

FYI: 2009/10 ACT FAQ'S

When it comes to the ACT there are no stupid questions, very few easy answers, and several decisions for you to make as to what is best for you.

WHEN CAN I TAKE THE ACT? You will take the ACT on **April 28** here at school as part of the Prairie State Examination. Here are some things you should know about the Prairie State ACT: 1. It is accepted by colleges across the country. 2. There is no fee for you. 3. The NCAA does accept scores. The Prairie State ACT is a state test — there is also a NATIONAL test date available to you this spring and two more next fall:

- To take the test on **Dec. 12**, register by Nov. 6
- To take the test on **Feb. 6**, register by January 5
- To take the test on **April 10**, register by March 5.
- To take the test on **June 12**, register by May 7.
- To take the test on **Sept. 11**, not posted yet.
- To take the test on **Oct. 23**, not posted yet.
- Registration packets are available in the counseling office, or you may register online at www.act.org.

WHEN SHOULD I TAKE MY FIRST ACT? Ultimately that is up to you. For most students, the April dates are best. Testing in April allows you to get through most of your junior year coursework in math before taking the test. You have two opportunities to test in April (some students take it both dates) and still have opportunities to test again in June, September and October. Some students like to take the test in February as a “warm-up” or practice — and that is fine, too.

IS THE WRITING TEST REQUIRED?

Most schools recommend taking the Writing Test. It is required by very few schools. You will be taking the Writing portion on April 28.

HOW MANY TIMES CAN I TAKE THE ACT? You can take it as many times as you can manage before college applications are due. In addition to the dates listed above, there will be dates in September, October and December of next year. Registration for those dates will not be available till August.

HOW MANY TIMES SHOULD I TAKE THE ACT? The answer to this question varies depending on your circumstances, but the correct answer for many of you is probably ***at least twice. Scores will not be averaged. Remember to send your scores to colleges you are applying to. Colleges do not care how many times you take it, they will accept your highest score.***

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR THE ACT?

FOR NATIONAL TEST DATES:

- Register **online** at www.act.org
- Register **by mail**. Registration packets are available in the counseling office. (be complete — include your fee before mailing).

FOR PRAIRIE STATE ACT: You will complete the registration here at school. There will be no fee to you for this test.