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of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. The PE Civil Exam is an 8-hour, 80-question exam including multiple-choice, multiple-correct, point-and-click, drag-and-drop, and fill-inthe-blank questions. The PE Civil Exam is designed by NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying) to test competency in civil engineer. The first 40 questions are breadth questions, and the second 40 questions refer to your chosen depth area, depending on your specialty: There are no individually timed sections on the PE Civil Exam, meaning that you are responsible for managing your time on the exam with a 2-minute nondisclosure agreement, and then you can begin work on the test questions. Throughout the exam youll encounter pretest items included to test questions for use in future exams. Theyre unscored, but you wont be able to identify which questions are pretest questions are pretest questions are pretest questions are pretest questions. You can take additional breaks as needed, during which you may not leave the testing center, but unlike the scheduled break these additional breaks will eat into your exam time. News: PE Civil Exams' specifications will undergo changes as of April 2024. These changes prioritize testing engineers on their specific discipline. The NCEES plans to accomplish this by eliminating the existing common knowledge areas that test general civil engineering. Starting in April 2024, all five PE Civil Exams will now only feature focused content on their specific area of practice. This is the case for the Construction, Geotechnical, Structural, Transportation, and Water Resources & Environmental exams. Whatischanging on the PE Civil Exams in April 2024: Common topics shared across all 5 specialities removed from PE Civil Exams Updated topic & sub-topic question distribution to reflect focused exams. Transportation & Water examsWhatis notchanging on the PE Civil Exams in April 2024:Exams still include 80 questionsExam appointment time is still 9 hoursExams are still computer-basedExams are still administered year-round for engineers with 4+ years of post-college professional work experienceOur engineering experts advise those whose PE Civil studies are already underway to continue preparing to take the exam before the April 2024 test change, so that their studying is not wasted and their exam date is not delayed. The PE Civil Exam is a pass/fail test. No points are deducted for wrong answers, meaning that your raw score is determined by adding together your correct answers. There is no partial credit awarded, no matter the question type. Your raw score is scaled to account for minor differences in difficulty between difference in how first-time and repeat test-takers are evaluated. Scores for the exam will be available 7-10 days after you take the exam. Youll receive an email from NCEES about how to proceed based on whether you passed or failed. If you what test areas you struggled with.PE Civil Exam Switched from Paper-and-Pencil to CBT in 2022The PE Civil Exam switched to a CBT (Computer Based Testing) format (from a paper-and-pencil PE Civil Exam administration took place in October of 2021. This transition to a CBT format allows for greater exam security, more uniformity in testing experience, and a greater variety of question types. In addition to multiple-choice questions, the CBT version of the exam is able to ask multiple-correct, point-and-click, drag-and-drop, and fill-in-the-blank questions. The PE Civil Exam Computer Based Test will be offered at Pearson VUE testing centers year-round. There are four annual testing windows: January-March, April-June, July-September, and October-December. Eligibility requirements include four years of work experience, but specific requirements vary from state to state. Make sure youre eligible in your state. When you're creating a study plan, we recommend starting with one of our prep course options, which ensure that you receive comprehensive and up-to-date exam review while catering to your schedule and prep needs. Choose your depth section to view our prep course bundles and additional review materials for the PE Civil Exam. How to Register for the Register for the PE Civil Exam. How to Register for the Register f authorization email from NCEES indicating that youve received approval to take the exam within the next 12 months. Youll then be able to select a testing date and location. The PE Civil Exam is administered at Pearson VUE testing centers, which are filled on a first-come, first-served basis Youll be required to pay an exam fee of \$375 at the time of registration. As a general rule, PE Civil examinees are eligible to retake the PE Civil examinees ar NCEES account. Reschedule using the Modify Appointment button at least 24 hours before your exam appointment. Keep in mind that you may be required to pay rescheduling fees, though some examinees are eligible for refunds. Exam Cancellation requires re-applying and re-paying for the exam. How to Study for the PE Civil CBT ExamIts recommended that you spend approximately 300 hours studying for the PE Civil Exam. To ensure that youre studying the right information at an appropriate pace, consider signing up for one of PPIs PE Civil Exam. To ensure that youre studying the right information at an appropriate pace, consider signing up for one of PPIs PE Civil Exam. To ensure