013**

**University of Idaho Boise
Water Center**

**Presented by:
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ACT, Inc.**

Senior Account Manager – State Programs

ACT

Is a nonprofit organization—we are driven by our mission, our vision, and our values.

Our mission is to help people achieve education and workplace success.

Lindquist's test would serve many purposes at both the secondary and the postsecondary levels—providing information for educational planning, career counseling, course planning and placement, instructional development, program evaluation, and institutional planning. He saw, early on, that test results could foster opportunity if they were used to guide students and support their aspirations.

Definition of College and Career Readiness

ACT has long defined college and career readiness as the acquisition of the knowledge and skills a student needs to enroll and succeed in credit-bearing, first-year courses at a postsecondary institution (such as a two- or four-year college, trade school, or technical school) without the need for remediation.

ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks

College Course or Course Area	ACT Subject-Area Test	ACT Explore Benchmark Grade 8	ACT Explore Benchmark Grade 9	ACT Plan Benchmark	The ACT Test Benchmark	ACT Compass Benchmark*
English Composition	English	13	14	15	18	77
Social Sciences	Reading	15	16	17	21	88
College Algebra	Mathematics	17	18	19	22	52
Biology	Science	20	20	21	24	n/a

Total Students in Report: 11,842

Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Meeting College Readiness Benchmarks

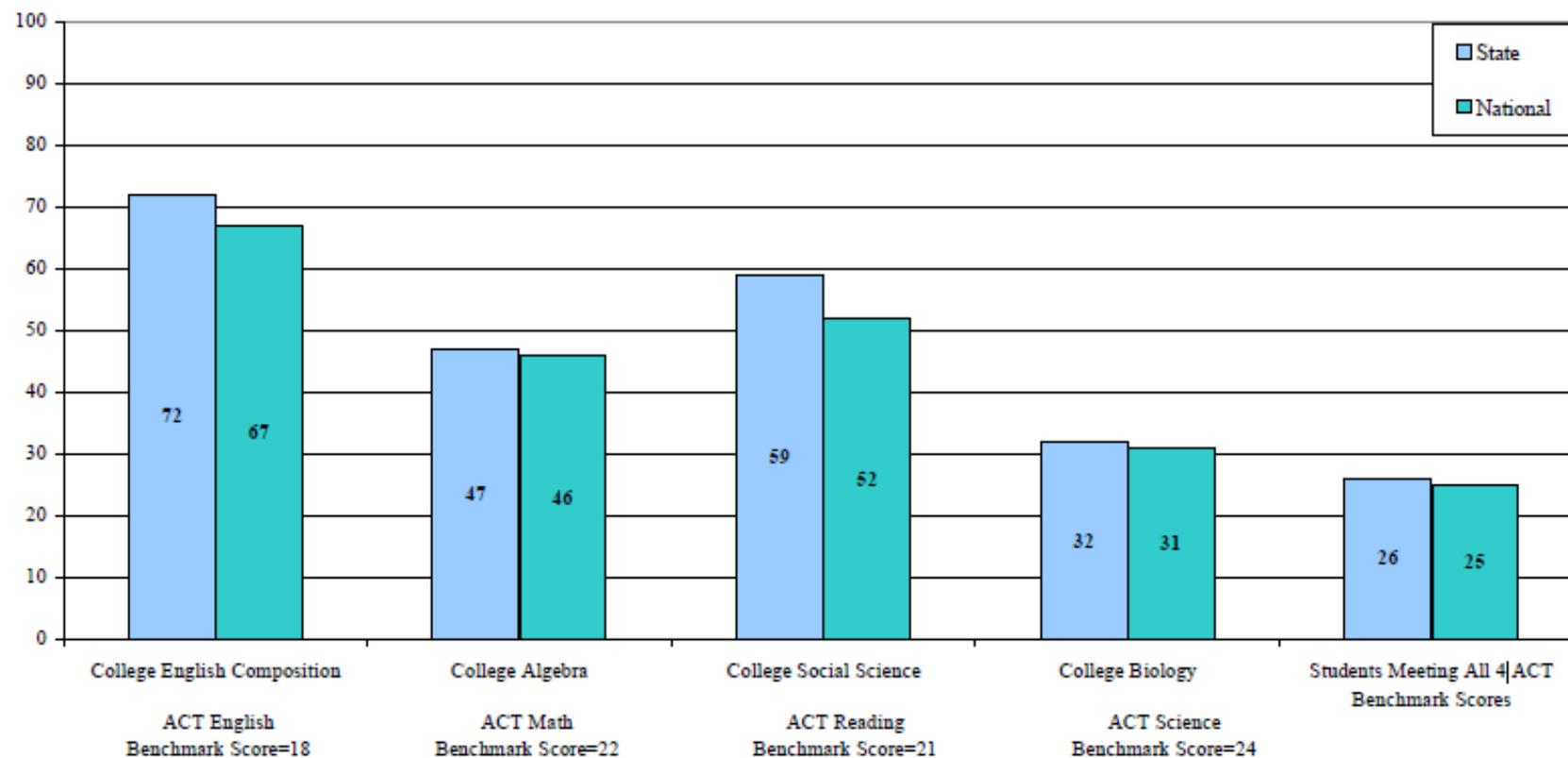
Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent Meeting Benchmarks									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Meeting All Four	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2008	10,081	1,421,941	71	68	45	43	58	53	29	28	23	22
2009	10,228	1,480,469	72	67	45	42	60	53	30	28	24	23
2010	10,647	1,568,835	72	66	47	43	60	52	32	29	26	24
2011	11,321	1,623,112	72	66	47	45	59	52	32	30	26	25
2012	11,842	1,666,017	72	67	47	46	59	52	32	31	26	25

