

2026 PhysicsBowl Exam Constants

Use the following values in determining the answers on this exam. If you use other values in calculating answers, you may obtain values that do not exactly match answer selections found on this exam. You will then need to choose the answer on the test closest to your value.

acceleration due to gravity	g	$= 10 \text{ m/s}^2$
gravitational constant	G	$= 6.7 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2 / \text{kg}^2$
mass of the Earth	M_E	$= 6.0 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$
radius of the Earth	R_E	$= 6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$
atomic mass unit	1 u	$= 1.7 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
electron volt	1 eV	$= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
rest mass of electron	m_e	$= 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
rest mass of proton	m_p	$= 1.7 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
elementary charge	e	$= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Coulomb's constant	k	$= 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2 / \text{C}^2$
permittivity constant	ϵ_0	$= 8.9 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 / \text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2$
permeability constant	μ_0	$= 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T} \cdot \text{m} / \text{A}$
speed of sound in air (20° C)	v_s	$= 340 \text{ m/s}$
speed of light in vacuum	c	$= 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
Planck's constant	h	$= 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s} = 4.14 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV} \cdot \text{s}$
Boltzmann constant	k_B	$= 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
Universal Gas Constant	R	$= 8.21 \times 10^{-2} \frac{\text{L} \cdot \text{atm}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} = 8.31 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}}$
Avogadro's Number	N_A	$= 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Atmospheric Pressure	P_{atm}	$= 1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$

Water Properties:

Latent Heat of Vaporization	L_v	$= 540 \text{ kcal/kg} = 2.3 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg}$
Latent Heat of Fusion	L_f	$= 80 \text{ kcal/kg} = 3.3 \times 10^5 \text{ J/kg}$
Density	ρ_w	$= 1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$
Specific heat	c_w	$= 1.0 \text{ kcal/kg} \cdot \text{K} = 4.2 \times 10^3 \text{ J/kg} \cdot \text{K}$
Specific heat (ice)	c_i	$= 0.50 \text{ kcal/kg} \cdot \text{K} = 2.1 \times 10^3 \text{ J/kg} \cdot \text{K}$
Specific heat (vapor)	c_v	$= 0.48 \text{ kcal/kg} \cdot \text{K} = 2.0 \times 10^3 \text{ J/kg} \cdot \text{K}$

2026 PhysicsBowl Exam Equations

$$\Delta x = v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$$

$$v = v_0 + at$$

$$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2a\Delta x$$

$$\sum \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

$$F_{fric} \leq \mu F_N$$

$$F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

$$F_g = mg$$

$$\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$$

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$v_t = r\omega$$

$$a_t = r\alpha$$

$$\tau = RF \sin \theta = R_{\perp} F = RF_{\perp}$$

$$\sum \vec{\tau} = I\vec{\alpha}$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$$

$$\Delta PE_g = mg\Delta y$$

$$W = Fd \cos \theta = F_{\parallel} d = Fd_{\parallel} \quad PE_s = \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$

$$P = \frac{W}{\Delta t}$$

$$\vec{F} = -k\vec{x}$$

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$$

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$$

$$\rho = \frac{m}{V}$$

$$F_{buoy} = \rho g V$$

$$P_1 + \frac{1}{2} \rho v_1^2 + \rho g y_1 = P_2 + \frac{1}{2} \rho v_2^2 + \rho g y_2$$

$$P = \frac{F}{A}$$

$$PV = nRT = Nk_B T$$

$$\Delta U = Q + W_{on \ system}$$

$$Q = mc\Delta T$$

$$Q = \pm mL$$

$$\Delta S = \frac{Q}{T}$$

$$v = f\lambda$$

$$f_o = f_s \left(\frac{v_{snd} \pm v_{obs}}{v_{snd} \mp v_{src}} \right)$$

$$n = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

$$m\lambda = d \sin \theta$$

$$\frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i}$$

$$m = -\frac{d_i}{d_o}$$

$$F_e = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q}$$

$$V = \frac{kq}{r}$$

$$V = \frac{W}{q}$$

$$\Delta V = -Ed \cos \theta = -E_{\parallel} d = -Ed_{\parallel}$$

$$PE_e = \frac{kq_1 q_2}{r}$$

$$Q = CV$$

$$PE = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

$$V = RI$$

$$P = IV$$

$$F = qvB \sin \theta = qvB_{\perp}$$

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r}$$

$$B = \mu_0 nI$$

$$F = ILB \sin \theta = ILB_{\perp}$$

$$\varepsilon = vBL = \left(\frac{B\Delta A}{t} \right)$$

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$$E = \gamma m_0 c^2 = mc^2$$

$$E = hf$$

$$p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

$$hf = KE_e + W_0$$

$$Q = e\sigma T^4 At$$

$$p = \frac{mv}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$E = \frac{mc^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

Moments of Inertia:

Hoop with a perpendicular axis through its center:

$$I = MR^2$$

Solid disk or cylinder with a perpendicular axis through its center: $I = \frac{1}{2}MR^2$

Solid sphere about a diameter:

$$I = \frac{2}{5}MR^2$$

Thin rod about the center, perpendicular to rod:

$$I = \frac{1}{12}ML^2$$

Thin rod about the end:

$$I = \frac{1}{3}ML^2$$