

## AP Calculus BC Exam, 2025: Monday, May 12, 2025 (morning session)

### AP Calculus BC Exam Format

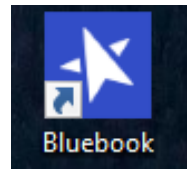
Section	Question Type	Number of Questions	Exam Weighting	Timing
<b>I</b>	<b>Multiple-choice questions</b>			
	Part A: Graphing calculator not permitted	30	33.3%	60 minutes
	Part B: Graphing calculator required	15	16.7%	45 minutes
<b>II</b>	<b>Free-response questions</b>			
	Part A: Graphing calculator required	2	16.7%	30 minutes
	Part B: Graphing calculator not permitted	4	33.3%	60 minutes

Each section is worth 50% of the exam points

Each of the 4 parts must be completed within its allowed time, and once a part has ended, it is not possible to go back and continue working on previous parts. *This includes the FRQs - starting this year, once Section II, Part A has timed out, students cannot return to it without a calculator during Part B (this is a change from previous years).*

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- **Ms. Domino confirms that you are taking the AP Exam on your own school-issued laptop.**
- **If there is any reason why your laptop will not be able to function without being plugged in for the entire testing period (3.5-4 hours), please bring your laptop to the library to discuss a plan with them. Do this as soon as possible - do not wait until the week before the AP Exam.**
- **Highly recommend that in the week or two prior to the AP Exam, you bring your laptop to school, log in while inside the school network, and click 'restart' (not just shutdown). This will install updates. You should do this multiple times during the week prior to your first AP Exam to make sure your laptop does not need to install updates the morning of the AP Exam.**
- **Make sure the "BlueBook" testing application is already installed on your laptop:**

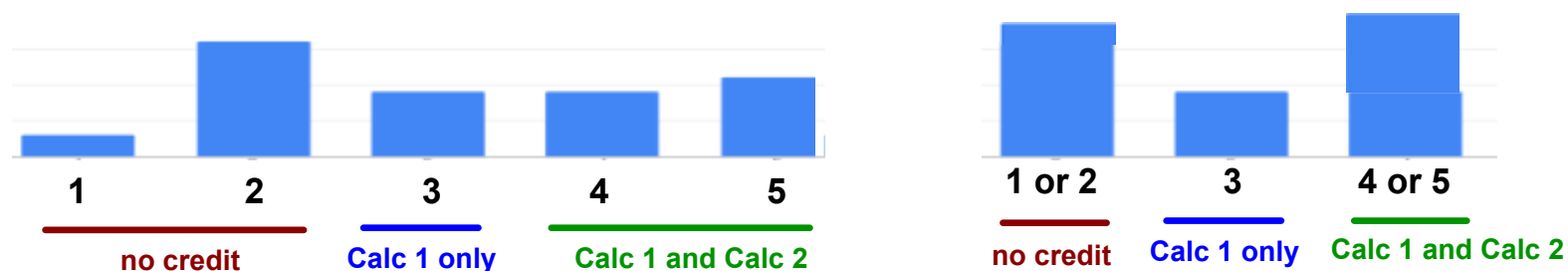


**(Tech support in the library can help you get this installed if not already on your laptop.)**

## How difficult is the AP Calculus BC Exam?

You don't have to get 90% of the exam correct for a 5, but this exam is challenging.

Last year's DV score distribution on the AP Calculus BC exam for my students:



I expect this year's scores to be substantially better for multiple reasons:

- Prior to this year, students were all coming to this course from Honors Finite Math/Brief Calculus which does not prepare students nearly as well for AP Exam rigor or Calculus 1 topics. Now, most of you are coming from AP Calculus AB.
- We've been able to accelerate new topic learning leaving all of 4th quarter available for AP exam review, and we will be able to bring much of what we previously could only do during optional Saturday review sessions into the regular classroom time review.

Still, do not underestimate the difficulty of this AP Exam. Doing well required significant personal review effort.

## Saturdays sessions schedule

(C105 - 10:00AM to 1:00PM - a little later on mock exam days)

3/29/25: FRQ Review week 1

4/5/25: Practice AP Exam (full 3.5-hr exam experience - see what it is like to take an AP Calc BC Exam. When you leave, we'll give you a key so you can score your own exam.

4/12/25: FRQ Review week 2

4/19/25: FRQ Review week 3

4/26/25: Practice AP Exam (full 3.5-hr exam experience - see what it is like to take an AP Calc BC Exam. When you leave, we'll give you a key so you can score your own exam.

5/3/25: FRQ Review week 4

5/10/25: Open review day for any last minute questions

**Monday, 5/12/25: \*\* The AP Calculus BC Exam \*\***

## Things to do now to prep for the AP Calculus BC Exam...

- [AP Calculus BC Study Guide/Compact Review](#): Memorize all formulas - super important! Also, consider using the larger review to quiz yourself on all of the topics.
- [MCQ Review](#): Work all of the AP Classroom MCQ HW quizzes (and consider reworking them - problems and solutions are also available on [www.mrfelling.com](http://www.mrfelling.com) and the 'AP Review' module in Canvas.
- [FRQ Review](#): Work the in-class FRQs and at least look over the PDFs with similar FRQs to see the breadth of ways AP can format questions about these topics.
- [Watch the hints/tips video on the College Board AP Calc BC YouTube channel](#): College Board has some of the people who grade the AP Exams present videos about tips, common errors, formatting guidelines and topic review.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stWABZjJUAI&list=PLoGgviqq4844oVJMjJ8YkD4mQIoMp4Cbu&index=13&t=2910s&ab_channel=AdvancedPlacement)

[v=stWABZjJUAI&list=PLoGgviqq4844oVJMjJ8YkD4mQIoMp4Cbu&index=13&t=2910s&ab\\_channel=AdvancedPlacement](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stWABZjJUAI&list=PLoGgviqq4844oVJMjJ8YkD4mQIoMp4Cbu&index=13&t=2910s&ab_channel=AdvancedPlacement)



## AP Calc BC scorers Top 5 tips...

**5) Talk the Talk** - Use formal notation and fully supported explanations.

**4) Grab the low hanging fruit** - Make sure you get the 'easy points' - make sure you review the main/key concepts - a good chunk of the exam, especially the first MCQs, focus on the main ideas in calculus.

**3) Know the basic formulas, theorems and tests** - Make sure you know all the derivative and antiderivative shortcuts, know the Intermediate and Mean Value Theorems, formulas for areas, arclengths, and infinite series convergence tests, etc.

**2) Avoid the common traps and mistakes** -

- Is the provided graph  $f(x)$ ,  $f'(x)$ , or  $f''(x)$ ?
- Round final answers to 3 decimal places (and intermediate calculations to at least 4 places).
- Calculator in radian mode.
- Avoid ambiguous words in explanations 'it', 'they', 'the graph', 'the slope'...be specific:  $f(x)$ ,  $f'(x)$ , etc.
- Include units whenever they are provided in a problem.

**1) You be you** - You've already done the hard part and put in the work over 9 months - trust in your abilities and just let what you know come out naturally on the test. Remember, around 50% correct is usually a 4 - if you don't know something, that's okay...just keep moving through the test.