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
			English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2008	10,081	1,421,941	20.7	20.6	21.4	21.0	22.2	21.4	21.3	20.8	21.5	21.1
2009	10,228	1,480,469	20.9	20.6	21.3	21.0	22.3	21.4	21.4	20.9	21.6	21.1
2010	10,647	1,568,835	21.2	20.5	21.4	21.0	22.4	21.3	21.6	20.9	21.8	21.0
2011	11,321	1,623,112	21.1	20.6	21.3	21.1	22.2	21.3	21.5	20.9	21.7	21.1
2012	11,842	1,666,017	21.0	20.5	21.3	21.1	22.1	21.3	21.4	20.9	21.6	21.1

Total Students in Report: 11,842

Figure 1.1. Percent of Your Students Ready for College-Level Coursework



A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course.

COMPASS[®]



Setting the Right Course
for College Success

What is Compass...

ACT Compass is a computer-adaptive college placement assessment that leads educators to **evaluate** incoming students' skills in Reading, Writing, Writing essay, Mathematics and English as a Second Language, **places** students in appropriate courses and **connects** the students to the resources they need to improve academic skills.

ACT Compass has been on the market since the 1990's

- Two and Four Year public private institutions and ESL institutes
- 1600 sites across the country and including foreign sites

How Can Compass Improve Your Placement and Advising Programs

- Flexible Scheduling – Less Time Testing – Immediate Feedback
- Outreach to More Students
- Accurate Course Placement
- Effective Academic Advising
- Program Evaluation and Planning
- Value-added measurement

ACT Compass use with feeder high schools

The COMPASS license agreement allows postsecondary institutions to use the COMPASS assessment and advising services to reach out to students at area high schools, outreach centers, and related sites for the purpose of delivering early intervention and support.

