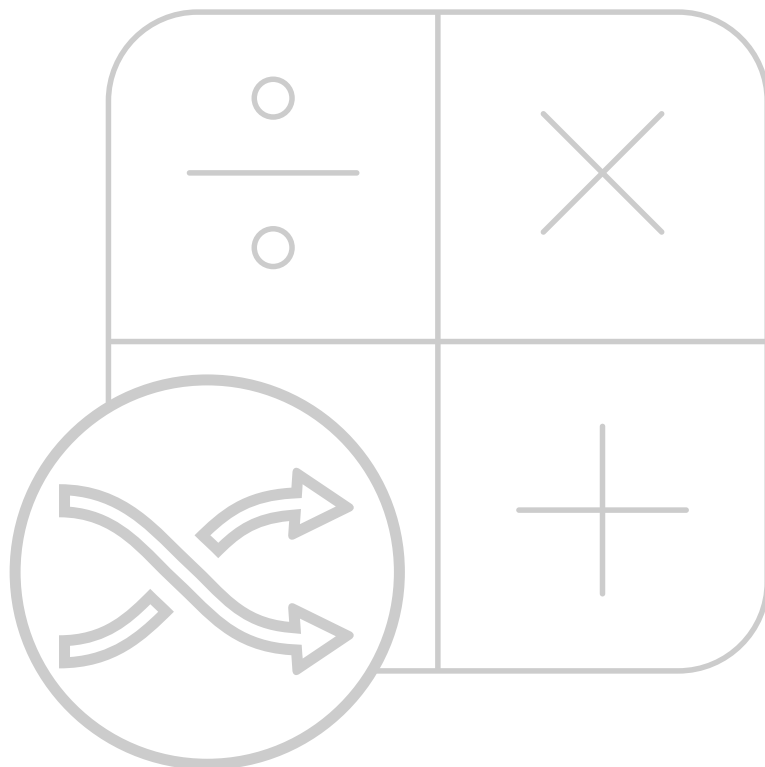




PAT Maths Adaptive

Test administration instructions



Contents

April 2024

Preparation	1
Administration conditions	1
Calculators	1
Changes to administration conditions	1
Adaptive testing	2
Delivery	2
Instructions	3
Technical requirements	6
Troubleshooting	6

Preparation

The following steps need to be completed ahead of time. For more detailed instructions on how to complete each step, please refer to the **Help** pages within your school's online account, or speak to the person responsible for managing your school's account.

- Check the technical requirements and run the browser exam from a student device to identify any potential technical issues.
- Schedule your testing date and time. ACER recommends that tests are administered in the morning and not immediately before or after an exciting school event.
- Ensure that all students are listed within your school's online assessment account and have been assigned the necessary tests.
- Download or print a list of your students' login details from the **Students** page within your school's online assessment account.
- Make note of your school's online assessment login page, or make sure that the URL is saved on student devices, or available to your students as a link. The address will be similar to <https://oars.acer.edu.au/your-school-name>.

Administration conditions

- Students are permitted 40 minutes to complete the test.
- PAT Maths Adaptive should be administered under standard testing conditions with invigilation.
- Students' screens should be monitored as part of test invigilation.
- Students are permitted to use pen/pencil and paper to make notes during the test.

Calculators

At the lower test levels, PAT Maths Adaptive items assess students' abilities to perform simple mathematical operations without the use of a calculator.

For a select number of items at levels 4 to 6, an online calculator tool within the test can be used by students, if they choose. The mathematical processes involved in these questions can be completed without the use of a calculator, but students who already feel confident using a calculator may benefit from using one as it will enable them to concentrate on the more complex cognitive aspects of the question.

At upper levels, PAT Maths Adaptive assesses the application of more advanced and complex mathematical processes for which the use of a calculator is appropriate and may in fact be required. The online calculator tool is available for all questions at levels 7 to 10.

Computer Algebra System (CAS) calculators should not be used on any PAT Maths tests.



