

21 State Conferences 6000+ Members
116+ Twitter Followers
4 National Semifinalists
Advocacy 1 National Exemplar Recognition
4th Annual College and Career Readiness Campaign
1 Mission: To help people achieve education and workplace success
5 Districts Professional Development
301+ LinkedIn Followers 1 Monthly Newsletter Input 20 Steering Committee Members
700+ Council Members
Access 50 States
Policy Survey Participation
ACT Research
42 CCRC States
Networking



ACT: State Organizations

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DISTRICT MANAGER
ACT STATE ORGANIZATIONS
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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ACT State Orgs: FAQs



- What's new with the Alabama ACT State Organization?
- How does it benefit me?
- How does it benefit ACT?
- What is the ACT College and Career Readiness Campaign (CCRC)?
- How can I become more involved with my state organization?
- 2016 Alabama State Organization Conference

ACT State Organizations

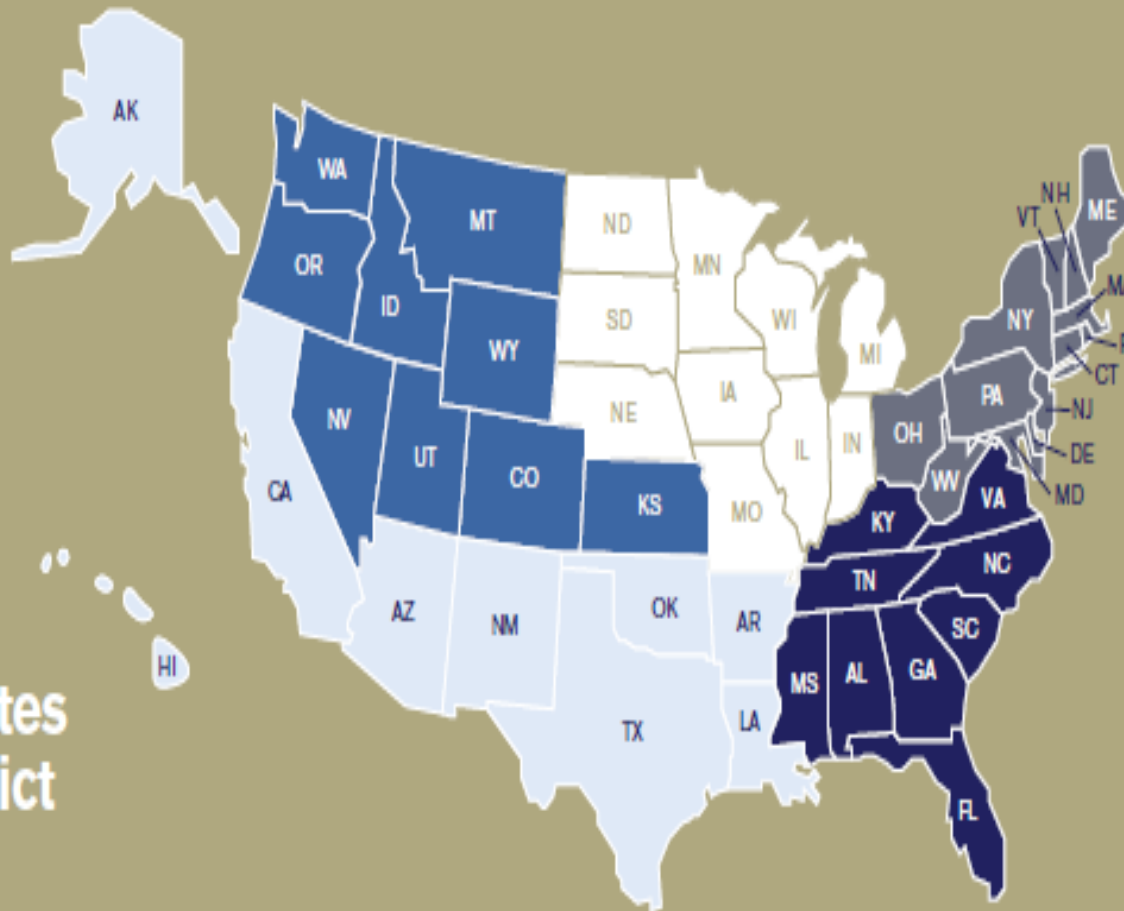


- Groups that work collaboratively with ACT to help people achieve education and workplace success
- Fall under the direction of the Office of Public Affairs
- Have existed for decades but have changed functions; were most recently restructured in 2014
- *Purpose of ACT State Organizations:*
 - Bolster thought leadership by influencing policy
 - Create a forum for the exchange of quality education and workforce practices

ACT State Orgs: The Nation



Represented
in **50** states
and the District
of Columbia.



5 districts,
each with a
district manager
who serves as the facilitator
for council members within
their district and maintains
a direct connection to ACT.

