

AP Physics 1 Exam Format 2027

42 MCQs | 85 minutes | 4 FRQs | 95 minutes | hybrid digital | 50% + 50%

Quick answer: The testing sections total 180 minutes (3 hours). Multiple-choice questions are completed in Bluebook. Free-response prompts are viewed in Bluebook, but answers are handwritten in the provided booklet.

Section	Questions	Time	Weight	How you respond
I - Multiple Choice	42	85 min	50%	Bluebook
II - Free Response	4	95 min	50%	View prompts digitally; handwrite answers

What changed for 2027?

Feature	2025-2026 structure	2027 structure
MCQs	40 questions / 80 min	42 questions / 85 min
FRQs	4 questions / 100 min	4 questions / 95 min
Total testing-section time	180 min	180 min
Section weighting	50% MCQ / 50% FRQ	50% MCQ / 50% FRQ

The four FRQ task types

#	FRQ type	Core demand
1	Mathematical Routines	Develop/use equations, calculate quantities, and connect algebra to a physical model.
2	Translation Between Representations	Move among diagrams, graphs, equations, tables, and verbal descriptions.
3	Experimental Design and Analysis	Choose measurements, control variables, analyze data/graphs, and use evidence.
4	Qualitative/Quantitative Translation	Make a conceptual claim, support it quantitatively, and reconcile both forms.

Exam-day workflow

Use this as a format checklist, not as a substitute for school/proctor instructions.

Step	Stage	What to remember
1	Bluebook setup	Be ready to read prompts, graphs, diagrams, and data on screen.
2	Section I - MCQ	42 questions in 85 minutes; discrete questions and question sets may use a stimulus/data source.
3	Reference + calculator	Reference information is available for the exam; permitted calculators may be used on both sections.
4	Section II - FRQ	Read the four prompts digitally and write responses in the paper booklet.
5	Final check	Verify labels, units, sign conventions, graph axes, and written justification.

Pacing reference

Checkpoint	Useful target
MCQ average	About 2.02 minutes per question overall - not a per-question rule
MCQ halfway	Around question 21 near the midpoint if your pace is even
FRQ average	About 23.75 minutes per FRQ overall - actual point demand varies
Review reserve	Protect a final review window for missing reasoning, units, labels, and unanswered parts

What the format actually tests

- **Model selection:** deciding whether forces, energy, momentum, rotation, oscillations, or fluids provides the cleanest model.
- **Representation fluency:** interpreting and creating graphs, diagrams, equations, and experimental evidence.
- **Written physics:** explaining why a relationship applies, not just producing a numerical answer.
- **Experimental reasoning:** designing measurements, controlling variables, selecting a graph, and interpreting slope/intercept.

Related internal resources

Use the live AP Physics 1 hub on [OnlineInternetCafe.com](https://onlineinternetcafe.com) for the formula sheet, interactive labs, MCQ practice, FRQ practice, past-paper practice PDFs, exam length, and unit-by-unit review.