

How Parents Can Help

When a test is being given, you can help by making sure your student

- gets plenty of sleep the night before the test;
- has breakfast on the morning of the test;
- goes to school on the day of a test;
- does not have any out-of-school appointments on the day of a test;
- knows that you think he/she will do well on the tests; and
- knows you understand that the test is important.

To help your student learn at home,

- encourage your student to read and read to your student;
- be interested in your student's daily school work;
- talk with and listen to your student daily;
- go to parent-teacher conferences and stay in regular contact with your student's teacher(s);
- get to know your student's teacher;
- remind your student that it is ok to ask questions in class; and
- check frequently to ensure that your student is completing all assigned work in a timely manner.

ACTAAP

Arkansas Comprehensive Testing,
Assessment, and Accountability Program

A Note to Parents/Guardians

The Iowa Tests

Grades 1-2

and

ACT Aspire

Grades 3-10



Arkansas Department of Education

What is ACTAAP?

The **Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program (ACTAAP)**, A.C.A. § 6-15-401 et seq., is the state law that requires the state of Arkansas to test public school students.

What is the purpose of the tests?

Research shows that the earlier we measure progress toward meeting educational standards, the more we can strengthen a student's chances to stay on target enabling him/her to succeed and be college and career ready upon graduating high school. These assessments ensure that all students in Arkansas public schools have an equal opportunity to demonstrate grade-level and subject area academic proficiency through the application of knowledge and skills in the core academic subjects consistent with state curriculum frameworks, and performance standards.

What tests will my student take?

Testing Windows:

Grades 1 and 2

Iowa Test of Basic Skills
April 4 - April 16, 2016

Grades 3 - 10

ACT Aspire
April 11 - May 13, 2016

What is the Iowa Test of Basic Skills?

The Iowa tests are paper-based norm-referenced tests which measure the performance of individual Arkansas students against a national group. These tests will identify students who may need additional instruction in language arts, math, and science.

What is the ACT Aspire?

ACT Aspire is an online criterion-referenced test given to students in grades 3 -10 in English, reading, writing, math, and science. Criterion-reference tests measure a student's knowledge of standard specific skills. ACT Aspire replaces the PARCC assessment that was given in 2015. The total end-of-year testing time for ACT Aspire is 4 - 4 1/2 hours. These tests are administered over a five week testing window. Parents will receive score reports that will provide information regarding each student's individual progress.

When will my student test ?

Your student will test:

Grade 7: April 18 & 19, 2016

Grade 8: April 13 & 14, 2016

Grade 9 & 10: April 11 & 12, 2016

Students absent on these days will be given the test when they return to school.