AL ACT State Organization Members



- Free membership to anyone with an interest in college and career readiness (www.act.org/stateorgs)
 - Receives *Intersections*, ACT State Orgs monthly newsletter with ACT news and general education/workforce issues
 - Invited to webinars around ACT research and policy
 - First to receive information about Readiness Campaign applications
 - Increasing opportunities for involvement with content and/or policy-related issues

Starting in 2016: State Org Task Forces



- With addition of State Org National Steering Committee, state org members will begin to receive invitations to volunteer for task forces around college and career readiness and/or ACT issues
 - Dual enrollment work began in fall 2015, with white paper release in December 2015
 - Development of effective tools for remediation and/or placement
 - Prior prior year/FAFSA
 - Counselor tools/resources for career engagement in earlier grades

Alabama ACT State Organization Council



- Comprised of education and workforce leaders from around the state
 - State Organization members who want to be involved in promoting ACT's mission
 - Share knowledge and opinions with each other and with ACT around ACT products, tools, research, and policy
 - Connect ACT with statewide hot topics and policy conversations

Council Responsibilities



- **Participate in monthly conference calls and webinars**
 - Discuss ACT updates and research
 - Share ongoing statewide conversations
- **Attend two meetings/year**
- **Volunteer for ACT committees and task forces**
- **Plan ACT State Organization Conference**
 - Plan conference theme and agenda
 - Identify and secure all sessions and speakers
- **Select ACT Readiness Campaign exemplars**
 - Read applications and vote on statewide winners

Alabama ACT Council Leadership



- **Helps to set agenda and lead monthly calls, webinars, and meetings**
 - Identifies major issues to address
 - Communicates to council members
- **Leads conference planning**
 - Helps with communications and logistics for conference
 - Speaks at conference
- **Attends ACT State Organization summits around the country twice/year with other council leaders**
 - Meets with ACT senior leadership and other state leaders to learn about ACT internal conversations and to provide feedback and guidance

Alabama ACT Council Leaders 2015-16



- **Chair: Andy Green**, Jacksonville State University
- **Chair-Elect: Darren Allen**, Lawson State Community College

ACT Office of Public Affairs



- Division of ACT headquartered in Washington, D.C. and Iowa City, with staff across the country
- Works closely with federal and state legislators and agencies in support of college and career readiness and ACT's mission
- Monitors legislative activity across the country
- Recognizes national CCR exemplars through Readiness Campaign and annual Readiness Gala
- Performs policy research and effectively disseminates to key federal/state stakeholders

ACT OPA: Policy Research



- ACT Policy Platforms
 - www.act.org/policyplatforms
 - Summaries and graphics of key CCR findings
 - ACT recommendations and best practices to address areas of need

POLICY
PLATFORMS

K-12
EDUCATION



POST
SECONDARY
EDUCATION



WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



ACT Policy Platform: K-12



ACT's K-12 education policy platform focuses on **three main issues:**

Focus on Readiness for All Students

Ensure that federal policies focus on the goal of college and career readiness for all students.

Support the Implementation of a High School Core Curriculum and Rigorous Coursework

Ensure that all students have access to a core curriculum and rigorous high school courses.

Promote the Use of High-Quality Student Assessment Systems

Support policies, practices, and research toward the effective adoption and use of high-quality assessment data and other information to improve student outcomes and reduce achievement gaps.

ACT College and Career Readiness Campaign



- National recognition program that began in 2013
- Seeks to recognize exemplary students and institutions nationally who are achieving greatness in the pursuit of college and career readiness
- From each state's winners, national exemplars are selected and honored at ACT Readiness Gala in Washington, D.C. in June

ACT CCRC in Alabama



- Applications become available in late summer/fall on ACT website – information shared in *Intersections* and by council members
- Council members review applications and select state exemplars in fall
- Alabama winners will go on for consideration for national semifinalist and finalist status for June 2017 national recognition and gala invitation
 - Student statewide winner receives \$500 scholarship

Want To Be More Involved?



- AL ACT State Organization Membership: join/renew online (free and open to anyone!)
 - www.act.org/stateorgs
 - Twitter: @ACTStateOrgs; LinkedIn: ACT State Organizations
- AL ACT Council: new members voted on each summer
 - Send email with interest to bobby.rush@act.org
- Ad Hoc Task Forces: watch email/*Intersections*
- CCRC: watch email/*Intersections* in fall 2016

2016 Alabama State Organization Conference



- Theme: Closing the Skills Gap: Preparing Students for a Career
- Date: December 6, 2016
- Location: Prattville, AL
- Cost: \$90 Early Bird before October 4, \$115 Regular
- <http://bit.ly/2aq7Ted>

Questions?



Thank You!

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ACT State Organizations

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