Changes to administration conditions

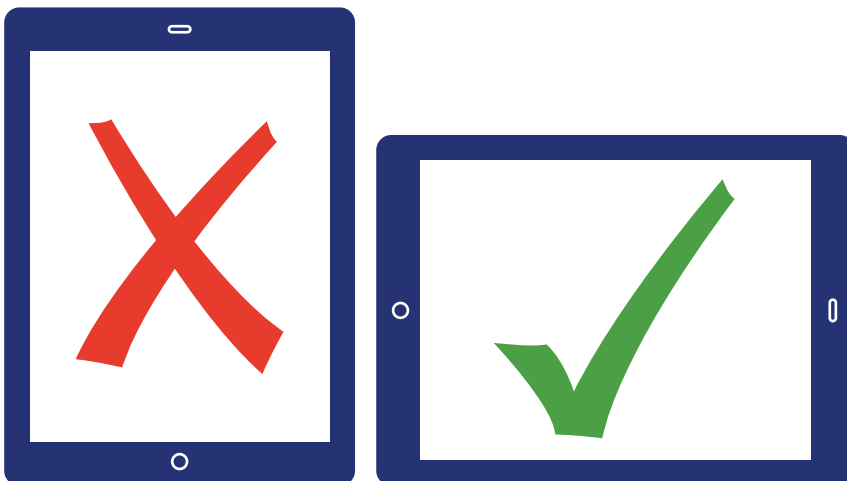
If you determine that some students require changed testing conditions due to specific learning needs, these changes should be recorded for future reference. The process for determining and implementing any changes to test conditions should be consistent between classes and across the school.

Adaptive testing

- The nature of adaptive assessment means that students are likely to see different items (questions), and different numbers of items, in their tests. To reduce student anxiety, it is important to explain that there will be differences between students' tests and to assure them that they will all have enough time to attempt their questions.
- All students will see at least 30 items in their PAT Maths Adaptive test. The most is 42 items.
- Students must view (not necessarily respond to) at least half of the items in Stage 3 of their test in order to receive a scale score. The multi-stage structure of PAT Maths Adaptive is not obvious to students, so students should simply be discouraged from skipping items without reading them.
- Tests submitted prematurely will be flagged as 'Invalid: insufficient items viewed' and excluded from the PAT Data Explorer. These tests may be re-opened to allow students to complete them.