that your extends the right information at an appropriate pace, consider signing up for one of PPIs PE Civil Exam. three following exam prep bundles: Live Online Course Bundle: Attend virtual live lectures, problem-solving demonstrations, exam strategy sessions, and office hours facilitated by licensed engineers. Youll receive homework assignments, class notes, and reference materials. This prep option will prepare you for the depth and breadth portions of the exam. On Demand Course Bundle: Get access to pre-recorded lectures, problem-solving demonstrations, and exam strategy sessions from licensed engineers, as well as homework assignments and reference materials. This is a great option for students with busy schedules, who need the option to study on the go or at inconsistent times. Self Study -Learning Hub and Print Bundle: This study option is designed for students who need a refresher before they take the PE Civil Exam, but may not need a full review course. With this option, youll get access to the PE Learning Hub and printed practice materials. If you only wish to purchase review materials to help with the breadth portion of the PE Civil Exam, consider our Breadth-Only products, including the PE Civil Reference Manual, PE Civil Reference Manual includes all the information you need to prepare for the breadth portion of the PE Civil Exam, as well as an overview of each depth topic, study scheduling help, exam tips, and up-to-date codes. Since the exam is now given in a CBT format, you will have access to an electronic NCEES PE Civil Reference Handbook and the design standards for your depth section. How to Study with the NCEES PE Civil Reference Handbook while preparing for the exam. Expecting too heavily on the Handbook while preparing for the exam. Expecting that everything needed for the exam will be supplied to them, may be doing them a disservice. The Handbook is only a reference. The NCEES does not claim "what is on the exam will be in the Handbook." If a topic is listed in the exam specifications, it should be studied in-depth, regardless if you can find it in the Handbook, but know the Handbook and design standards inside and out. Meaning, don't expect to search through the provided material for an answer, but know your references so well that if you need a refresher, you know where to look. One of the biggest stressors on these tests is the time cap, especially if it's approaching, and that time can easily diminish as you search for keywords. NCEES provides the Handbook to you ahead of the test, so take advantage of that since you cannot take your own materials. With the CBT exams, and the PE exam in general, you should already have a firm grasp on the material (it's what you do in practice almost every day except for some topics), so a large part of your studying should also be how to take the exam. Preparing for the PE Civil exam? Test your skills with a free sample quiz. Test Day: Taking the PE Civil Exam, show up to your test location 30 minutes prior to your exam start time. Bring with you a current photo ID (government-issued, military, or an international passport), a printed copy of your appointment confirmation letter, and an NCEES-approved calculator. For more detailed information about what items are and are not allowed inside the testing room, refer to the NCEES Exam Guide. Reasonable accommodations are available to those test-takers with a documented disability or scheduling conflict due to military service or Sabbath observance. Any accommodations required must be requested during the registration process. Since the exam is now given in CBT format, it is no longer open book. Examinees will only have access to an electronic NCEES PE Civil Reference Handbook and design standards for their depth section. Which PE Civil Depth Section Should I Take? Can't decide which PE Civil depth section to take? Choosing a depth section is a big decision, particularly if you're unsure of the best route to take. It could mean the difference between passing and failing depending on how well you know the material. You'll need to consider your knowledge of the tested material and what information could be most useful to you in your career. Here are some of the discovery steps you can take to find this answer: Review what you liked in school and what you want to do in the future. Take what you want to do in the future. Take what you want to do in the future you are working now, and what you scored well in. Proceed with caution if your career, where you are working now, and what you scored well in. Proceed with caution if your career, where you are working now, and what you scored well in. Proceed with caution if your career, where you are working now, and what you scored well in. Proceed with caution if your career, where you are working now, and what you want to do in the future. Take what you want to do in the future. Take what you want to do in the future you want to do in the future you want to do in the future. Take what you want to do in the future you want to do in the future you want to do in the future. Take what you want to do in the future you want section as being easy. This is exam is actually one of the more difficult sections and can take engineers by surprise. If you would like more information about this or other PE depth sections, we invite you to explore our PE Civil Exam resources. The Practice of Engineering (PE) Civil Exam is