

ACAT-N

NOTE: If you need assistance starting the test, use the Live Chat link at the bottom of the page at <https://testme.acatonline.net> or call 866-680-2228 x 219. Be sure to provide any error messages or codes that are displayed on the screen. We will respond as quickly as possible but do not guarantee live technical support for ACAT-N.

Minimum System Requirements

- Microsoft Windows 7, 8.1, 10, or 11
- Microsoft .NET framework version 4.0 or higher
- Your computer's display resolution must be set to 1024 x 768 or higher. If you are using Windows 10 or 11, set the display scale to 125% or less.
- The software will not run on computers configured with multiple monitors. You will need to disable the second monitor for the software to run. Simply turning the monitor off is not enough.

All requests for accommodation in the form of additional time to complete the test must come from your institution and must be received by PACAT a minimum of 24 hours before you plan to take the ACAT-N®.

Start the ACAT-N®.

(Note: If you are using a notebook, laptop, or netbook, we strongly recommend that you plug it into an a/c power source before taking the ACAT-N.)

1. You are not permitted to use web browsers, word processors, calculator programs, voice or video chat, instant messaging programs, text readers, or e-mail clients while taking the test. If you do not close these programs before starting, the ACAT-N® software will force them to close and you will lose any unsaved work. If you attempt to start them while taking the test, the attempt will be recorded, and they will be closed automatically.
2. Go to <https://testme.acatonline.net>. Click on "ACAT Online" and follow the instructions on the screen.
3. A logon screen will ask you to enter the authentication code provided by your institution. The code consists of a series of letters and numbers and is not case-sensitive.
4. The program will run some basic tests to make sure it can properly communicate with the PACAT servers and will indicate whether it has been successful. Your authentication code will remain valid until you start taking the test.
5. You will be asked to provide personal information. You must provide your name and student ID number. These will not be released to the institution unless the institution requests them, but we require students be identifiable when they take the ACAT-N®. The screens state specifically what information is required and what is optional.
6. After completion of these screens, you will be given instructions on how to take the online test. The number of questions and the time limit will be displayed on the screen. The test will not begin until you click the start button on the screen.
7. **Once the questions appear on your screen, you are not permitted to pause the test or to exit and resume taking it. Attempting to do so will cause the program to end your session.**

Once the ACAT-N® starts, you will be able to see only one question at a time, but you can move back and forth among the questions easily. The questions can be answered by typing the letter of the alternative (A, B, C, D, E), a number corresponding to the order of the alternative (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), by using the arrow keys and spacebar, or by mouse clicking on a box next to the alternative. A list on the left side of the screen will show which questions have been answered and which have not. You can click on any number to go directly to the question or let the program automatically go to the next question. A button is available to allow you to skip the question and leave the answer blank. This also erases a previous answer if one has been entered. A clock at the top of the screen will show the amount of time remaining.

When you have completed the test, if there is still time remaining, you can click on the button at the bottom of the screen that indicates you are finished. You will be asked to confirm that you want to stop and the program will close and send your answers for scoring. If you run out of time, you will see a message telling you that you are out of time and the program will automatically close and send your answers for scoring.

Determining in Advance If Your Computer Will Be Able to Administer the Test.

Follow “Start the ACAT-N” instructions 1 and 2. Instead of entering the authentication code provided by your institution, enter “ACATNCOMPUTERCHECK” instead. Your computer will automatically run a series of tests. If it passes all 4 tests successfully, your computer will be able to administer the test. Once the tests have completed, click the large button in the center of the screen and the program will end.

In the event of a session interrupted by a computer failure, contact ACAT technical support as soon as possible. You may be asked to restart the test as part of the support session. If you voluntarily exit from the test by telling it you are finished or if the time limit has been reached, the test cannot be restarted.