



Using WorkKeys to Grow Communities through the Workforce Ecosystem



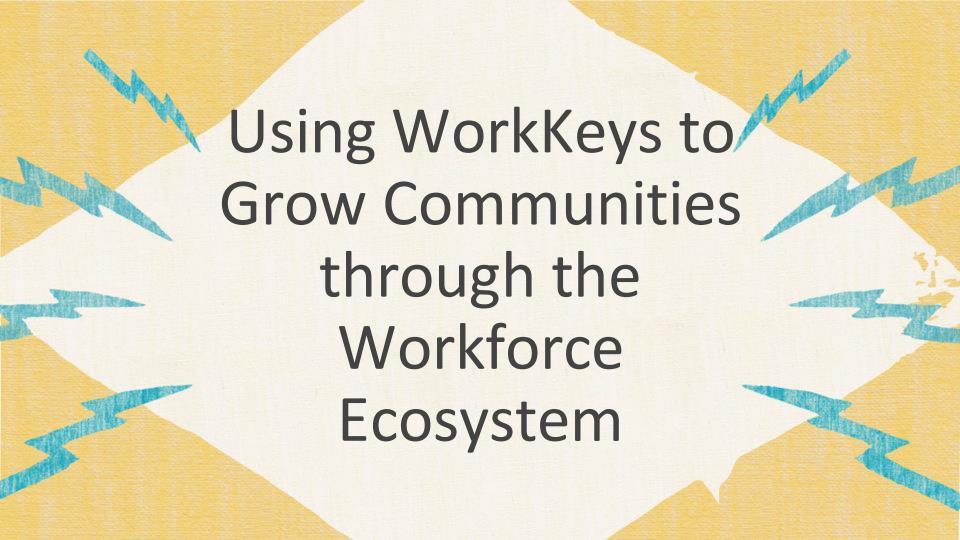
Mia Edwards
Account Executive, ACT
Louisiana





Chriss Cazayoux

Director
Workforce Solutions at ACT



Agenda

- A look at WorkKeys—assessment, scoring and skills
- A deeper look at WorkKeys through sample problems
- How to make WorkKeys matter to Students
- WorkKeys Reports and Digital Badges
- Connecting the Workforce Ecosystem
- Work Ready Community: Testimonies
- Louisiana Work Ready Community Book Camp

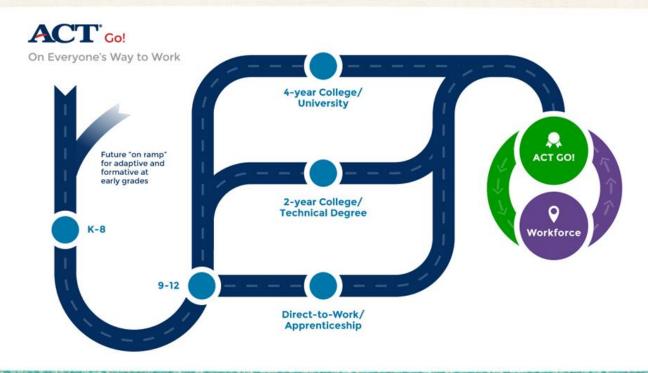
WorkKeys is not just an <u>ASSESSMENT</u> it is a whole system

Across the nation, the ACT® Work Ready Communities® (WRC) initiative, is helping counties, states, and regions build a more productive workforce and encourage economic growth. The ACT work readiness system provides the following comprehensive, evidence-based solutions:

- ACT® WorkKeys® Job Profiling helps employers define their workforce and pinpoint the skills they need.
- ACT® WorkKeys® Assessments provide workforce professionals with trusted measures of work readiness skills.
- ACT® WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® gives economic developers evidence of a skilled workforce to help attract business and industry.

- ACT® WorkKeys® Curriculum, which includes the ACT® Career Ready 101® modules helps educators ensure students have the essential work skills employers need.
- ACT research into college and career readiness helps leadership better understand their workforce.

ACT's Mission: Helping people achieve education and workplace success



A Look at WorkKeys: Assessment What is WorkKeys?