an important step in becoming a licensed professional civil engineer. Continue reading for preparation and test-taking advice, as well as resources to help you pass this crucial exam. Requirements To Pass the PE Civil Exam Allow yourself at least three months to preparation time by ensuring that you: Learn about the format and content of the PE Civil exam you intend to take. Gather relevant Civil study resources. Practice self-discipline and Surveying (NCEES), which conducts the PE Civil examinations, provides a full summary of each PE exam's content and organization. These descriptions, which are available for download from the NCEES website (ncees.org), also provide the number of questions for each topic. Most PE tests take 8 hours to complete, with each test divided into four-hour morning and afternoon sessions. Except for the structural engineer test, all examinations have multiple-choice questions. PE Civil examinations are open-book, paper-and-pencil exams. Right & Proper Prep Material Is the Key to Success For students preparing for PE Civil examinations, a wide range of study aids and preparation resources are accessible. These are some examples: Textbooks from previous college courses or those recommended as resources for your exam. The professional association for your Civil engineering specialty may provide suggested reading lists as well as online reference resources. Online courses can assist you in mastering any exam material topics that you want assistance with. For example, if you are taking one of the several PE examinations that need project management expertise, courses such as Statistics, Business Law, and Bus engineering society, or the professional society for your engineering specialty. Some PE practice examinations may be available for purchase from the professional association of your engineering specialty. Study Smart Not Hard After you have gathered your study materials, you will want to make the most of the time you have to prepare. To do so: Make a study plan to help you plan and manage your time. Be self-disciplined enough to stick to your study plan throughout your months of preparation. Practice answering the sorts of questions that will be on your test. Because most PE examinations include multiple-choice questions, review this course on Multiple-Choice Question Strategy for some pointers. To ensure that you would use for the actual exam. If the thought of taking your PE exam makes you nervous, or if you suffer test anxiety, read up and educate yourself on Overcoming Test Anxiety for assistance. We hope that the above-mentioned tested practices will also be beneficial for you to not only gather needed preparation material for the PE Civil Practice, PE Civil CBT exams and or PE License but also help you gain immense knowledge about the changes in the respective field. what's inside Theorem Exams Prerequisites This guide dives into the professional requirements you need to meet and steps you need to take with your states licensing authority before you can even register to sit for the exam. Must-Have Prep Materials I for the exam. Must-Have Prep Materials I for the exam. results. And thats all the way from theory to practice materials. Approved Calculators on your PE exam. The guide lists what these approved calculators on your PE exam forums, groups, and communities out there to find other test-takers and help each other out on this journey. Exam Prep SecretsGolden tips on how to hit the books for months even with everything you already have going on in your life and get the most out of your study efforts. Exam Day Tips & RemindersWhat you need to double check and remember both before, during, and after the exam on the big day for you. Heres What People are Saying About Our Materials Today I found out that I passed the PE!! I want to sincerely thank both of you for all of your help and encouragement. Isaac - thank you for putting together an excellent course with great resources / sense of community. I received the good news this morning that I passed the PE Exam this morning! First and foremost, thank you. Your material is by far the best out there. Thanks for putting this together! About MeHi! Im Isaac Oakeson. Just like you, I know that in order to advance in this industry you need to study, take, and PASS the civil engineering PE exam. But with lifes busy schedule, and time seemingly disappearing every day, this is no small feat! When I took and passed the civil engineering PE exam in 2012 as a repeat taker, I know how hard it is to come back to studying after being away from college for 3 or 4 years. I know how difficult it is to find time to study for it. And I know how difficult it can seem to repeat takers as I was one myself. So I set the goal of helping others just like you on their journey to becoming a PE. And this free startup guide is one of them. I'm sure it'll help you jumpstart your PE Exam prep and increase your chances of getting this thing done. Get The Ultimate Civil PE Exam Startup Guide and Crush the Exam! Preparing for the PE exam is a major undertaking, but you can set yourself up for success with the right approach. Developing a comprehensive PE exam study plan is the first step in managing this challenge effectively. A good study plan allows you to break the material into manageable sections, prioritize key topics, and ensure you cover everything necessary for the exam. Equally important is your