

# ACES™

Gain information on the most useful predictors of success at your institution with the College Board's Admitted Class Evaluation Service™ (ACES™) at [www.collegeboard.com/aces](http://www.collegeboard.com/aces).

ACES is a free online service that predicts how admitted students will perform at your institution generally and how successful they can be in specific courses.



## ACES™ Gives You Continuous Validation

ACES studies provide the information you need to confirm or improve current admission and placement policies. To be certain your admission and placement standards remain valid, it is suggested that you conduct a study every three years. You may also choose to conduct studies more frequently.

## ACES Offers You Free, Easy-to-Read Validity Studies

ACES offers two types of validity studies — admission and placement. These studies identify the optimum combination of measures to predict a student's future performance at your institution. ACES studies evaluate the differences for predicting the success of specific student subgroups and document the probability of error. Each study presents an analysis of findings and gives you general background information to help you examine the study in greater detail. Colorful presentations, graphics and interpretive text highlight the key findings and make ACES studies easy to read and understand.

## ACES Admission Studies Analyze Existing Admission Practices to Inform Future Admission Policies

ACES admission validity studies typically use high school grade point average (HSGPA) or high school rank, along with SAT® scores and SAT Subject Test scores to establish the best combination of variables to predict student performance at your institution. Examples of other possible predictors are the number of years of study in a particular subject area and scores on tests developed by your institution. Your choice of variables to include in an admission validity study depends on what you believe to be important factors for predicting academic success at your institution.

### **ACES Admission Studies Give You Extras**

ACES Admission Validity Studies include a one-page comprehensive executive summary, Results-at-a-Glance, and more. In addition to establishing the best predictors of success, these studies identify students who are underperforming and are at a higher risk of not completing their degrees. Also, you will receive an electronic file containing all data used to create your study (with matched data from the College Board) along with your study.

### More Information:

Phone:  
877-885-2237

e-mail:  
[aces@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:aces@info.collegeboard.org)

Web:  
[www.collegeboard.com/aces](http://www.collegeboard.com/aces)

## ACES Placement Validity Studies Help You Place Students So They Can Succeed

ACES placement validity studies provide helpful information for making course placement decisions at your institution. Placement validity studies analyze the relative value of College Board test scores and other measures of student ability to confirm, or improve, the effectiveness of your current placement methods. You can design a placement validity study to fit the particular needs of your institution. Studies analyze the performance of a group of current students in one or more related courses in relation to test scores and other predictors in order to predict the performance of future students with similar scores.

### **ACES Predictive Placement Validity Studies**

ACES predictive placement validity studies evaluate how student scores on the SAT, SAT Subject Tests™, or ACCUPLACER® tests predict performance in a course. These studies provide two probability tables to evaluate cut scores for a course — one for a grade of B or higher and one for a grade of C or higher.

### **ACES and AP® Exam Scores**

The ACES AP predictive placement validity study evaluates existing placement practices by analyzing the criterion measure — the course grade — for students who were placed into the course based on their AP score, compared with those students who entered by completing the prerequisite course.

### **ACES and CLEP®**

CLEP concurrent placement validity studies inform CLEP policy decisions by correlating CLEP test scores with grades in corresponding courses. CLEP concurrent placement validity studies translate a student's score on a CLEP exam into a probability that the student has the same level of ability as students successfully completing a particular course.

## How to Submit Student Data to ACES

Before submitting a data file to ACES, you need to request and design your study at the ACES website. Note that your data file may be submitted as a fixed-length ASCII file, a comma-delimited ASCII file, a tab-delimited ASCII file, a Microsoft ACCESS database, a Microsoft EXCEL workbook, a SAS transport file or an SPSS portable file. Simply upload the file directly from a PC to ACES on the College Board's ACES website. Data are automatically encrypted during transmission to protect confidentiality.<sup>1</sup>

## Obtaining Your ACES Study

ACES will notify you online when the study is ready. The document is password protected for confidentiality and is encrypted until you download it. Results of ACES studies are confidential, and are only released to the individual at the institution that requested the study. Admission studies take 35 business days; placement studies take eight weeks.

## ACES Validity Handbook

This online reference guide answers the basic question "What is validity?" and highlights why validity is an important issue for colleges and universities. It also assists in the planning and execution of validity studies. Designed to serve as a general reference for validity, the *Validity Handbook* includes information about validity beyond what is specifically applicable to ACES. At the same time, it also includes specific information about the types of validity studies and their design that are available through the ACES system, and helps you interpret your study results.

## How Do You Connect With Us?

For more information or to request an ACES study, visit [www.collegeboard.com/aces](http://www.collegeboard.com/aces), or contact [aces@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:aces@info.collegeboard.org). ACES Contact Information: The College Board, Research and Development, 45 Columbus Avenue, New York, NY 10023-6992

1. FERPA permits educational institutions to disclose personally identifiable information from education records without parental or student consent to "organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests." 20 U.S.C.A. § 1232g(b)(1)(F); see 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(6)(i)(A). For more information on ACES and FERPA: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/higher-ed/validity/aces/handbook/faq>.

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