Just as the ACT assess college readiness by testing knowledge, WorkKeys assess career readiness by testing practical skills.

- WorkKeys is a standardized test developed by the same company as ACT used to measure the ability to solve actual workplace problems.
- WorkKeys measures a range of skills relevant to any job, at any level, and across many industries.
- WorkKeys helps individuals earn, verify, certify and share the essential foundational skills for workplace success.



A look at WorkKeys: Assessment What is WorkKeys?

WorkKeys is an evidence-based credential earned by completing and ranking scores in the three areas that make up the National Career Readiness Certificate:



<u>Applied Math</u> – Measures critical thinking, math reasoning, and problemsolving techniques for situations that occur in the workplace.





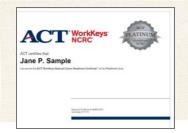
<u>Graphic Literacy</u> –Find, analyze, and apply information presented in workplace graphics. 55min/38 items



Workplace Documents - Read, understand and apply written information.

55 min/35 items





A look at WorkKeys: Scoring









Platinum

6

and above on all 3 tests

Gold

5

and above on all 3 tests

Silver

4

and above on all 3 tests

Bronze

3

and above on all 3 tests



A look at WorkKeys: Skills

Graphic Literacy		
Level 4	Level 5	
 ✓ Locate information in a graphic using information found in a second graphic ✓ Compare two or more pieces of information ✓ Identify a trend/pattern/relationship ✓ Make an inference or decision ✓ Identify the graphic that accurately represents the data 	 ✓ Locate information in a graphic using information found in another graphic ✓ Interpret trends/patterns/relationships ✓ Make a reasonable inference or decision based on one graphic after finding information in another graphic ✓ Identify the graphic that accurately represents the data ✓ Identify and justify the most effective graphic given a defined purpose 	

A look at WorkKeys: Skills

Applied Math

Applied Math			
Level 3	Level 5		
 ✓ Solve problems requiring one type of mathematical operation ✓ Convert fractions, decimals, and percentages ✓ Convert familiar units of money and time ✓ Add prices of several products together and calculate correct change 	 ✓ Decide what information, calculations, or unit conversions to use to find the answer to a problem ✓ Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators ✓ Convert units within or between systems of measurement (e.g., time, measurement, quantity) where the conversion factor is provided ✓ Identify where a mistake occurred in a calculation 		

A look at WorkKeys: Skills

Workplace Documents

Workplace Documents Control of the C			
Level 4	Level 7		
 ✓ Identify main idea and specific details ✓ Use the information in the document to figure out the meanings of words or phrases that are not defined for them ✓ Choose when to perform a step in a series of steps ✓ Apply information/instructions to a situation that is the same as the situation described in the document ✓ Choose what to do when changing conditions call for a different action 	 ✓ Infer implied details ✓ Infer meaning of an acronym, jargon, or technical term from context ✓ Apply principles inferred in a passage to a situation not directly described in the document or to a completely new situation ✓ Identify the rationale behind an entire document or a section of a document 		

Achievement Level and Potential Career Options

NCRC award	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
levels		Walter	trobbers	Wilder
Foundational	for 17% of Jobs	for 69% of Jobs	For 93 % of Jobs	for 99 % of jobs
Skills needed	ACT JobPro Database	ACT JobPro Database	ACT JobPro Database	ACT JobPro Database
Sample Occupation Correlation	Veterinary Assistant Welder Pharmacy Aid EMT Construction Equipment Operator	 Human Resource Manager Head Cook Medical Assistant Kindergarten Teacher Aircraft Mechanic Radiologist Technician 	 Pharmacy Technician Speech Language Pathologist Accountant Ship Captain Climate Change Analyst School Counselor 	 Airline Pilot Fuel Cell Engineer Mechanical Engineers Physicists



A Deeper LOOK WK Report

- 1 TEST is the name of the ACT WorkKeys test you took.
- 2 LEVEL SCORE is the score you earned on this test.
- 3 POSSIBLE RANGE shows the lowest and highest possible Level Score and Scale Score for an assessment, so you can see how well you did compared to the minimum and maximum possible scores on this test. In this example, the range is from Level 3 through Level 7 and 65 through 90.
- 4 SCALE SCORE is used primarily for training purposes to track growth.