What Does Compass Include

Tests:

- ▶ Compass Mathematics *
- ▶ Compass Reading *
- ▶ Compass Writing Skills *
- ▶ e-Write (Compass and ESL)
- ▶ ESL Grammar/Usage
- ▶ ESL Reading
- ▶ ESL Listening

* Can incorporate diagnostic measurement

Other Factors to Consider:

- ▶ Measure progress and use as a post test

Compass Math

- ▶ Starting domain is determined by institution
- ▶ Domains Include:
 - Pre Algebra
 - Algebra
 - College Algebra
 - Geometry
 - Trigonometry
- ▶ Seamless transition from one math domain to the next

Compass Math

- ▶ Calculators are allowed throughout the math domains
 - four function
 - graphing
 - scientific
 - online calculator via Microsoft Windows®
- ▶ Untimed
- ▶ Score Range; 1 - 99
- ▶ Test cost equal one unit, regardless of domains tested

Compass Reading

Multiple-choice response questions from the following:

- ▶ Social Sciences
- ▶ Natural Sciences
- ▶ Prose Fiction
- ▶ Humanities
- ▶ Practical Reading

Compass Reading

- ▶ Split screen format
- ▶ Accompanied by approximately 5 comprehension items
- ▶ Untimed
- ▶ Score Range; 1 - 99
- ▶ Test cost equal one unit

Compass Writing Skills

Students find and correct errors in essays in these general categories:

- ▶ Usage and Mechanics
 - punctuation
 - basic grammar
 - sentence structure

- ▶ Rhetorical Skills
 - strategy
 - organization
 - style

Compass Writing Skills

- ▶ Split screen format
- ▶ Accompanied by rhetorical items
- ▶ Untimed
- ▶ Score Range; 1 - 99
- ▶ Test cost equal one unit

Compass e-Write

- ▶ Direct writing assessment delivered via internet
- ▶ Requires students to
 - Formulate a clear position on the issue defined in the prompt
 - Support the position with reasons and evidence appropriate to the position taken and the specified concerns of the audience
 - Develop the argument in a coherent and logical manner
 - Express ideas using clear, effective language
- ▶ Can evaluate an open-ended essay as reliably as two ACT trained human raters
- ▶ Scored by computer(IntelliMetric Essay Scoring Engine™)
- ▶ Score is returned via the internet and integrated directly into the Compass system database typically in seconds

Compass e-Write

Holistic Score:

- ▶ Prompts in either a 2-8 or 2-12 score scale

Analytic Subscores:

- ▶ Focus - consistency and clarity in identifying & maintaining the main idea or point of view
- ▶ Content - extent to which the topic is addressed by the development of ideas & the specificity of details & examples
- ▶ Organization - unity & coherence achieved through logical sequence of ideas
- ▶ Style - how effectively the chosen language enhances the writer's purpose - e.g., clear & varied sentence structure & precise word choice
- ▶ Mechanical Conventions - control of mechanics in grammar, usage, spelling, & punctuation

Compass e-Write

2-8 Score Scale Prompts:

- ▶ A four-point holistic rubric was defined by ACT
- ▶ Scoring engine was “trained” with more than 1,500 student writing samples

2-12 Score Scale Prompts:

- ▶ A six-point holistic rubric was defined by ACT
- ▶ Scoring engine was “trained” with approximately 1,800 writing samples

*** Essays can be untimed or timed**

Compass e-Write

Additional Information:

- ▶ Automatically referred to human raters
 - off topic
 - too short to support full evaluation
 - do not use conventional American English
 - include "sensitive issues"

- ▶ Referred score is returned via internet in 1-2 business days

Compass Diagnostics

TRUE or FALSE

- 1.) Most new students come to college well prepared to succeed?
- 2.) Some new students are “rusty” when they come to college and might need targeted review rather than a whole course?

MATH Diagnostics - PreAlgebra

- ▶ Integers
- ▶ Fractions
- ▶ Decimals
- ▶ Exponents, square roots, scientific notation
- ▶ Ratios and proportions
- ▶ Percentages
- ▶ Averages

MATH Diagnostics - Algebra

- ▶ Substitution
- ▶ Setting up equations
- ▶ Basic operations/polynomials
- ▶ Factoring polynomials
- ▶ Linear equations/one variable
- ▶ Linear equations/two variable
- ▶ Exponents/radicals
- ▶ Rational expressions

Reading Diagnostics

- ▶ Vocabulary
- ▶ Reading Comprehension
- ▶ Reader Profile – a series of questions that ask the students about their reading habits outside the class

Writing Skills Diagnostics

- ▶ Punctuation
- ▶ Spelling
- ▶ Capitalization
- ▶ Usage
- ▶ Verb formation/agreement
- ▶ Relationships of clauses
- ▶ Shifts in construction
- ▶ Organization

Placement Vs. Diagnostic Measures

- ▶ *Placement* scores help schools more accurately place students into courses appropriate for their skill levels.
- ▶ *Diagnostic* scores help target developmental instructions where each student needs it most. The scores can pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of individual students in particular areas.

