



# Wyoming Department of Education

Richard Crandall, Director

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor, 2300 Capitol Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-777-7675 | Fax: 307-777-6234 | Website: [edu.wyoming.gov](http://edu.wyoming.gov)

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## MEMORANDUM NO. 2013-107

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Assessment Directors  
Curriculum Directors

**FROM:** Deb Lindsey, Assessment Director

**DATE:** August 28, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Updated Cut scores for ACT

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### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

State statute required the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) to substitute the ACT Plus Writing for the PAWS assessment at grade 11 for state and federal accountability this year. This change required the WDE to develop cut scores and associated proficiency levels on the ACT that were comparable to the PAWS from prior years.

With assistance from experts on our Technical Advisory Committee and the National Center for Assessment, we established interim proficiency levels for the grade 11 ACT for 2013. The cut scores and proficiency levels for the ACT were communicated to districts in the WDE Assessment Division Newsletter on March 29, 2013, and applied to the 2013 assessment.

Since the WDE posted the data to Fusion for district review, assessment division staff at the WDE discovered a fluctuation in proficiency rates that cannot credibly be attributed to real changes in student performance.

The WDE asked experts from the National Center on Assessment to review the results; based on their analysis, they advised that the WDE increase the cut scores by one score point at each performance level in both Reading and Math.

The updated cut scores and proficiency levels are below:

School District Superintendents  
Assessment Directors  
Curriculum Directors  
August 28, 2013  
Page 2

<b>ACT Cut Scores and Proficiency Levels, 2013 (revised)</b>			
	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Science</b>
<b>Basic</b>	12	14	14
<b>Proficient</b>	16	17	20
<b>Advanced</b>	25	25	25

The WDE has updated the data available on Fusion to reflect the new cuts. The WDE apologizes for any confusion caused by the changes. If you have questions about this change, please contact Deb Lindsey, Assessment Division Administrator at 777-8753.