

2025-2026 NSCAS Testing Windows

Document updated 7/30/2025

ELPA21 & Alternate ELPA

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training modules available	December 1, 2025	No Additional Information
Testing	January 26 -March 13, 2026	No Additional Information
New or exiting student cutoff	Case by case ¹	No Additional Information

NSCAS General & NSCAS Alternate

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training Q & A	February 12, 2026	No Additional Information
Acacia Opens	March 2, 2026	No Additional Information
Test Tickets Available	March 9, 2026	No Additional Information
Test Window	March 23 – May 1, 2026	No Additional Information
Make up testing	April 27 – May 1, 2026	Makeup testing only
New or exiting student cutoff	April 17, 2026	No Additional Information

A.C.T - Initial Testing (Test Event 1)

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training Part 1	February 16, 2026	No Additional Information
Training Part 2	December 18, 2025	No Additional Information
A.C.T Now opens	November 17, 2025	No Additional Information
Test Event 1 Paper/Pencil	March 24, 2026	Initial Testing
Test Event 1 Online Testing	March 24-27, 2026; March 30-31, 2026; April 1-3, 2026	Initial Testing
New or exiting student cutoff	April 10, 2026	No Additional Information

A.C.T - Initial or Makeup Testing (Test Event 2)

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training Part 1	February 16, 2026	No Additional Information
Training Part 2	December 18, 2025	No Additional Information
A.C.T Now Opens	November 17, 2025	No Additional Information
Test Event 2 Paper/Pencil	April 7, 2026	Initial or makeup testing
Test Event 2 Online Testing	April 7, 2026; April 13-17, 2026	Initial or makeup testing
New or exiting student cutoff	April 10, 2026	No Additional Information

¹ Please reach out to NDE Title III/ELPA office staff to help determine if new or existing student should be participating.

A.C.T - Makeup Testing Only (Test Event 3)

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training Part 1	February 16, 2026	No Additional Information
Training Part 2	December 18, 2025	No Additional Information
A.C.T Now Opens	November 17, 2025	No Additional Information
Test Event 3 Paper/Pencil	April 21, 2026	Initial or makeup testing
Test Event 3 Online Testing	April 21-27, 2026; April 27-30, 2026; and May 1, 2026	Initial or makeup testing
New or exiting student cutoff	April 10, 2026	No Additional Information

A.C.T with Accommodations – Initial Testing (Test Event 1)

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training	September 4, 2025	No Additional Information
A.C.T Now Opens	November 17, 2025	No Additional Information
Test Event 1 Paper/Pencil and Online	March 24-27, 2026; March 30-31, 2026; April 1-3, 2026	Initial testing
New or exiting student cutoff	April 10, 2026	No Additional Information

A.C.T with Accommodations – Initial or Makeup Testing (Test Event 2)

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training	September 4, 2025	No Additional Information
A.C.T Now Opens	November 17, 2025	No Additional Information
Test Event 2 Paper/Pencil and Online	April 7-10, 2026; April 13-17, 2026	Initial or makeup testing
New or exiting student cutoff	April 10, 2026	No Additional Information

A.C.T with Accommodations – Makeup Testing Only (Test Event 3)

Event	Test Dates	Additional Information
Training	September 4, 2025	No Additional Information
A.C.T Now Opens	November 17, 2025	No Additional Information
Test Event 2 Paper/Pencil and Online	April 21-24, 2026; April 27-30, 2026	Makeup testing only
New or exiting student cutoff	April 10, 2026	No Additional Information