

ACT Work Ready Communities for Counties

FOR COUNTIES IN NON-PARTICIPATING STATES

By participating in the ACT Work Ready Communities [WRC] initiative, counties can identify skill gaps and quantify the skill level 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.

Counties engage in ACT Work Ready Communities through successful completion of the ACT Work Ready Communities Academy. ACT offers two Academy cohorts per year for county teams, typically in the spring and fall. For those interested in engaging in the initiative there is an application process managed via the ACT WRC website. Interested counties should complete and submit an application online to join the next Academy group.

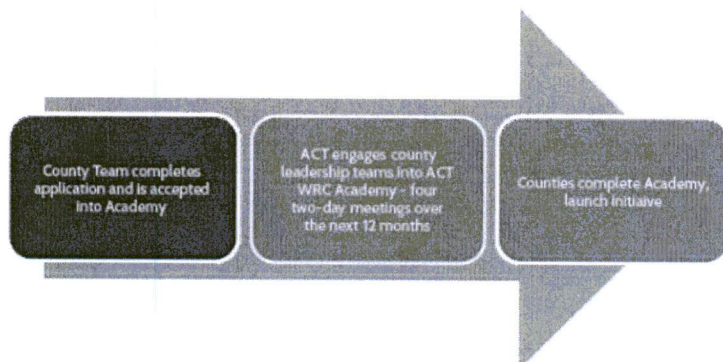
A county Work Ready Communities leadership team should, at minimum, have representatives from local government, economic development, workforce development, community/technical college, K-12 system, and business/industry.

WHAT DO COUNTIES BRING?

- Each county shall organize a cross agency team of government, educators, workforce, economic development and business/chamber leaders
- Two team members from each county shall participate in the ACT WRC Academy - which consists of four two day sessions spread over a one year period
- While there is no direct fee to participate in the Academy, the participating county representatives are required to fund their travel to all four sessions, and pay a registration to cover session meals and snacks
- Counties shall commit to developing, launching and sustaining a successful county certified ACT Work Ready Community
- Counties shall have ACT WorkKeys tests and ACT National Career Readiness Certificates accessible for individuals and employers

WHAT DOES ACT BRING?

- ACT shall provide the Academy consisting of four two day sessions over a one year period
- ACT shall work with counties to establish initial goals based on ACT Work Ready Communities Common Criteria
- ACT shall provide data, process and tools in the Academy to drive county initiative success
 - Data: NCRC and employer supporting data for each counties
 - Process: The ACT WRC Academy to help counties build a WRC initiative
 - Tools: Monthly website delivery of data, communication tools and more



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About WRC

- Overview
- For States
- For Counties
- Academy
- Staff
- Advisory Board

How To Sign Up

There are two paths to participate in the ACT® Work Ready Communities initiative - State or County approaches.

SIGN UP NOW ►

Appendix B
County Official ACT Work Ready Communities Support Form
For Madison (county)
Mississippi (state)

The purpose of this document is for the county and municipality leaders to provide their support for their county to actively participate in the ACT Work Ready Communities (ACT WRC) initiative.

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Our county has organized a cross agency team of government, educators, workforce, economic developers and business/chamber leaders. We commit to developing and launching a local ACT WRC program. We will have ACT WorkKeys and ACT National Career Readiness tools accessible to individuals in our county. As local government leaders, we fully support the county engaging in the ACT Work Ready Communities.

Instructions: For counties to participate in the ACT Work Ready Communities, local county and municipal officials are required to show their support of the counties active engagement in the initiative. More information about ACT Work Ready Communities may be found at www.workreadycommunities.org. County and municipal leaders may show their support as outlined below:

Acceptable county documentation to engage:

- County and municipal leaders completing and signing this form
- A County Resolution and a letter of support from a Mayor
- Signed Letters of Support from both a county and municipal leader [may be joint]
- If consolidated county-city governance, only one Letter of Support document required

It is encouraged that counties adopt a resolution of support. However, at minimum, this form shall be signed by a county official to provide support for the county to participate in ACT Work Ready Communities. If there are one or more cities in the designated county, at least one municipal leader shall also sign to provide support. If there is more than one municipality in the county that would like to show their support, additional signatures or letters of support from other municipal leaders may be included. Lastly the County team leaders shall complete the information and sign the form acknowledging their role in leading the ACT WRC initiative on behalf of the county.

I support the County to participate in the county ACT Work Ready Communities initiative

State/county of: _____

County Official Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

I support the County to participate in the county ACT Work Ready Communities initiative

Municipality Official Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

COUNTY WRC TEAM LEADER 1: _____ Signature: _____

COUNTY WRC TEAM LEADER 2: _____ Signature: _____