commitment to PE exam test prep, which involves using high-quality resources, practicing with realistic exam problems, and simulating test conditions. These strategies build your knowledge and help you feel confident and prepared when exam day arrives. Earning your PE license offers countless career benefits, from increased job opportunities to higher earning potential, but reaching that goal starts with disciplined prepared to excel on the PE exam. Caution: The tips below assume that you have already applied to take the PE exam to take the PE exam and that you have sufficient time to prepare for it. We recommend at least three months of study time. Passing the PE exam and that you have sufficient time to prepare for it. topics while still covering all exam subjects. Break your schedule into manageable study blocks to maintain focus and prevent burnout. Include review sessions to reinforce key concepts and ensure your preparation is well-rounded. Practice Realistic Problem-Solving: Regularly working through practice problems is one of the best ways to build problem-solving skills and test your knowledge. Use resources like sample exams and practice questions to mimic the types of scenarios youll face on test day. Pay attention to your accuracy and timing to fine-tune your approach. Use Your Calculator with Precision: Your calculator is an essential tool for the PE exam, so make it part of your daily tests, and approved tools. Familiarize yourself with NCEES rules regarding exam day policies to eliminate surprises when its time to sit for the test. Stay Composed and Focused During the Exam: Passing the PE exam is as much about mental readiness as it is about technical knowledge. Take care of yourself by getting enough rest, eating a healthy meal, and arriving early on test day. Approach each question systematically, and dont let the difficult problems derail your focus. Earning your PE license is a significant achievement that showcases your dedication, expertise, and readiness to excel in your engineering career. The journey to passing the PE exam begins with thoughtful preparation and a well-organized approach. By developing a structured PE exam study plan, you can build the foundation for success and stay focused on the steps needed to reach your goal. Lets explore how to create a plan that works for you and sets you up for exam-day success. Preparing for the PE exam? Test your skills with a free sample quiz. Choose your discipline: PE Civil, PE Electrical, or PE Mechanical. Preparing your PE exam study plan Creating a well-constructed PE exam study plan is the foundation of effective preparation and a key step toward passing the exam. By taking the time to organize your approach, youll maximize your study efficiency and build the confidence needed to succeed on exam day. Below are essential steps to help you prepare your PE exam format, including the format, including the number of questions, time limits, and topics covered, will help you tailor your study plan. If you already have a current PE reference manual, read its introductory chapters for insights and preparation tips. However, if your manual is outdated, be sure to verify exam details online to ensure accuracy. Set clear study goals and prioritize topicsDecide whether youll study all exam subjects comprehensively or focus on specific areas where you need the most improvement. While covering all topics is recommended, its common for engineers to allocate more time to areas where you need the most improvement. While covering all topics is recommended, its common for engineers to allocate more time to areas where you need the most improvement. While covering all topics is recommended, its common for engineers to allocate more time to areas where you need the most improvement. While covering all topics is recommended, its common for engineers to allocate more time to areas where you need the most improvement. While covering all topics is recommended, its common for engineers to allocate more time to areas where you need the most improvement. should align with your learning style. Options include: Self-Study: Use books, practice problems, and sample exams. Multimedia Resources: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials, audio lessons, or interactive digital tools. Prep Courses: Enhance your preparation with video tutorials and tutorials are preparation with video tutorials. trusted PE exam test prep resources, such as review manuals, practice problems, and sample exams. PPI offers a variety of study tools designed specifically for the PE exam. Incorporating multiple resources ensures yourself with an approved calculator early in your preparation. Review its instructions manual, practice using its functions during sample exams, and always keep extra batteries on hand. Having a spare calculator as a backup is also highly recommended. 