



Counties are invited to join the ACT Work Ready Communities initiative

Until recently, only statewide leadership teams have been eligible to participate in ACT Work Ready Communities—an initiative to drive economic growth. Those statewide efforts allowed counties in each participating state to engage in the initiative.

Things are changing.

ACT has received tremendous interest from communities who want to participate in the movement but are not yet served by a statewide program.

ACT now accepts applications directly from any county in any state not yet participating at the state level. To find out if your state is participating in the ACT Work Ready Communities initiative, go to workreadycommunities.org.

If your county is interested, review the information here and at the links provided, assemble your local leadership team, and submit an application. Regions may apply, but each county in the region will need to complete a separate application.

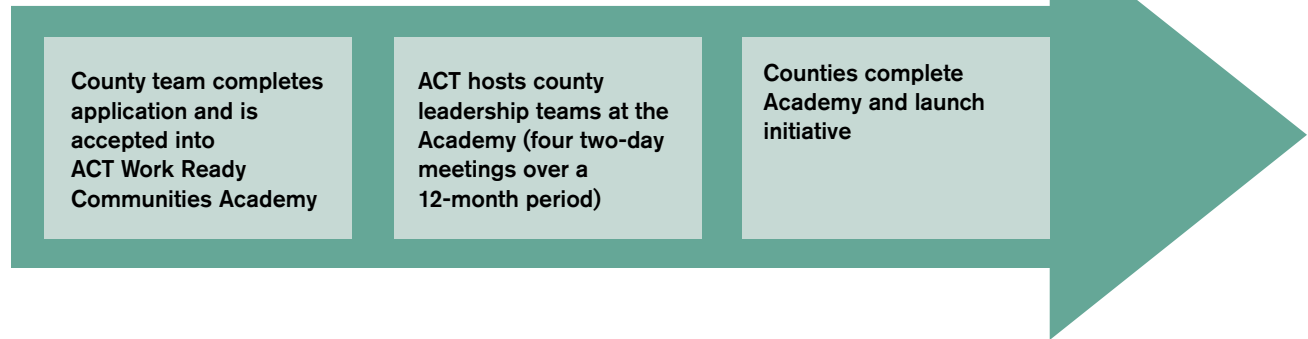
What do counties bring to the process?

- Each county will organize a cross-agency team of leaders representing government, K–12 education, workforce, economic development, and the business community.
- Two team members from each county will participate in the ACT Work Ready Communities Academy.
- County commits to developing and launching an ACT Work Ready Communities program.
- County agrees to make ACT WorkKeys® assessments and the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate™ (ACT NCRC®) accessible to individuals.

ACT® Work Ready Communities

workreadycommunities.org

The process: Becoming an ACT Work Ready Community



What does ACT bring to the process?

- ACT will fund the ACT Work Ready Communities Academy for all participating counties.
- ACT will work with counties to establish initial goals.
- ACT will provide data, processes, and tools to drive success.
 - **Data:** ACT NCRC and business engagement data for each county
 - **Processes:** The ACT Work Ready Communities Academy to help counties build an initiative
 - **Tools:** Monthly tracking of progress, employer engagement, communication tools, and more

By participating in the ACT Work Ready Communities initiative, counties can identify skill gaps *and* quantify the skill levels of their workforce. This helps educators build career pathways aligned to the needs of business and industry—and it also helps a community stand out and be recognized for its workforce development efforts. A strong workforce is a tremendous economic development advantage.

After completing the ACT Work Ready Communities Academy, counties will be poised to launch a host of workforce and economic development efforts to help transform the economic vitality of the area.

For more information, visit workreadycommunities.org.