

Greetings,

As you likely know, students that take the NSCAS ACT receive two different reports. Approximately 5-8 weeks after testing, students receive the Official ACT score report. This report is the same type of report a student receives if they decide to participate in ACT's national testing program.

Once scores are finalized by NDE, ACT also sends districts personalized reports that must then be distributed by the district. This report explains the Nebraska Performance Levels and how students performed based on expectations set by the Nebraska State Board of Education.

This process was far from ideal for many reasons, but we have included a few below.

- Long period of time between administration and the final report.
- Long periods of time between the two reports.
- Confusion by parents because of the two different reports and the timing.
- District resources needed to distribute the second report (time and money)

We believe we have a better solution this year and moving forward. Attached to this email is a standard form reporting letter that can be used for all students. Students should be given the form letter as they leave the testing room. If this is done, districts will not have to worry about distributing the second state report. We believe this process will be better for most, if not all, Nebraska districts and it should reduce the confusion experienced by families. Students will continue to receive the Official ACT score report 5-8 weeks after test administration, as well as seeing their scores in the MyACT account.

Pros of the New Process

- Most districts will have a cost savings either in labor and/or in mailing costs.
- Shortens the time between the two reports.
- Should decrease the amount of confusion experienced by families.
- Gets the information in the report to families in a timelier manner.
- Since it is a form letter, distribution should be far easier for districts.

Keep in Mind

- The letter must be distributed to all families of students that take the NSCAS ACT.
- NDE has ordered a Spanish transcript of the letter and districts will receive notice as soon as this version is returned.
- The letter is two pages and can be printed back-to-back.
- The digital version is colored, but it can be printed in grayscale.
- Districts/Schools should distribute the letter the day of testing or as close to the day of testing as possible. Giving the student the letter as they leave the testing room may be the best option, but we leave that to individual districts/schools.

Districts have the option to distribute a physical copy or a digital copy of the letter to students. Districts could also do both. NDE encourages districts/schools to look for multiple opportunities to distribute the information in the letter to families.

Please direct questions about this change to Jeremy Heneger, Director of Statewide Assessment.

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