



FIFTY YEARS 1959|2009

ACT Supports Common Core State Standards

The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) recently released the first public draft of the much anticipated college and career readiness standards in English language arts and mathematics. ACT, Inc., a not-for-profit organization that provides a broad array of assessment, research, information, and program management solutions in the areas of education and workforce development, is honored to be an active partner with NGA and CCSSO in the Common Core State Standards Initiative since its inception, a responsibility we take very seriously.

ACT strongly endorses the basic tenets of the Common Core State Standards Initiative—that they are research- and evidence-based, internationally benchmarked, aligned with college and work expectations, and inclusive of rigorous content and skills. ACT recognizes the importance and value of these tenets because they are also at the heart of ACT's long and rich history in empirical data collection and utilization. We are excited for the educational community to see this groundbreaking first draft of common standards, as they truly represent our nation's first coordinated attempt to make sure that *all* American students—no matter their means, personal circumstances, or zip code—are college and career ready.

This initiative is critical and timely, and also aligns with ACT's 50 year history of helping people achieve education and workplace success. Our empirical, longitudinal data, coupled with our commitment to college and career readiness for all students, uniquely qualify us to be a valuable partner in—and advocate for—this initiative.

ACT is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides a broad array of assessment, research, information, and program management solutions in the areas of education and workforce development. Each year, ACT serves millions of people in high schools, colleges, professional associations, businesses, and government agencies – nationally and internationally.

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, ACT offers a wide variety of solutions that share one guiding purpose – to help people achieve education and workplace success. For more information about ACT, visit www.act.org.