Options for Diagnostic Implementation

- ▶ Immediate routing from within the placement tests
- ▶ Delayed or “come back” testing
- ▶ In class testing (developmental course instructor takes students to assessment center in first days of class)
- ▶ Exit testing (this can be for diagnostic and/or placement)

Interpretation of Diagnostic Scores

- ▶ Cut scores are locally determined but...

1 - 40 (Low) 41 - 75 (Mid) 76 - 99 (Upper)

- ▶ Instructional messages should include reference to specific units or chapters of materials, along with suggested steps, location information, web page information, costs, etc...for accessing the resources
- ▶ Review students' profile of diagnostic scores to assist in identifying strengths/weaknesses
- ▶ Offer/Require retesting to confirm material has been mastered

More Compass Features....

Student Profiles

- Student contact information
- Detailed demographics
- Educational plans
- Requests for help
- Up to 40 local items

English as a Second Language (ESL)

- ▶ Complete course placement system for students whose native language is not English
- ▶ Assessments for accurate placement into appropriate English as a Second Language instruction

Testing Domains Include:

- ▶ Grammar/Usage
- ▶ Reading
- ▶ Listening
- ▶ ESL e-Write

ESL - Grammar Usage

- Assesses your student's ability to recognize & manipulate Standard American English in two main areas:
 - sentence elements
 - sentence structure and syntax

Sentence Elements

Verbs, subjects and objects, modifiers, function words, conventions (punctuation, capitalization, spelling), and word formation

Sentence Structure and Syntax

Word order, relationships between and among clauses, and agreement, as well as how grammar relates to communication beyond the sentence level

ESL - Reading

- ▶ Assesses your student's ability to recognize and manipulate Standard American English in two main areas:
 - referring (reading explicitly stated material)
 - reasoning (inferential reading)

ESL - Listening

- ▶ Assess student's abilities to recognize and manipulated Standard American English in two main categories: listening for explicitly stated information and listening for implicitly stated information
- ▶ Listening tasks increase in difficulty according to:
 - rate of speech
 - vocabulary
 - blending
 - reduction and elision of words
 - idiomatic and metaphorical language
 - length of stimuli
- ▶ Measure listening skills rather than short-term memory

ESL e-Write

- ▶ Direct writing assessment delivered via internet
- ▶ Requires students to
 - Take a position about a given issue
 - Support the position with relevant reasons, examples, and details
 - Organize and connect ideas in a clear and logical manner, maintaining a consistent focus on the main ideas throughout
 - Express those ideas using correct grammar, usage, and mechanics
- ▶ Can evaluate an open-ended essay as reliably as two ACT trained human raters
- ▶ Scored by computer(IntelliMetric Essay Scoring Engine™)
- ▶ Score is returned via the internet in seconds

ESL e-Write

2-12 Score Scale Prompts:

- An overall score based on a 2-12 score scale with 5 analytical scores
- Scoring engine was “trained” using nearly 1,400 responses from ESL students

*** Essays can be untimed or timed**

ESL e-Write

Additional Information:

- ▶ Automatically referred to human raters for the following
 - off topic
 - too short to support full evaluation
 - are written in a language other than English
 - refer to sensitive issues

- ▶ Referred score is returned in 1-2 business days

Robust Reporting for Better Placement and Program Evaluation

Standard Individual Report or Student Advising Report

Entering Student Descriptive Report

Returning Student Retention Report

Course Placement Service

ZZ ACT Midwest Region-Osborn

Adam C. Taylor • ID: 111-11-7890
 300 Knightsbridge Pkwy 300 • Lincolnshire,
 IL 60069
 8476342560
 adam.taylor@act.org

