

Key EBSS Findings: AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism (EM)

Breadth and depth of college data included in AP Physics C: EM standard settings over time:

		2025 Evidence-Based Standard Setting
Number of college professors	7	232
Number of unique colleges and universities	7	200
Number of college students represented	865	34,113

The 232 professors who participated in this process evaluated the difficulty of the AP Exam, and what grades their own college students would receive on it, in comparison to the grades their college students received this year:

	College Students' Actual Grades in Physics C: EM* 2024-25:	How Professors Would Grade Their Students on the AP Physics C: EM Exam:
A+/A	25%	25%
A-/B+/B	37%	22%
B-/C+/C	27%	23%
C-/D+/D	8%	18%
D-/F	4%	12%
C or Higher	88%	70%

^{*}Common alternate course names: Electricity and Magnetism, Engineering Physics 2, Physics for Scientists and Engineers II, Principles of Physics 2, Calculus Based Physics II

The EBSS process found that the AP student population demonstrated strong academic abilities in comparison to students overall who take the comparable

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course in college, confirming that the AP standards remain significantly higher than those experienced by students who wait to take the intro course on campus:

EBSS Finding	AP Standards	College Standards
AP % of 3 or higher scores vs college % of Cs or higher in 2025	72%	88%
Average hours of instruction students received in this course	103 hours	73 hours
AP 3s vs College B-/C+/B: Average subsequent college course grade	3.35	2.22
AP 4s vs College A-/B+/B: Average subsequent college course grade	3.57	2.88
AP 5s vs College A+/A: Average subsequent college course grade	3.73	3.58
Average SAT score: AP 5s vs College A+/A	1512	1286
Average SAT score: AP 3s vs College B-/C+/C	1420	1227

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