 Scale scores are not used in hiring or advancement decisions.
- 5 WHAT YOUR SCORES MEAN gives you information about the skills you demonstrated on this test.



Skill Report

Realm: WorkKeys TDA Review SubRealm: WorkKeys TDA Review Test Date: Jun 14, 2017 Report Date: Jul 24, 2017

WorkKeys Individual Score Report With Scale Score

Examinee: Jane Smith Examinee ID**: 4321

Test Work Keys Graphic

2) Level :







6 WHAT YOUR SCORES MEAN

You scored at Level 6. People who score at Level 6 have demonstrated all of the Levels 3, 4, and 5 skills. They also have demonstrated, using graphics designed at the highly complex level, the following skills:

- Locate information in a graphic using information found in another graphic
- Compare two or more pieces of information
- Identify a trend/pattern/relationship
- Make an inference or decision
- · Identify the graphic that accurately represents the data

Additionally, using graphics designed at the high-moderate level, they have demonstrated the following skills:

- Compare two or more trends/patterns/relationships
- Interpret a trend/pattern/relationship
- · Make a reasonable inference or decision based on one graphic after finding information in another graphic
- Justify an inference or decision based on information
- Identify the most effective graphic given a defined purpose
 Justify the most effective graphic given a defined purpose

HOW YOU CAN USE YOUR SCORES

To find the Graphic Literacy Levels 3, 4, and 5 skills, please refer to the ACT WorkKeys website at visit www.workkeys.com.

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"ID field is abbreviated to last four digits



WorkKeys Score Reports for Students

Individual Summary Score Report is mailed to the test coordinator and accessible to the test coordinator in the Online Reports Portal, to give to the examinee (one for each subject test completed by the examinee). This report includes scores for the tests the examinee took and explanations of what the scores mean.

ACT WorkKeys <u>National Career Readiness Certificates (NCRC)</u> are earned by examinees who achieve a minimum score of 3 or higher on each subject test. NCRCs are accessible to district staff in the DPI Secure Access File Exchange (SAFE) to distribute to examinees.

ACT WorkKeys scores are viewable to examinees online by logging into myworkkeys.com. Student usernames and passwords are included in the school data files accessible to district staff in the DPI Secure Access File Exchange (SAFE). Districts are to distribute the usernames and passwords to examinees.

Making WorkKeys Count for Students

- •Add information about the ACT WorkKeys NCRC or ACT WorkKeys scores to resumes or applications.
- •Take an ACT WorkKeys score report or ACT WorkKeys NCRC to a job interview to show the employer they have the skills needed for the job.
- •Include ACT WorkKeys scores in application materials for a community or technical college.
- •Give employers the ACT WorkKeys NCRC number or unique web address to verify a certificate.
- •Check scores with our occupational skills profiles to compare them to the average scores needed for more than 22,000 jobs: Occupational Profile Search
- •Review <u>Using WorkKeys Scores (PDF)</u> for additional information.



What are Digital Badges?



Your students have worked hard and earned an ACT® WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® (NCRC®).

Congratulations on helping them build their skills and take the next step toward

career readiness! Digital credentials are fast becoming a source of truth in verifying skills and competencies.

So, now what?

ACT WorkKeys

What is a **Digital Badge?**



A WorkKeys NCRC digital badge from ACT quickly shows the world what your students have accomplished and, unlike a paper certificate, it's easy to share online!

What does a WorkKeys NCRC digital badge say about **YOUR** STUDENT? They are certified by a credible source with more than 30 years championing work readiness for individuals.

> They have the foundational skills needed for numerous jobs in the market.



Their knowledge and skills can be applied to the workplace.

Share your badge

Broadcast your achievement to friends and colleagues to get the recognition you deserve.



National Career Readiness Certificate Gold Issued by ACT, Inc.





Sharing Digital Badges

www.MyWorkKeys.com









Can a student earn College Credit with their WorkKeys score?

