

ACT! Quick

ADVOCACY CAPACITY TOOL

What is the PURPOSE of ACT! Quick?

ACT! Quick is a short version of Alliance for Justice's Advocacy Capacity Tool (ACT) found at www.bolderadvocacy.org/act. ACT! Quick is designed to:

- Provide a quick diagnosis of the strengths and gaps in organizations' knowledge, skills, and practices, and identify areas for strengthening,
- Inform users about the scope of their organizational advocacy capacity,
- Facilitate discussion and begin a journey towards strengthening advocacy capacity, and
- Assess progress in building advocacy capacity.

When should this tool be used instead of the full ACT?

- To look at organizational advocacy capacity when 15 minutes is all that can be spared,
- To take a quick overall assessment and view detailed questions in specific areas that you choose,
- To introduce advocacy capacity assessment before taking the full ACT, and
- For multiple organizations to assess and discuss their advocacy capacity at meetings when time is limited.

How can I/we get more information on selected advocacy capacity areas?

- With the electronic ACT! Quick, you can click on the question number for any of the 18 indicators if you would like a deeper assessment of your organization's advocacy capacity. This will take you to an additional 5–7 questions to consider for that indicator.
- Check out the full Advocacy Capacity Tool at bolderadvocacy.org/act for a detailed diagnosis.

Is scoring high in all of the ACT! Quick organizational capacities our goal?

No, the purpose of the tool is to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas to strengthen, so be honest in

your answers. *No organization is expected to have it all! Relying on partners for certain capacities can be the best strategy.*

Who might fill out ACT! Quick?

- The executive director or advocacy director
- Some or all of the staff *together*
- Some or all of the staff *individually*
- The board of directors
- Coalitions or other multi-group advocacy teams
- Participants in trainings

After using ACT! Quick, how are numerical results obtained?

Online ACT! Quick users will get an automatic score of 0–4 for each of the 18 indicators, as well as the number of times “Rely on Partners” was chosen. They will also receive an average score for each of the four sections.

PDF users can use the accompanying ACT! Quick Results chart to determine their scores.

How can the ACT! Quick results be used to strengthen our advocacy capacity?

At the end of ACT! Quick you will have the opportunity to choose areas in which you would like to strengthen organizational advocacy capacity. We suggest repeating ACT! Quick in 3, 6 or 12 months to assess your progress.

How can I/we learn more about using ACT! or ACT! Quick to build our advocacy capacity?

Please contact us via e-mail or telephone (see information at the bottom of this page) for free technical assistance, and to schedule in person trainings or webinars. **Visit bolderadvocacy.org to learn about PowerCheck for community organizing and the IACT for international advocacy.**