

FACT SHEET



The Benefits of ACT WorkKeys and National Career Readiness Certificate

The Kansas Legislature appropriated funds for a statewide contract to provide one free ACT assessment and one free WorkKeys suite of assessments to all public high school juniors. Students are encouraged to take both assessments.

ACT WorkKeys

What is WorkKeys?

- WorkKeys assessments in the areas of applied math, graphic literacy and workplace documents are the assessments students take in the areas employers consider important for productivity and trainability.
- The skills assessed in the WorkKeys suite of assessments are what employers say are critical for on-the-job training and career success.

What type of student should take the ACT WorkKeys?

- Any student that plans to have an occupation after high school.

National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

What is the NCRC?

- Nationally recognized certificate
- Portable certificate
- Evidence-based
- Validates work readiness skills.

What is the value for the student/examinee/instructor?

- National credential.
- Validation of their skills.
- Can inform a student's career/education path/Individual Plan of Study (IPS).
- Students can use the [ACT Occupational Profile Database](#) to research the median skill level in the areas of applied math, graphic literacy, and workplace documents in the occupations the student has identified in their IPS, not as a gatekeeper, but rather to be utilized as a tool to inform their IPS.
- Sense of accomplishment.

Who else gets value from NCRC?

- Employers
- Economic development tool for the community

FACT SHEET



ACT WorkKeys Resource Links

- ACT WorkKeys Video: How ACT WorkKeys Can Be Utilized as a Tool to Inform the IPS
<https://youtu.be/-vgu5Pb1KC0>
- ACT WorkKeys the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Earning Outcomes
<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/NCRC-Outcomes.pdf>
- ACT WorkKeys: Using the Occupational Profile Database WorkKeys Using the Occupational Profile Database
<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/pdfs/WorkKeys-Using-the-Occupational-Profile-Database.pdf>

For more information, contact:

Lee Jones
Public Service Executive – Kansas ACT
Career, Standards, and Assessment Services
(785) 296-7922
lee.jones@ksde.gov

Julie Ewing
Assistant Director
Career, Standards, and Assessment
Services (785) 2962325
julie.ewing@ksde.gov



Kansas State Department of Education
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212

(785) 296-3201

www.ksde.gov

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.

November 2024