

To apply for admission to an exam school this year, students must meet the following criteria:

- Earned a **B or higher grade point average (GPA)**
- Have a complete (*Reading and Mathematics*) MAP Growth score from a BPS administered test from either June or December 2024

A student's GPA will be calculated using grades from the last term of SY23-24 and the first two terms of SY24-25.

Prior Year	Current Year			
	If semesters/trimesters:		If quarters:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❶ Final term ELA Grade ❷ Final term Math Grade 	❶ Term 1 ELA Grade	❷ Term 1 Math Grade	❸ Term 1 Science Grade	❹ Term 1 Social Studies Grade
	❶ Term 1 ELA Grade	❷ Term 1 Math Grade	❸ Term 1 Science Grade	❹ Term 1 S.S. Grade
	❶ Term 2 ELA Grade	❷ Term 2 Math Grade	❸ Term 2 Science Grade	❹ Term 2 S.S. Grade

Note: Students who attended an international school in the prior year may not have previous year grades available. In this case, the GPA will be calculated using current year grades only.

Students must have grades in all subjects for a GPA to be calculated. As shown in the table below, grades will be converted to an 11-point scale for averaging. The result will be a GPA between 1 and 11, with 11 being the highest possible grade point average.

Letter Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Point Value	11	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

*GPAs will not be rounded to the nearest whole number.

	Prior Year		Current Year								GPA
	Final Term Grade		Term 1				Term 2				
Letter Grade	A	B	A	C+	B+	A-	A-	B-	B+	A-	
Point Value	11	8	11	6	9	10	10	7	9	10	9.25
	❶	❷	❶	❷	❸	❹	❶	❷	❸	❹	
Average GPA	$11 + 8 = 19 / 2 = 9.5$		$11 + 6 + 9 + 10 + 10 + 7 + 9 + 10 = 72 / 8 = 9$								
	$9.5 + 9 = 18.5 / 2 = 9.25$										

For more information on the BPS Exam School admissions process for the 2025 - 2026 school year, please visit us online at bostonpublicschools.org/exam.

For BPS students applying for grade 7 admissions:

BPS grade 5 report cards do not include an “overall” grade for ELA and Math. Instead students are graded on multiple standards for each subject area. These standards-based grades will be used to determine “overall” grades for the prior year marking periods (SY23-24) mentioned above. To calculate the GPA for a BPS student, the first step is finding their standards-based grades on their report card. This report card shows which ELA and Math standards will be used in the 2025-2026 admissions process.

Areas	Fall	Winter	Spring
Reading Standard Areas			
Reads with fluency and accuracy	3	4	4
Understands what is read	3	3	4
Reads a variety of material on a level	3	3	4
Writing, Listening, Speaking Standard Areas			
Spelling & Vocabulary	2	2	3
Mechanics & Usage	3	3	3
Content & Organization	2	2	3
Style & Voice	3	3	4
Math Standard Areas			
Demonstrates fluency/accuracy in number sense	3	3	4
Develops and explains strategies to solve problems	2	3	3
Understands and applies mathematical thinking	3	3	3

These scores will be converted to a 12-point scale by multiplying the standards-based grades by 3, as shown in this table. Points will be averaged together to get an “overall” grade for each subject (*ELA and Math*). This number will be averaged to the closest whole number.

BPS Standards-Based Scores	4	3	2	1
Point Value	12	9	6	3

Any numbers above 11 will be rounded down to 11 to align with this grading table.

The student above would have the following prior year grades:

	ELA							Math			GPA
BPS Standards-Based Scores	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	ELA
Point Value	12	12	12	9	9	9	12	12	9	9	11
	Reading Standard Areas			Writing, Listening, Speaking Standard Areas				Math Standard Areas			Math
Calculation	12+ 12+ 12			9+ 9+ 9+ 12				12+ 9+ 9 = 30			10
	12+ 12+ 12+ 9+ 9+ 9+ 12 = 75 / 7 = 10.71 → 11							30 / 3 = 10			

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Exam School Composite Score Calculation

The maximum overall composite score a student can receive in the Exam School Application process is 115. The student's Grade Point Average (GPA) accounts for 70 points and the test score accounts for 30 points. These two components will be combined to generate a composite score from 1-100. Ten or fifteen additional points will be given to students that meet specific criteria (e.g., students experiencing homelessness and students attending schools with 40% or more enrollment of economically disadvantaged students).

Test Score Allotment (30 points)

Test scores in Reading and Math from the NWEA MAP Growth assessment are required as part of the exam school admissions process for the 2025-26 school year. Students will receive a percentile test score in each section between 1 and 99, with 99 being the highest score possible. If the student tested twice in each subject (June 2024 and December 2024), BPS will use the higher score in Reading and Math.

The thirty (30) points allotted for test scores is separated into fifteen (15) points for Reading and fifteen (15) points for Math. The student's percentile score is divided by 99 and multiplied by 15. Final points for Reading and Math are summed to provide the overall test points.

Example:

Student A took both Reading and Math tests in June and December. Their highest MAP Reading score is at the 50th percentile and their highest MAP Math score is the 75th percentile. That means their total number of assessment points is estimated as follows:*

$$(50 \div 99) \times 15 + (75 \div 99) \times 15 = 7.57 + 11.36 = 18.9$$

Grade Point Average (GPA) Allotment (70 points)

As shown in the first two pages of this document, the GPA is initially calculated based on the required marks from the previous and current school years based on the 0-11 scale. The overall GPA points is determined by dividing the GPA by 11 and multiplying it by 70.

Example:

Student A received an overall GPA of 9, which is divided by 11 and multiplied by 70. Their final points for GPA would be:*

$$(9 \div 11) \times 70 = 57.2$$

Additional Points (15 or 10 points)

Students living in housing owned by the Boston Housing Authority, in the care of the Department of Children and Families, or experiencing homelessness will receive an additional fifteen (15) points. For students who are not in the above living situations, and previously attended a school (BPS or Non-BPS) in which 40% or more of the students enrolled come from economically disadvantaged families (over 5 years), they will receive between two (2) and ten (10) additional points. The amount of points that these students receive will depend on their socioeconomic tier. Additional points cannot be combined - if students qualify for both the 15 points and the points that are determined by their SES tier, only the 15 points were applied.

Composite Score Calculation

The overall test score points, the overall GPA points, and any additional points (if applicable) are added together to obtain the final composite score, which will be used in the invitation process.

Example:

Student A is experiencing homelessness and qualifies for the additional 15 points. As such, Student A's final composite score is as follows:*

$$18.9 + 57.2 + 15 = 91.1$$

*Please note the numbers in the sample calculations are rounded to one decimal point; however, during the actual composite score calculation process, BPS will not round the final average and will maintain all decimal points.

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