- The WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate's (three assessments) results are excellent for measuring students' readiness for the workforce as well as their ability to succeed in post-secondary learning institutions.
- Moreover, the assessments gauge the skill gaps between students' ability and workforce expectations.
- The credentialing levels are rigorous, compared to national norms.
- Effective August 1, 2022-July 31, 2025

WorkKeys NCRC Earning	Institution Level	Subjects Credits Apply to	Recommended Credits
Platinum PLATINUM CHIPPED WORKKEYS* NCRC	Lower-Division Baccalaureate	Technical Mathematics Introduction to Information Literacy	Up to 6 Credits/ semester hours (3 credits/semester hours for each subject)
ACT			
Gold COND CREWHUD WorkKeys* NCRC*	Lower-Division Baccalaureate	Technical Mathematics Introduction to Information Literacy	Up to 4 Credits/ semester hours (2 Credits/ semester hours for each subject)
Silver SUNE CENTRED WorkKeys* NCRC*	Lower-Division Baccalaureate	Technical Mathematics Introduction to Information Literacy	Up to 2 Credits/ semester hours (1 Credits/ semester hours for each subject)

Unofficial list of colleges WE ARE AWARE of who are awarding credit for skills demonstrated on the NCRC

Clackamas Community College	OR
Blue Mountain Community College	OR
Northwest Christian University	OR
Pacific Bible College	OR
University of Phoenix	on-line
Cleveland Community College	NC
Chippewa Valley Technical College	WI
Mo Southern State University	MO
Northeast State Community College	TN
Bible Baptist College	OR
Guam Community College	Guam
Louisiana Delta Community College	LA
McDowell Technical Community College	NC
University of West Alabama	AL
Shelton State Community College	AL
Horry Georgetown Technical College	SC
Cloud County Community College	KS
Butler Community College	KS
Metropolitan Community College	NE
Metropolitan Community College	MO



Increasing Student Success using WorkKeys Curriculum

WorkKeys NCRC Aligned





Graphic Literacy



Workplace Applied



WorkKeys Aligned





Business Writing **Technology**

Workplace Observation

Essential Skills



Teams

Applied

Math









Documents

Work Discipline



Service

Problem Solving and Critical Thinking



Financial Awareness

How do we fill skill gaps?







Dynamic Dashboards







Study Tools





Confidence-Based Self-Evaluation



Interactives



Quizzes Mirror Format and Rigor of Tests



Performance Date

- Online/web-based and Individualized by student
- Available in English and Spanish (NCRC only)
- WorkKeys Curriculum is a site license per school with UNLIMITED STUDENT USE
- Demo Access available
- Download: ACT WorkKeys Curriculum Course Outline

Connecting the Workforce Ecosystem

ACT Work Ready Communities

A framework for building a more productive workforce





ACT Work Ready Communities Mission



Link



Align



Match

Work Ready Communities Nationally

547
Participating Counties

Over 22,000
Job Profiles Completed

33 States



Over 5M
NCRCs Earned

Over 28,000 Employers Supporting

Cost of a Bad Hire



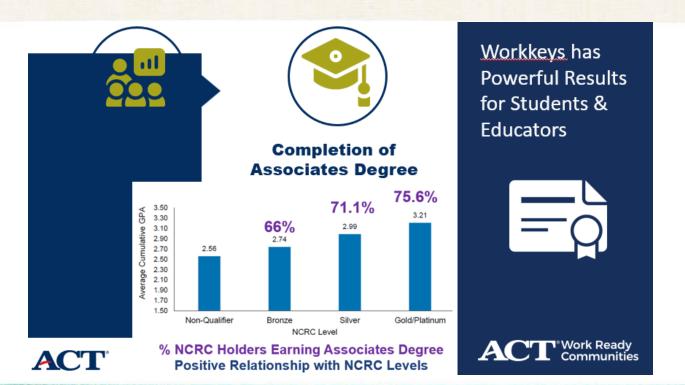
"Missouri can't afford to squander a single potential worker by not giving them the skills they need," said Karen Buschmann, a vice president of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce

pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2019/10/14/help-wanted-too-many-jobs-and-not-enough-workers-in-most-states

individual for an entry or mid-level position. Aug 21, 2018



Powerful Results for Students and Educators



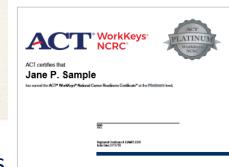


St. James Parish, LA



https://youtu.be/f6CfL2oVmOw

Benefits for Employers



- Confirms an individual's competence in specific workforce skills
- Complements traditional credentials such as HS diplomas, technical degrees
- Better quality hire hire right the 1st time
- Reduced turnover, reduce screening & hiring time
- Shortened training periods-Workkeys shows the individual is trainable