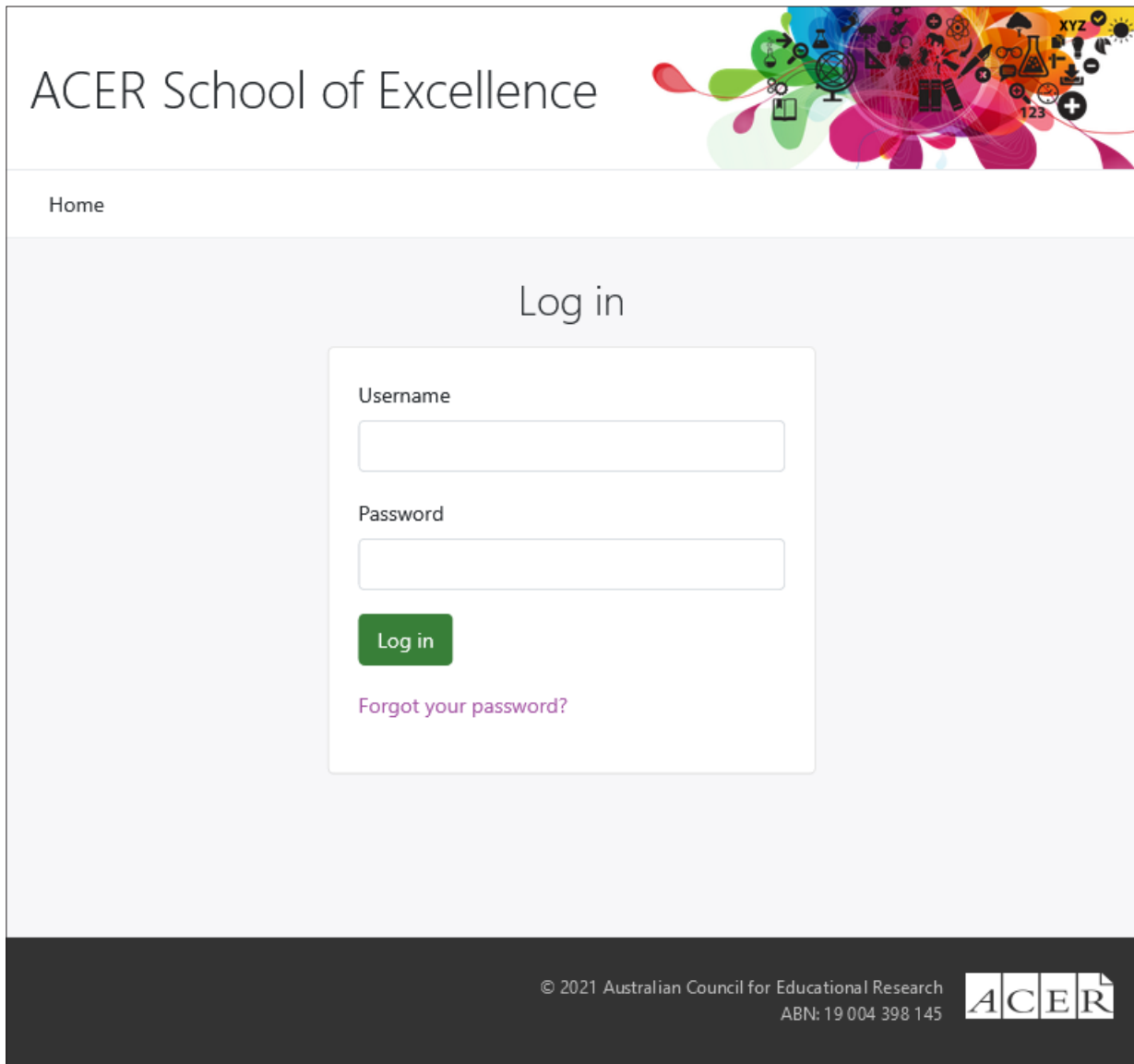
Delivery

- Students will not be automatically locked out of the tests after the allowed time passes. You must monitor and manage the time, including accommodating toilet breaks or other interruptions that may occur.
- Student responses are automatically saved each time they navigate to another question.
- If technical problems cause the need to postpone the completion of the tests, students may close the browser without losing their progress.
- iPads and tablet devices must be held in landscape orientation.



Instructions

Once students are seated at their computers or devices, instruct them to load your school's online assessment login page:



ACER School of Excellence

Home

Log in

Username

Password

Log in

[Forgot your password?](#)

© 2021 Australian Council for Educational Research
ABN: 19 004 398 145

ACER

- Instruct students to enter their usernames and passwords and then click **Log in**.
- Note that usernames and passwords are case sensitive.

Please follow my instructions and do not click through the screens unless you are told to do so. Please enter the username and password given to you and then click Log in.

Students will see a screen listing all assessments currently assigned to them:

ACER School of Excellence

Active tests Completed tests sofia.samra

Welcome, Sofia Samra

PAT Maths Adaptive

NEW PAT Maths Adaptive
Last updated: 14th April 2021, 03:03pm

PAT Reading Adaptive

NEW PAT Reading Adaptive
Last updated: 14th April 2021, 03:03pm

© 2021 Australian Council for Educational Research
ABN: 19 004 398 145 ACER

- Each student's name will be displayed at the top of the welcome page.
- Check that all students are logged in with the correct details.
Please raise your hand if the name at the top of the page is not your own.
- Once you have ensured all students are logged in, they may open the test.
Please click PAT Maths Adaptive.

The following screen will be shown:

PAT Maths Adaptive

This is a test of your understanding and skill in maths.


