Exam Overview

The AP Calculus AB and BC Exams assess student understanding of the mathematical practices and learning objectives outlined in the course framework. The exams are both 3 hours and 15 minute long and include 45 multiple-choice questions and 6 free-response questions. The details of the exams, including exam weighting, timing, and calculator requirements, can be found below:

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

The exams assess content from the three big ideas of the course.
Big Idea 1: Change
Big Idea 2: Limits
Big Idea 3: Analysis of Functions

How Student Learning Is Assessed on the AP Exam

Section I: Multiple-Choice

The first section of the AP Calculus AB and BC Exams includes 45 multiple-choice questions. Students are permitted to use a calculator for the final 15 questions (Part B). Both the AB and BC Exams include algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and general types of functions. Both also include analytical, graphical, tabular, and verbal types of representations.

Mathematical Practices 1, 2, and 3 are assessed in in the multiple-choice section with the following exam weighting (Practice 4 is not assessed):

Exam Weighting for the Multiple-Choice Section of the AP Exam

Mathematical Practice	Exam Weighting
Practice 1: Implementing Mathematical Processes	**53–66%**
Practice 2: Connecting Representations	**18–28%**
Practice 3: Justification	**11–18%**

Section II: Free-Response

The six free-response questions on the AP Calculus AB and BC Exams include a variety of content topics across the units of of the course. The AB and BC Exams include three common free-response questions that assess content from the domain of the AB Calculus course. Both AP Exams include various types of functions and function representations and a roughly equal mix of procedural and conceptual tasks. They both also include at least two questions that incorporate a real-world context or scenario into the question.

All four mathematical practices are assessed in the free-response section with the following exam weighting:

Exam Weighting for the Free-Response Section of the AP Exam

	Exam Weighting	
Mathematical Practice	**AB**	**BC**
Practice 1: Implementing Mathematical Processes	**37–55%**	**37–59%**
Practice 2: Connecting Representations	**9–16%**	**9–16%**
Practice 3: Justification	**37–55%**	**37–59%**
Practice 4: Communication and Notation	**13–24%**	**9–20%**