

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
September 17, 2015

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06. Discussion of the Spring 2015 ACT Results for 11th Grade [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]

Executive Summary

ACT's **College Readiness Standards** are sets of statements intended to help students, parents and educators understand the meaning of test scores. The standards relate test scores to the types of skills needed for success in high school and beyond. They serve as a direct link between what students have learned and what they are ready to do next.

College Readiness Benchmark Scores – A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50 % chance of obtaining a B or higher or approximately a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses, which include English Composition, Algebra, Social Science and Biology. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college. The College Readiness Benchmark Scores, updated in August of 2013, are:

College Course/Course Area	ACT Test	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23

The report today will focus on:

- **College Readiness** – percent of students meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores in each content area
- **Performance** – student test performance in the context of college readiness by subgroup
- **Course Selection** – percent of students pursuing a core curriculum
- **Course Rigor** – impact of rigorous coursework on achievement

This item references Goals 1 and 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

No Action: Discussion Only