New questions will appear at the top of the screen as you move through the test.

You will see at least 30 questions in total.

You will have 40 minutes to complete the test.

Directions

- Carefully read and answer each question, one at a time.
- You may use a blank piece of paper and a pencil for working out your answers.
- You can change your answer if you want to.
- The question number changes colour and shape when you answer that question.



- You can click on a question number to go back.

Click the **Start test** button when your teacher tells you to.

Start test

This test will adapt to your maths ability. Don't worry if the questions seem too easy or too difficult to begin with; there will be a mix of harder and easier questions throughout the test.

You are not expected to answer every question correctly.

At the start, you won't be able to see all of the test questions. More questions will appear as you move through the test.

You may see a different number of questions than other students.

I will read through the directions shown on your screen. Please listen carefully and read silently along with me so you understand the instructions. Please do not begin the test until I tell you.

- Dictate the directions on screen to your students.

Work as carefully as you can. Do not spend too long on one question, even if it is hard.

After you complete the last question, review your work and check that you have answered all of the previous questions.

*Once you have completed your test, click **Finish** on the last page. Are there any questions?*

- Check that the instructions have been understood. Answer any questions about the test, but not the test content, and make sure that students are ready to begin.

- When students are ready:

*Click **Start test** to begin.*

- After 35 minutes:

You have five more minutes to finish your work.

- After a further five minutes:

*Please navigate to the last question and click **Next**. Please click **Finish** to log out.*

Technical requirements

Load the browser exam (<https://oars.acer.edu.au/browserexam/>) from a student computer or device to check whether your school's set up meets the minimum technical requirements.

Alternatively, send the following technical requirements to your school's IT technician.

- Minimum browser resolution: 1024 width × 768 height
- Minimum internet connection: 256 kilobytes per second (KB/s) per concurrent test-taking user.
- Compatible computers and devices: PC or laptop, Apple Mac, iPad and other tablet devices with minimum 10" display.
- Compatible web browsers (latest versions): Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, Microsoft Edge

Please note that students' screens should be monitored as part of test invigilation. The online assessment system does not 'lock' the students' browsers or restrict access to other websites.

If you have concerns about students using screen reading programs, browser extensions or other applications while completing tests, please contact your school's IT staff to determine how best to manage or restrict this across the school.

Troubleshooting

If you encounter any problems when administering the tests, contact ACER for support:

Phone: 1300 006 577 **Email:** school.support@acer.org

Why can't my student log in?

There are several possible causes:

- Check that the student is on the correct login page.
- Logins are case sensitive. Check that the student is entering their username and password correctly.
- Some devices and browsers will automatically capitalise some words, or automatically fill login fields with saved details. The student should be able to overwrite these automatic suggestions by typing their complete details.
- If you have a staff login, check that the student's login details are correct by logging in to the account with your staff login details and clicking the student's name on the **Students** page.
- If the problem persists, check the browser or device settings, or use another web browser.

Why is the test not appearing for my student?

The test is not currently assigned to the student. If you have a staff login, follow the steps below:

1. Log in to your school's account using your staff login.
2. Click **Students** and locate the student's name in your list.
3. Click the check box next to the student's name.
4. Click **Tests > Assign**.

Can I re-open a student's test if they submit it before they are finished?

Yes. If you have a staff login, follow the steps below to re-open a student's test to allow them to continue:

1. Log in to your school's account using your staff login.
2. Click **Students** and locate the student's name in your list.
3. Click the student's name to view their profile and then click the **Tests** tab.
4. Click the drop-down menu next to the test you need to re-open and then click **Re-open test**.

Can I close a student's test if they forget to submit it?

Yes. If you have a staff login, follow the steps below to close a student's test:

1. Log in to your school's account using your staff login.
2. Click **Students** and locate the student's name in your list.
(You will see the unfinished test listed in the Active tests column and marked with a pencil icon).
3. Click the check box next to the student's name and then click **Tests > Close unfinished tests**.
4. Select the test you need to close and then click **Close test**.