



GOLDEN HORSESHOE

COUNTY TEST DATES

Wednesday March 20	Thursday March 21	Friday March 22	Monday March 25	Tuesday March 26
Calhoun	Barbour	Berkeley	Doddridge	Boone
Clay	Braxton	Hampshire	Harrison	Cabell
Grant	Brooke	Hancock	Jackson	Gilmer
Hardy	Fayette	Monongalia	Kanawha	Kanawha
Jefferson	Greenbrier	Monroe	Logan	Marion
Mason	Lewis	Ritchie	Marshall	McDowell
Mercer	Lincoln	Taylor	Pleasants	Mineral
Mingo	Morgan	Wayne	Putnam	Nicholas
Pendleton	Ohio	Wirt	Roane	Pocahontas
Tucker	Preston	WVSDB	Summers	Wetzel
Upshur	Raleigh	Wyoming		
Webster	Randolph			
Wood	Tyler			
13 Counties	13 Counties	11 Counties	10 Counties	10 Counties
4011 Students	4221 Students	3977 Students	4220 Students	4063 Students

Kanawha County is split into 2 days because of the student population size and Internet.

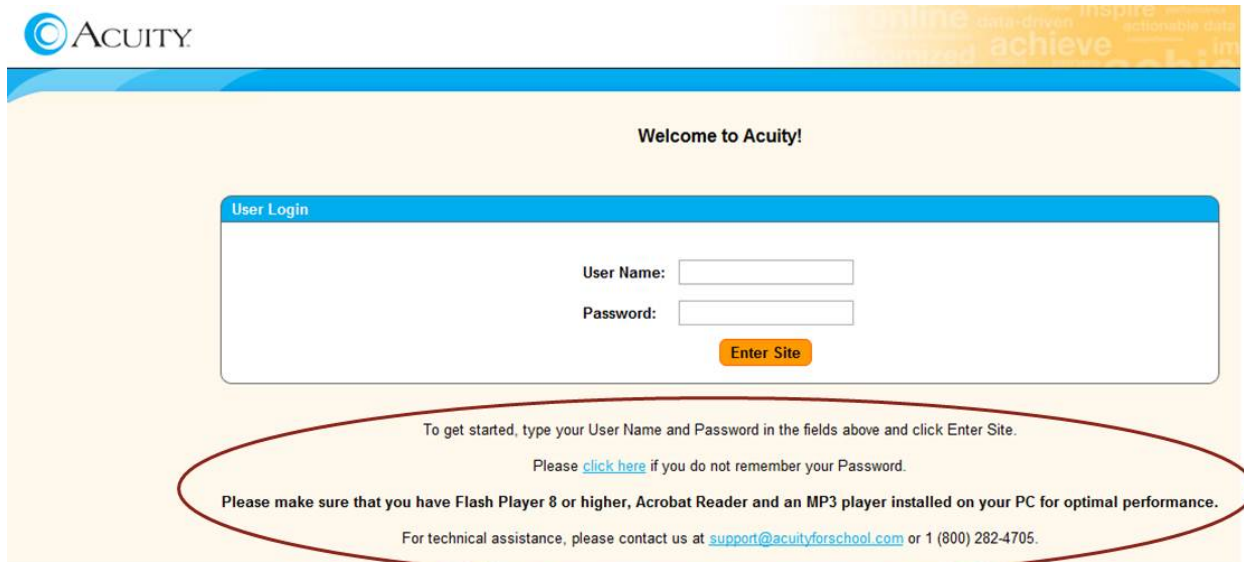
If a county/school should experience technical problems on the day of testing, then that county/school will notify the Office of Instruction (304-558-5325) immediately.

UPCOMING DATES

December	1	Begin collecting home and private school registration,
January	11	Deadline to request a Braille Test, Due Date for County WV Studies Teachers' names and e-mails.
	Mid-Month	Practice tests on Acuity will become available for students.
February	12	Golden Horseshoe Essay Test Day for ALL Counties.
	20	Essay Test is due back into the WVDE Office of Instruction
March	11	All home and private school registrations are due in the WVDE Office of Instruction.
	20-26	Golden Horseshoe Testing (Counties must test on assigned day).
April	First 2 Weeks	WVDE Office of Instruction will send winner packets directly to students. We will e-mail the winners to the superintendents and Golden Horseshoe County Contacts but we will NOT send the scores until after the Golden Horseshoe Ceremony in May.
May	3	Golden Horseshoe Ceremony at the Capitol Complex – must have a ticket to attend the Ceremony.
	Mid-Month	Golden Horseshoe Scores will be sent to the County Superintendents ONLY.
	End of May to Beginning of June	Golden Horseshoe Winner packets will be mailed. Packets include: group picture, individual knighting picture, newspaper and certificate.

Preparing for Golden Horseshoe Test

Acuity System Requirements



Online Test

Students have access to the Cultural Center website which hosts several resources for students to use to prepare for the Golden Horseshoe Test.

