Acces, “The Teacher’s Database”

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Thank you for your interest in the Acces database and publishing program. The program, developed by EducAide Software, is used in about 7000 schools in the U.S. and Canada.

Recently the Acces database was expanded to include Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS Math). Also, EducAide added a new option to create scoreable slideshows for interactive whiteboards such as SMART, Mimio, Turning Technologies and Promethean.

The response from teachers has been extremely positive. They tell us Acces is among the most-used software programs at their schools and that it benefits students in many ways. Teachers use Acces to:

- Prepare students for state and provincial exams by teaching the curriculum—not teaching to the test;
- Engage students and enrich the curriculum with interesting and challenging problems;
- Create all kinds of classroom materials: benchmark and end-of-chapter tests, quizzes, worksheets, slideshows, flash cards, problem-of-the-day calendars, and more;
- Do real formative assessment, which means tests that are standards-based, inform instruction, and are a reliable measure of student progress;
- Individualize instruction and tailor lessons for students with special needs;
- Coach math teams and prepare students for academic competitions; and
- Help students get ready for the PSAT and SAT, AP tests, and college entrance/scholarship exams.

Q  How does the program work?

A  Inside Acces, you use the database browser to select problems, which are shown on-screen and organized by standard or objective. Simply point and click to select the ones you like. Or, if you prefer, you can browse a printed catalog similar to the teacher's edition of a textbook. After selecting the problems, you decide how they should be formatted (font, size, spacing, columns, etc.). Acces does the cutting, pasting and formatting, and you get a beautifully typeset document! To create a slideshow, you run a simple export wizard. In an instant, Acces will reformat the document into a ready-to-use slideshow for your interactive whiteboard.

Q  Is Acces easy to use?

A  Absolutely. Our customers are amazed at how easy it is to get started and how little effort it takes to produce great-looking documents. Generally, a teacher can begin customizing tests, quizzes, worksheets, and slideshows in about 10–15 minutes. Formal training is not even necessary. Perhaps the best part of Acces is that it saves time, so teacher training can focus less on the software and more on best practices for instruction and assessment.
Q  What database modules are available?

Q  What does Acces cost?
A  To celebrate the launch of CCSS Math and the new slideshow export option, Acces is listed at a promotional price of $995 until October 31, 2012. This includes the Acces “engine” and one CCSS Math module. Important: this is for a perpetual license; there is no renewal or annual maintenance fee. Once the promotional period has ended, Acces will have a list price of $1495.

Q  What does Acces come with?
A  The Acces basic package includes a CDROM with the program, all licensed database modules, and a printed catalog for each grade or high school subject. (The software is not web-based.) After installation, the catalogs are also available in electronic form, as PDF files. Please note: the catalogs are copyrighted and may not be reproduced, though a teacher may print a single copy for personal use.

Q  How about updates?
A  EducAide continually strives to make its products better. This can mean improvements to the Acces “engine” and database modules, or the release of new modules. Maintenance releases, which fix bugs or add minor features, are free for one year and can be downloaded from EducAide’s website or through the Acces Help menu.

Q  Technical support and training?
A  Initial installation and technical support is provided by your authorized dealer. EducAide has over 50 help guides in its Acces Support Center at www.educaide.com. For a district-wide purchase, some training might be helpful, mostly to explain how Acces ties in with other classroom technology, how teachers can integrate the material into their daily lessons, or how users can write their own questions. Please consult with your authorized dealer. For advanced topics, EducAide may be able to host a specialized webinar or may be contracted to do on-site training.

Q  How can I get more information and references?
A  Contact your authorized dealer below. Thanks again for your interest in Acces!