

PAT Maths Trial

Purpose

This trial is vital to ACER's continuous improvement of PAT Maths adaptive. Following the trial, statistical analyses and feedback from participating schools will be used to identify content that has worked well and is suitable for release.

We depend on the goodwill of schools to help us with this part of the assessment development process and appreciate your participation.

Trial period

Monday 1 June to **Friday 21 August.**

Year levels

Years 3–6 and Year 8 students can participate and will be assigned a trial test based on their current year level.

Content

The trial tests contain a selection of new content that we need to try out with a similar population to the one that will ultimately sit the final test, to make sure the content works well. The trial tests may be shorter than the final tests and are not necessarily representative of the whole test construct. This means that there can be a disproportionate number of questions relating to a particular strand or that one trial test might be slightly harder or easier than another.

The trial tests are **not** computer adaptive.

Recommended test time

Primary students (Year 3–6): 30 minutes.
Secondary students (Year 8): 40 minutes.

Test assignment

Once your school has registered, ACER will assign the trial tests to your students. Please ensure your student list is up to date so tests can be assigned promptly.

There are several trial tests consisting of different trial content and only one maths trial test will be assigned to each of your participating students. Within each year level, students will be assigned a mix of trial tests to enable the gathering of a varied data sample.

Results

Instant raw score reports will be available within your school's online account. Note, however, that the purpose of the trial is to test content and not students. The reports will only display your students' correct and incorrect responses and the percentage correct within your selected group for each question.

We do **not** recommend reviewing the questions in detail with students nor going through the answers. At this stage, we do not yet know how well the new content will perform, and some content may not be suitable for inclusion in the final assessment. It does, however, provide valuable practice for both students and teachers. It also gives schools the opportunity to directly shape future tests by providing feedback.

Teacher expectations and feedback

At the conclusion of the trial, you will be emailed a **short feedback survey**. This should be completed by each teacher who administered the test.

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