- Golden Horseshoe Preparation Page:
<http://www.wvculture.org/history/goldenhorseshoeprep.html>
 - Quick Quizzes: <http://www.wvculture.org/history/trivia/quizindex.aspx>
 - Daily Trivia: <http://www.wvculture.org/history/trivia/trivia.aspx>
 - On This Day in WV History:
<http://www.wvculture.org/history/thisdayinwvhistory/thisday.html>
- Golden Horseshoe Practice Tests
 - Schools will log into their servers
 - Home use: acuityathome.com
- Sample Test Item
 - Sample Test (Links to these forms can be found on the main Golden Horseshoe Page)
 - Sample Test Answer Key (Links to these forms can be found on the main Golden Horseshoe Page)

Essay Test

- The previous years' Essay Tests have been posted below and can be used as a study tool.
 - Practice Essay Tests (Links to these forms can be found on the main Golden Horseshoe Page)

Take the Test

Where to Log Into Acuity?

acuity.north.k12.wv.us		acuity.south.k12.wv.us		Other servers	
Berkeley	Ohio	Barbour	McDowell	Private Schools	acuityathome.com
Doddridge	Pendleton	Boone	Nicholas		
Grant	Preston	Braxton	Pleasants	Brooke	acuity.brook.k12.wv.us
Hampshire	Randolph	Calhoun	Pocahontas	Cabell	acuity.cabe.k12.wv.us
Hancock	Taylor	Clay	Putnam	Greenbrier	acuity.gree.k12.wv.us
Hardy	Tucker	Fayette	Raleigh	Harrison	acuity.harr.k12.wv.us
Lewis	Tyler	Gilmer	Ritchie	Jefferson	acuity.jeff.k12.wv.us
Marion	Upshur	Jackson	Roane	Kanawha	acuity.kana.k12.wv.us
Marshall	Wetzel	Lincoln	Summers	Mercer	acuity.merc.k12.wv.us
Mineral	Wirt	Logan	Wayne	Wood	acuity.wood.k12.wv.us
Monongalia	WVSDB	Mason	Webster		
Morgan		Mingo	Wyoming		
		Monroe	Institutional Ed. Programs		

Home-school students will use the acuityathome.com to access the practice tests.

Essay Test

The essay test is not required and if a student chooses not to complete the essay it does NOT disqualify them from taking the online Golden Horseshoe Test. The essay test is used to break a tie between scores. The essay test cannot be made-up. There are NO make-up days. Students must be present on the day of the essay test to participate.

The essay test is scheduled for February 12. Two weeks prior to the test we will e-mail the essay question to the Golden Horseshoe County Contact. We ask that the Golden Horseshoe County Contact distribute the essay test to their schools, pick the essay test back-up and send the entire county's essay test back to the WVDE in one envelope. In case your county is spread out, the individual schools can return the essay tests directly back to the WVDE Office of Instruction. We recommend that you send the tests back with sometime of tracking number in case the package is misplaced by the Post Office.

- The essay test CAN be administered by the regular WV studies teacher in a regular 40-45 minute class period.
- The teacher/test administrator will be asked to complete a confidentiality agreement and an absentee roster. The absentee roster should include students who are absent the day of the essay test and any student who chooses NOT to take the essay test.

In case of a snow day, please contact the WVDE Office of Instruction at 304-558-5325 and ask for Joey Wiseman or Veronica Barron. Otherwise, there are NO MAKEUP DAYS for the essay test. If a student is absent the day of the essay test, he/she may NOT make it up.

Links to these forms can be found on the main Golden Horseshoe Page.

- Essay Test Forms
- Absentee Roster
- Essay Test Confidentiality Agreement

Online Golden Horseshoe Test

The online test is a 50 multiple choice question test that can be completed in 40-45 minutes. The online test cannot be made-up. There are NO make-up days. Students must be present on the day of the online test to participate.

Test proctor/Moderator

- The test proctor/moderator/administrator MUST NOT be the regular classroom teacher for the online Golden Horseshoe Test.
- The test will be turned on at 7 AM each morning and off at 3:45 PM each afternoon.
- The test is timed by the proctors/moderators and students should be allowed 40-45 minutes to take the test. The Acuity site will NOT shut the test down after 40-45 minutes.
- If a student has an IEP that requires testing accommodations, please provide those testing accommodations. For example, if a student requires extra time, please give that student extra time. If a student requires someone to read to them, please arrange for someone to read the test to the student.

The regular WV Studies teacher may NOT administer the Online Golden Horseshoe Test to the students. The WVDE requires an online confidentiality agreement stating that the test administrator is NOT the regular WV Studies teacher and will keep all information regarding the Golden Horseshoe test confidential. This confidentiality agreement must be signed 3 days prior to the county's scheduled test day. We recommend that you have all the teachers and test administrators complete the confidentiality agreement on an ISE day to make sure all teachers and test administrators are familiar with the test's regulations.

Internet Usage Tips on Test Day

- We suggest that you ask all other computer users to refrain from downloading or tying up the broadband.
- If there is an internet slow down, please allow the students sufficient time to make the test fair.
- If a student is kicked off the Internet, just have them log back in. As long as the student has not submitted the test he/she can reenter the test.

During the month of March, please notify use of any new or transfer students. We will need to make sure that he/she has an Acuity account and the account reflects the correct county they are testing in.

After the testing is complete, all absentee rosters will need to be e-mailed/faxed to the WVDE Office of Instruction. We will check to make sure that the county's winners are not on the absentee list before declaring them actual winners.

Links to these forms can be found on the main Golden Horseshoe Page

- Online Test Forms
- Test Day Tips
- Absentee Roster
- Online Test Confidentiality Agreement

Winners

The number of winners is determined by population but every county is given a minimum of two winners. The bigger the county is the more winners they will have. The Golden Horseshoe test is a competition within a county NOT within the state. We do not have average scores for the state or counties.

As we begin getting the winners, we will send the list of winners to the superintendent and the county contact. Please stress to your teachers we will not be sending the scores to the counties until the middle of May.

We will send information directly to the students and their families about the Ceremony. If a teacher/test administrator would like to attend, we have extra seating in the lobby area where a closed circuit TV is set up or they can participate behind the scenes by being an escort.