*** Placement - COMPASS Math & PA Diag., Reading,
 and Writing**

Taken Jun 28, 2012 at The Boilermaker Center
 Session #12195731, Total Time 00:03:57

Student Background and Educational Plans

(Time: 00:01:31)

English First Lang:	Yes	Type of HS certificate:	High school diploma
High School Grad Year:	2011	High School:	Not Listed
Major:	Nursing	Major Certainty:	Not Sure
Certificate Plan:	Degree	Veteran Status:	No, I have never served in the military
Employment Hours Plan:	31 or more hours	Amount of Education Plan:	Four year degree
Transfer Plan:	Not planning to transfer	Career Goal:	Registered Nurse
Career Goal Certainty:	Not Sure		
Single Parent:	No	Number of Children:	0
1st Generation:	Yes	Family Support:	Poor
Radio Station:	I don't listen to local radio	Newspaper Print:	USA Today
Travel Time to Campus:	More than 1 hour		

Help Requested

Financial Aid:	(800) 123-4567; Financial Assistance; 2000 Osborn Hall
Finding Work:	(800) 123-4567; Student Development; 3000 Osborn Hall
Reading Skills:	(800) 123-4567; Learning Center; 4000 Osborn Hall
Study Skills:	(800) 123-4567; Learning Center; 4000 Osborn Hall
Writing Skills:	(800) 123-4567; Learning Center; 4000 Osborn Hall
Math Skills:	(800) 123-4567; Learning Center; 4000 Osborn Hall
Choosing Major:	(800) 123-4567; Student Development; 3000 Osborn Hall
Personal Concerns:	(800) 123-4567; Student Development; 3000 Osborn Hall
Learning Disabilities:	(800) 123-4567; Ability Services; 5000 Osborn Hall
Health Problems:	(800) 123-4567; Health Center; 6000 Osborn Hall
Work Experience:	(800) 123-4567; Student Development; 3000 Osborn Hall

Message for Nursing Majors:

Nursing Majors - Contact Course Registration and Advising (CRA) for assistance in preparing your class schedule - (800) 123-4567, 8000 Osborn Hall.

COMPASS Math Placement Test

(Directions Time: 00:00:07)

<u>Placement Test</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Test Time</u>	<u>Note</u>
Pre Algebra	85	00:00:07	Placement Domain
Algebra	15	00:00:41	

General Recommendations:

Sample placement message; as part of the COMPASS set up process, the college must modify this message to fit local courses, support services, and preferences. Enroll MAT 090; Algebra Fundamentals (4 credits);

COMPASS/ESL Standard Individual Report

Page 2 of 2

cannot be used for A.S. or A.A. degree requirements; course description appears on page 214 of the college catalog) or other courses which require MAT 080 as a prerequisite. To help you succeed, be sure to use the "Tips for Success in Mathematics Courses" ideas (see blue Success Tips document) and the Mathematics and Study Skills materials in the Learning Center, Johnson Hall, Room 101 (no charge; 8 am - 7 pm, M-F; call 333-1211 for more information on these services). Also talk with your advisor if you have questions about course choices.

COMPASS Reading Placement Test

(Directions Time: 00:00:17)

<u>Placement Test</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Test Time</u>	<u>Note</u>
COMPASS Reading	32	00:00:25	Placement Domain

General Recommendations:

Sample placement message; as part of the COMPASS set up process, the college must modify this message to fit local courses, support services, and preferences. Enroll in RDG 080: Reading Development I (3 credits; not a college transfer course; course description appears on page 208 of the college catalog). To help you succeed, be sure to use the "Tips for Success in Reading Courses" ideas (see blue Success Tips document) and the Reading and Study Skills materials in the Learning Center, Johnson Hall, Room 101 (no charge; 8 am - 7 pm, M-F; call 333-1211 for more information on these services). Also talk with your advisor if you have questions about course choices.

