

ACTE: Individual/Group Website Design - Written Original Code Rubric

DIRECTIONS

1. Ask the student/group for the **printed portfolio**. Digital or electronic portfolios are not accepted. Allow no more than 5 minutes for project setup and score the printed portfolio during setup.
2. Confirm that the website, written code, content, layout, graphics, media, and design decisions are student-created. This category requires a website built with **student-written original code**. **AI-generated code, website content, or production assets are prohibited**. If suspected or disclosed, pause scoring and refer the entry to ACTE staff.
3. Allow no more than 10 minutes for the project presentation. The student may choose which portion of a larger body of work to show.
4. Judges may ask questions for no more than 5 minutes and are not limited to the topics listed in the rubric.
5. Enter a score for every criterion. Add the /30 portfolio score and /70 project/presentation score for the /100 final score, then initial page 2.

PRINTED PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST			Points
Online Orientation Certificate	0 Certificate is missing.	10 Certificate is printed and placed as page 1 of the portfolio.	
Printed Portfolio	0 No printed portfolio is submitted, or only a digital/electronic portfolio is provided.	10 A complete printed portfolio is submitted at judging. Digital portfolios are not accepted.	
Required Portfolio Sections	0 Required printed portfolio sections are not provided.	10 - Printed portfolio includes these 9 sections: 1. Online Orientation Certificate (first page) 2. Project identification page: student name(s), school, category, level, and region 3. Table of contents 4. Project narrative: purpose, learning, and benefit 5. Software and hardware used 6. Website brief, purpose, target audience, site map, page sketches/wireframes, content plan, technical requirements, file structure plan, or other planning evidence 7. Representative student-written source code, development screenshots, version history, browser/responsive testing, debugging notes, revisions, and published-site evidence 8. Works cited/bibliography and credits for code libraries/frameworks, tutorials, text, images, media, and other sources 9. Signed statement that the website, source code, content, and production assets are student-created and contain no AI-generated code, content, or assets	
Judges Printed Portfolio Checklist Score			/30

This section is valued at 30 points total.

WEBSITE DESIGN - WRITTEN ORIGINAL CODE PROJECT & ORAL PRESENTATION RUBRIC

Select the score range that best matches the demonstrated level. Enter one numeric score from 0-10 for each criterion.

PROJECT					Points
Purpose, Audience & Content					
0 No identifiable purpose, audience, or meaningful content.	1-3 Purpose and audience are unclear; content is incomplete, inaccurate, or difficult to follow.	4-6 A basic purpose and audience are evident, but content quality, organization, or depth is uneven.	7-9 Clear purpose for a defined audience with accurate, relevant, well-organized content.	10 Compelling audience-centered website with exceptional content clarity, depth, organization, and purpose.	
PROJECT					Points
Visual Design, Responsive Layout & Accessibility					
0 No intentional visual design or usable page layout can be evaluated.	1-3 Layout, styling, contrast, typography, images, or display problems interfere with use on common screen sizes.	4-6 Pages are generally readable, but hierarchy, consistency, responsive behavior, semantics, or accessibility is uneven.	7-9 Cohesive visual design, responsive layouts, readable typography, appropriate semantics, and accessible choices support users.	10 Professional interface demonstrates exceptional visual polish, responsive behavior, semantic structure, accessibility, and audience awareness.	
PROJECT					Points
Navigation, Functionality & User Experience					
0 The website cannot be navigated or used as intended.	1-3 Multiple links, menus, controls, forms, scripts, or page paths are missing, confusing, or broken.	4-6 Core navigation and functions work, but flow, feedback, validation, consistency, or ease of use needs improvement.	7-9 Intuitive navigation and reliable functionality create an effective user experience with useful feedback and validation.	10 Seamless navigation, refined interaction, robust functionality, and exceptionally thoughtful user experience support every task.	
PROJECT					Points
Original Code, Structure & Technical Execution					
0 No functioning student-written source code is provided.	1-3 Code is largely incomplete, copied without understanding, disorganized, error-prone, or unable to produce a usable site.	4-6 Original code produces a functioning website, but structure, naming, reuse, comments, debugging, compatibility, or efficiency is uneven.	7-9 Well-organized student-written HTML, CSS, JavaScript, or comparable code is readable, efficient, tested, and technically sound.	10 Exceptional original code is well structured, maintainable, efficient, compatible, thoroughly tested, and shows advanced problem-solving.	
PROJECT					Points
Originality, Purpose & Student Authorship					
0 Purpose or student authorship of the website and code cannot be established.	1-3 Work shows limited original decision-making; code sources, libraries, assets, or development process are unclear.	4-6 Purpose and student contribution are evident, though coding decisions, customization, or documentation are basic.	7-9 Original, purposeful website and code with clear student ownership, appropriate source credits, and strong development evidence.	10 Distinctive creative and technical vision with convincing evidence of independent student authorship and full understanding of the written code.	
PRESENTATION					Points
Explanation of Coding Process & Professional Delivery					
0 Does not explain or demonstrate the website or coding process.	1-3 Explanation is difficult to follow; limited preparation or understanding of how the code creates the website.	4-6 Explains major planning and coding steps, but detail, organization, testing, debugging, or delivery is inconsistent.	7-9 Clearly explains structure, languages, code decisions, responsive design, functionality, testing, debugging, publishing, and revisions professionally.	10 Confident, concise demonstration shows command of the complete coded-website workflow and can explain how key original code works.	
QUESTIONS					Points
Technical Knowledge, Debugging & Responses					
0 Does not answer judges' questions.	1-3 Answers are incomplete or show little understanding of the code, technologies, design choices, or errors.	4-6 Answers most questions and describes basic code, layout, browser, functionality, or debugging challenges.	7-9 Gives accurate responses about languages, code structure, logic, responsiveness, accessibility, testing, sources, and revisions.	10 Insightful responses show deep coding knowledge, effective debugging, reflection, security awareness, and equal group contribution.	

AI-GENERATED CODE OR WEBSITE CONTENT PROHIBITED: Entries may not contain generative-AI-created HTML, CSS, JavaScript, other source code, text, layouts, images, graphics, logos, icons, audio, video, or other website assets. Judges should not independently penalize suspected use; pause scoring and refer the entry to ACTE staff for review.

Judges Printed Portfolio Checklist Score	/30
Website Design - Written Original Code Project & Oral Presentation Score	/70
Total Project Score	/100
Ranking (ACTE Staff Only)	

Judges Initials: _____