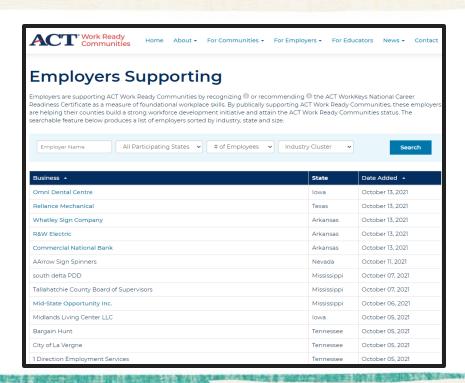
- Increased performance ratings for skilled workers
- Improving promotional procedures
- Provide objective measurements that meet EEOC requirements, when jobs are profiled
- Overall improves return on investment for the employer



Tracking Employer Support

Tracking Employer Support

"Being A Work Ready Community Champion allows the ease of hiring the best people, and trust what you hired them to do. It allows me to help match the employees to jobs based on verified skill levels. Finding the candidate who possesses the proper trade skill through the ACT Work Ready Program reduces the overall recruiting, onboarding and training cost. It's a win-win for all involved.", Tracey Faulkner Director of Human Resources, R-Tech Tool & Machine, Inc.- Kansas



Roy O Martin Apprenticeship Success



https://youtu.be/yCQSNmraZqw



Crossland Construction Company

Kansas-Missouri-Texas-Colorado

WorkKeys Silver	+ 0.50 / hour	+ \$41,000
WorkKeys Gold	+ 1.00 / hour	+ \$82,000
WorkKeys Platinum	+ 1.50 / hour	+ \$124,800



EDUCATION PAYS

Do you want to build a great career in construction? See how the choices you make in school can help you get started on the right foot.

	\$\$/hr	40 year impact*
Base Pay (no experience)	varies by market	
GPA 3.0 or greater	+ 0.50 / hour	+ \$41,000
SHA 10 Hour Credential	+ 0.50 / hour	+ \$41,000
NCCER CORE	+ 0.50 / hour	+ \$41,000
NCCER Level 1	+ 0.50 / hour	+ \$41,000
WorkKeys Silver	+ 0.50 / hour	+ \$41,000
WorkKeys Gold	+ 1.00 / hour	+ \$82,000
WorkKeys Platinum	+ 1.50 / hour	+ \$124,800

*calculation based on 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year

What could this mean for you?

Let's say you got your NCCER Core and Level 1 Credentials in school. You also got a 3.2 GPA and you scored a Gold on the WorkKeys test.

If the Base Pay for someone with no experience is \$12.00/hr in your area, you would start at \$14.50/hr.

That would mean you would earn an extra \$208,000 over a 40 year career!

With would you do with our extra \$208,000

BASE PAY. \$12.00

ACT Gold. \$1.00

CORE. \$.50

Level 1. \$.50

GPA. \$.50

\$14.50 / hour starting pay

For more information email education@crosslandconstruction.com or call 620-429-1414

Impact of ACT Work Ready Communities

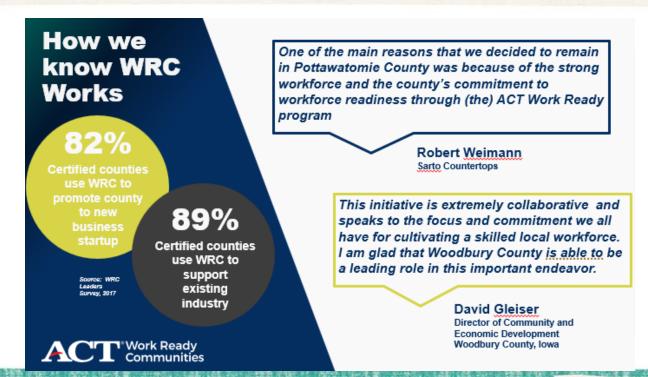


An 'eco-system' for community-based workforce development that enables:

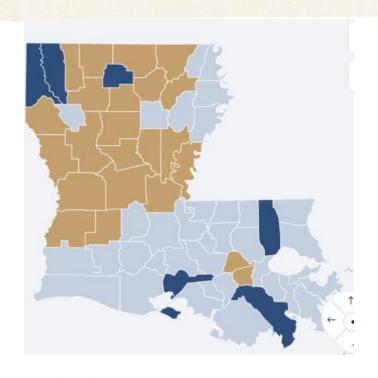
- Business and industry to discern, easily hire and communicate essential skills needed for a productive workforce
- Individuals to understand what skills are required by employers and how to prepare themselves for success
- Policy makers, community leaders and educators to measure and close the skill gaps and build career pathways that help both individuals and industry thrive
- Economic developers have an on-demand reporting tool with data that quantifies the skill level of their workforce

An ACT Certified Work Ready Community is one where the supply of ACT WorkKeys NCRC's earned by individuals is matched with a demand for the NCRC from employers who recognize the credential.

Evidence that WorkKeys works



Work Ready Communities in Louisiana



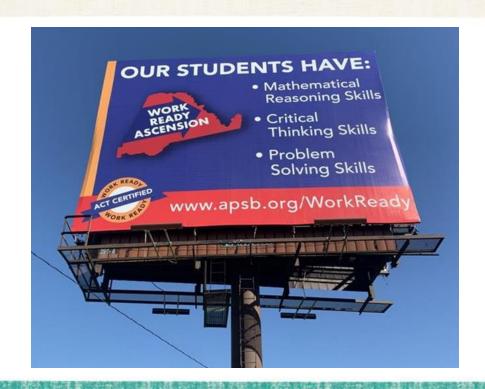
ACT National Career Readiness Certificate		
ACT WorkKeys NCRC Levels		
Platinum	11,745	
Gold	38,183	
Silver	126,142	
Bronze	78,347	
Total	254,417	
Job Profiles Completed 48		
Employers Supporting 1082		

Growing from counties to regions



https://vimeo.com/289380160/ 85cb2e8a02

Yes! Even a Billboard



Powerful Results for Communities

ACT Work Ready Communities LOCAL IMPACT

MARSHALL COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI JOB GROWTH AIDED BY WORK READY COMMUNITIES

More than 80% of Work Ready Communities (WRC) report success in expansions of existing employers and recruitment of new firms. Sometimes that success happens even before certification, as is the case with Marshall County, Mississippi

Stronger Employers



Several employers across Marshall County already request the National Career Career Readiness Certificate quarantees interviews to Silver-level NCRC job candidates.

New Job Growth



Three new firms announced manufacturing and distribution. Site Selection (NCRC). Rockwool Insulation consultants routinely ask for New 37,000 square foot NCRC volume. WRC sets Marshall County apart from near key industry worksites. the competition.

Partnerships



More than 80% of high more than 1,500 new jobs in school students tested with industry partners visiting schools to promote careers. workforce center to be built

"Being in a rural area can be a disadvantage when you're competing with larger communities. Having an available skilled workforce continues to dominate. Through our Work Ready Communities effort, we've developed invaluable partnerships here in Marshall County. It's a breath of fresh air having everyone get involved (High Schools, Northwest Community College, Workforce Center, local industry & government). Work Ready Communities/WorkKeys has been one of our biggest recruitment tools. When we can pitch to prospective companies that we have the talent pool they're looking for, and we're continuing to test our emerging workforce, they take interest. And when they recognize the collaboration among all stakeholders that has spawned as a result, that speaks volumes for us."