COMPASS Writing Skills Placement Test

(Directions Time: 00:00:33)

<u>Placement Test</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Test Time</u>	<u>Note</u>
COMPASS Writing Skills	10	00:00:16	Placement Domain

General Recommendations:

Sample placement message; as part of the COMPASS set up process, the college must modify this message to fit local courses, support services, and preferences. Enroll in ENG 080: English Development I (3 credits; course does not apply to AA or AS degree; description appears on page 201 of the college catalog). To help you succeed, be sure to use the "Tips for Success in English Courses" ideas (see blue Success Tips document) and the Writing and Study Skills materials in the Learning Center, Johnson Hall, Room 101 (no charge; 8 am - 7 pm, M-F, call 333-1211 for more information on these services). Also talk with your advisor if you have questions about course choices.

Robust Reporting for Better Placement and Program Evaluation

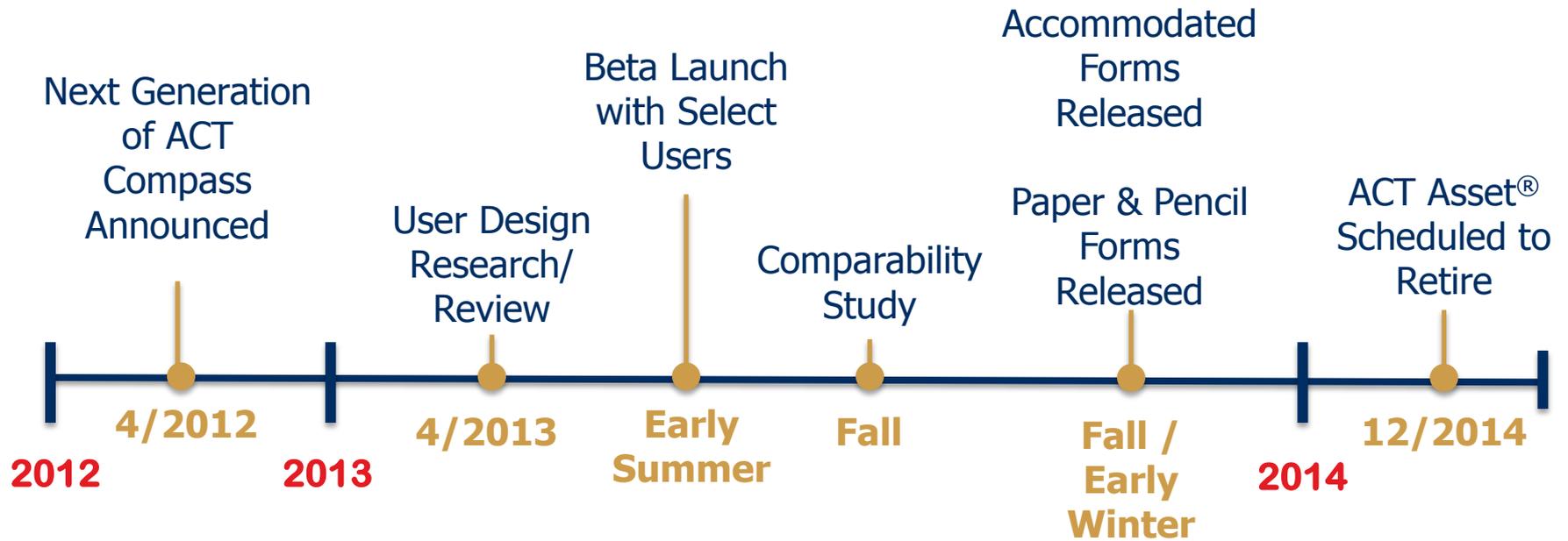
Standard Individual Report or Student Advising Report

Entering Student Descriptive Report

Returning Student Retention Report

Course Placement Service

Timeline



More Information

More information, including technical content updates, will be available July 2013.

www.act.org/compass

Service Commitment

ACT is committed to providing ongoing training and technical support so that you can get the most from your

Compass system:

- State/Regional workshops by ACT staff
- 24/7 ACT Technical Help Desk Support
- Webcast seminars
- E-mail message and news service

Contact Information

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<http://www.act.org/compass/>

Questions

Thank You!