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ACT[®] Engages BenchPrep[™] for an Enhanced Personalized ACT Online Prep[™] Program

CHICAGO, **IL** – (Jan 20, 2016) – BenchPrep, a leading digital learning platform company, has been engaged by ACT to leverage its technology to bring personalized, web- and mobile-based ACT[®] test prep to all ACT test takers. This new, innovative ACT Online Prep program is part of the commitment of both organizations to help increase college access, opportunity and success for students. More than 1.9 million students in the US high school Class of 2015 took the ACT test—approximately 59 percent of all high school graduates in the United States.

ACT Online Prep is designed to build students' understanding of the ACT test and provide them with a platform to assess their academic strengths and areas for development. The new, personalized solution provides students with an adaptive curriculum, robust assessment engine, interactive instructions, engaging games and insightful analytics that help improve proficiency in core learning objectives tested on the ACT exam.

The program will offer students abbreviated ACT subject tests that provide a predicted ACT score range, and a full-length practice test with a predicted score. The predicted score uses ACT's proprietary algorithm and maps to the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS). The tests includes actual retired test questions that were previously administered to students on a national test date. Students will be able to access the program anywhere, anytime, on the web or via mobile and tablet apps.

In addition, the program will provide:

- Analytics tools for educators so that they can actively participate in and positively influence the student's learning journey
- Admin tools for the ACT team to ensure successful launch, implementation and maintenance of the learning solution
- Content management & analytics solution for the editorial staff to continually monitor and enhance the core learning assets and assessment items

"We are extremely excited and proud to assist ACT in its mission to help millions of students achieve education and workplace success," said BenchPrep Co-Founder & CEO Ashish Rangnekar. "Our goal is to empower *every* college-bound student with best-in-class, personalized learning tools, so that they can

reach their academic potential and be college ready. Through working with ACT, we have a unique opportunity to influence college readiness at scale."

"ACT is excited to be working with BenchPrep in our efforts to expand our test prep offerings and increase access, opportunity and success for low-income students," said Marten Roorda, ACT chief executive officer. "The program combines ACT's industry-leading assessment research with BenchPrep's expertise in personalization, instructional design and learning experience. With a shared vision for improving the student experience and learning outcomes, ACT and BenchPrep are committed to helping students better plan for success after high school."

The standard price for individuals for the new ACT Online Prep will be \$39.95, which provides a year of access.

In addition to the new ACT Online Prep program, ACT offers a variety of free test prep materials and information on its <u>website</u>, including free practice tests, test taking tips, complete test descriptions and a test-day checklist.

About BenchPrep

BenchPrep is a turn-key solution for education and training companies to create and deliver personalized digital learning programs across multiple devices including web, tablet and mobile. More than 1 million learners have used BenchPrep. The world's leading education organizations, including ACT, Hobsons, McGraw Hill Education, The Princeton Review and HR Certification Institute, use BenchPrep to help learners improve outcomes.

For more information, visit benchprep.com.

About ACT

ACT is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people achieve education and workplace success. Headquartered in Iowa City, Iowa, ACT is the nation's leader in college and career readiness, providing high-quality achievement assessments grounded in more than 50 years of research and experience. ACT offers a uniquely integrated set of solutions that empower individuals with insights to succeed from elementary school through career. To learn more about ACT, go to www.act.org.