-Justin Hall, Executive Director Marshall County IDA

Learn more about Work Ready Communities



opportunities and much more at workreadycommunities.org



The View from Site Selection Consultants

Work Ready Communities are setting themselves apart; positioning themselves to attract new companies

> —Robby Burgan Manager, Location Strategies Evergreen Advisors

When I see that a county is ACT Work Ready I know that they are following the steps in planning for the current and future workforce. Therefore, our tendency at FCG is to look strongly at ACT Work Ready Communities for new site locations. I would encourage all communities to seek that status.

-Mr. Deane C. Foote, CECD President & CEO Foote Consulting Group As a corollary would recommend that all counties become work ready certified

> —Mr. Dennis Donovan Location Strategy and Site Selection Advisor

ACT Work Ready is truly the best workforce development marketing tool I have seen.

> —Chad Chancellor Co-Founder/CEO The Next Move Group





Louisiana Boot Camp

HOW THE WORK READY COMMUNITIES BOOT CAMP EQUIPS LOCAL LEADERS

Secrets to Success

- ► Performance-driven framework to initiate, deploy, and drive efforts
- ► Common goals and language to build support across partnerships
- ► Engaged local leaders that invest team time to shape North Star focus



LOUISIANA
ACT WORK READY
COMMUNITIES
In-Person Boot Camp
March 13 & 14th 2024

Participating Parishes Receive:

- Process, tools, and data to support common platform to measure and close local and regional skill gaps
- Fast track training model, structured startup and launch
- Fundamental criteria to establish baseline goals
- Communication tools and messaging to build support
- New local data monthly at workreadycommunities.org
- Enhanced reporting via admin dashboard
- Process to build sustainable workforce approach
- 2 Days—New Orleans-venue TBD
- highly-interactive days of learning with best practices from around LA & the nation & team time to develop strategy
- representatives (minimum) per parish attend both days to be eliqible for launch & certification

Mark Your Calendar

Contact Information

Mia Edwards

Account Executive, ACT Louisiana Mia.Edwards@act.org (225)571-5590

Cheri Hughes

Regional Manager, ACT Work Ready Communities Cheri.hughes@act.org (573) 578-6716 workreadycommunities.org

Resource links for ACT WorkKeys

NCRC Assessment information page -

Applied Math - https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-educators/assessments/applied-math.html

Graphic Literacy - https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-educators/assessments/graphic-literacy.html
Workplace Documents - https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-educators/assessments/workplace-documents.html

NCRC Levels – Description of and skills associated with each level:

Platinum - https://actinc.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/#30000000wu5/a/4v00000YCbW/fSKa1zdu4gRMHrn2BfVaMkislEhbKum0WkJQBpBgalg
Silver - https://actinc.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/#30000000wu5/a/4v00000YCbg/BGo2bcQ0BEBfCt4S6Lr42z6QWzigaKnFV6iN8moBioM
Bronze - https://actinc.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/#30000000wu5/a/4v00000YCbb/TPgEjc.xK1MXpwJzi4nDeRX.cyZTDhRxJyT6GQqJpmc

ACT WorkKeys Scale Score Interpretation Guide - https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/WorkKeys-Scale-Score-Interpretation-Guide.pdf

Score Reports table - https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ACTWorkKeys-PortalReports.pdf
WorkKeys Online Reports Portal User Guide - https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ACTWorkKeys-OnlineReportsPortalUserGuide.pdf

Brochure - ACT WorkKeys Assessment Can Work For You - https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/How-WorkKeys-Assessment-Can-Work-For-You-Brochure.pdf

Tips for K-12 Practitioners - https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/pdfs/ACT-WorkKeys-Tips-for-Practitioners.pdf

Career and Academic Planning Tools:

Using the Occupational Profile Database - https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/pdfs/WorkKeys-Using-the-Occupational-Profile-Database.pdf ACT Job Profiles Database - https://jobprofiles.act.org/

O*NET Online - https://www.onetonline.org/

Occupational Profiles By Industry Sector:

16 Career Pathways Tableau - https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/act2044/viz/CareerReadinessBenchmarks/CareerReadiness?publish=yes Industry Readiness Tableau - https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/act2044/viz/IndustryReadinessBenchmarks/Dashboard/IndustryReadinessDashboard