NOCTI is often asked, “How are you different from ACT/WorkKeys™?” The answer to this question depends on what you want to measure: employability skills, technical skills, or both. It’s important to compare apples to apples. Below you will find a comparison between NOCTI’s 21st Century Skills for Workplace Success and ACT’s National Career Readiness Certification (which contains three WorkKeys assessments). When it comes to technical skills, the comparison isn’t as easy.

The Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) defines employability skills as “skills required for success in the labor market at all employment levels for all sectors.” The stars on OVAE’s Employability Skills Framework help you visualize the areas covered by each organization.
TECHNICAL SKILLS:
Do Your Students Have Them?

ACT’s WorkKeys program consists of nine tests covering areas such as Applied Mathematics, Business Writing, and Teamwork. While these are important skills, if you want to measure your students’ technical abilities as they prepare for further education and/or the workforce, NOCTI provides the best solution. Our Job Ready and Pathway credentials include titles such as Audio-Visual Communications, Criminal Justice, General Management, and Pre-Engineering/Engineering Technology which measure the technical knowledge, skills, and abilities that industry professionals say matter. We also provide the data you need to confidently demonstrate your students’ college and career readiness.

JOB READY ASSESSMENTS
Choose from 85+ titles across the Career Clusters to measure the skills of students completing a secondary or post-secondary CTE program. Tests can be administered as pre- or post-tests in both online or paper/pencil delivery formats.

PATHWAY ASSESSMENTS
NOCTI’s 30+ Pathway assessments are broader in scope than Job Ready assessments. Pathway tests can be administered as post-tests or as a combination (pre-test and post-test).

ALL NOCTI credentials offer college credit recommendations.