6. Create a dedicated study spaceEstablish a quiet, organized area in your home where you can focus on studying a spare calculator as a backup is also highly recommended. Choose a space with ample room for your materials, and keep it free from distractions. A consistent study location helps you stay disciplined and signals to others that youre serious about your materials, and keep it free from distractions. A consistent study location helps you stay disciplined and signals to others that youre serious about your materials, and keep it free from distractions. A consistent study location helps you stay disciplined and signals to others that youre serious about your materials, and keep it free from distractions. help you build endurance, improve time management, and identify areas that need more focus in your PE exam study plan. Review your performance after each practice test and adjust your plan accordingly. Committing to your performance after each practice test and adjust your plan accordingly. Committing to it. Consistency is key, but it can be difficult to maintain focus and motivation over time. Here are practical strategies to help you stay on track and make the most of your study plan as you prepare for exam day: Set Clear Daily Goals: Break your study plan as you prepare for exam day exam day exam day: Set Clear Daily Goals: Break your study plan as you prepare for exam day exam day: Set Clear Daily Goals: Break your study plan into small, actionable tasks for each day. Instead of feeling overwhelmed by the entire process, focus on completing your daily objectives. Checking off tasks not only keeps you on track but also gives you a sense of accomplishment, which can help sustain motivation. Create a Routine and Stick to It: Establish a regular routine by setting aside the same time each day for preparation. Consistency builds habits, making it easier to follow your study plan. Treat your study time like an important appointmentnon-negotiable and free from distractions. Manage Your Time Wisely: To maximize your productivity, use time management techniques like the Pomodoro method, which alternates focused study sessions with short breaks. This approach helps prevent burnout and keeps you refreshed for longer study periods. Stay Organized to Reduce Stress: Keeping your materials and notes organized is essential to sticking with your study plan. Having a clean and structured environment makes it easier to dive into your study plan with a friend, family member, or colleague and update them on your progress. Alternatively, join a study group or an online community where members can encourage each other and exchange tips for staying consistent. Take Regular Practice Exams: Incorporating practice exams into your schedule not only tests your knowledge but also reinforces your commitment to the study plan. Use these exams as checkpoints to measure your progress and identify areas for improvement. They also provide a tangible reminder of the progress youve made. Celebrate Milestones and Stay Positive: Reward yourself for reaching key milestones in your study plan. Whether its finishing a topic or improving your performance on a practice exam, small celebrations can keep your motivation high. Remember to focus on progress, not perfection, and stay positive as you work toward your goal. By focusing on consistency, organization, and accountability, you can stick to your PE exam requires dedication, but with the path to success. Passing the PE exam requires dedication, but with the path to success. right mindset and strategies, youll be ready to tackle any challenge that comes your way. As you near the end of your PE exam prep coursesPassing the PE exam is a significant step in advancing your engineering career. PPIs prep courses are designed to help you succeed by offering two flexible options: Live Courses: Structured lessons led by professional engineers. These sessions include lectures, problem-solving demonstration. On Demand Courses: Flexible, self-paced learning tailored to you schedule. Access video lectures, practice problems, and progress-tracking tools alongside expert-crafted study materials. What sets PPI apart: Expert Instruction: Learn directly from professional engineers who understand the PE exam inside and out. Comprehensive Prep Materials: Gain access to proven resources like expert reference materials, detailed class notes, homework assignments, online quizzes, practice exams, flashcards, and the NCEES Handbook. Up-to-Date Content: Stay prepared with materials that reflect the latest PE exam specifications. Decades of Experience. By choosing PPI, youll have everything you need to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and pass the PE exam with ease. Dont leave your future to chance. Enroll in a PPI PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE exam prep course today and take the first step toward earning your PE license. As you near the end of your PE license is a first step toward earning your PE license is a first step pass the PE exam. Preparing for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam is a journey of disciplined planning, targeted study, and consistent practice. Here we have break down the process into clear, actionable steps, helping you move from overwhelmed to exam-ready. Understanding the PE Exam FormatBefore you dive into studying, get intimately familiar with what youll face on exam day:Exam SessionBreadth and depth sections, each 4 hours80 questions per sessionQuestion TypesMultiple-choice and alternative item types (e.g., fill-in-the-blank)Reference MaterialsOpen-book examyou may bring only the NCEES-supplied reference handbookKnowing the structure reduces surprises and lets you allocate your time and energy where it counts most. Creating a Study Plan areas. Identify strengths and weaknesses by topic. Set a Timeline for 1216 weeks of part-time study. Block out 1015 hours per week on your calendar. Define Milestones (e.g., hydraulics, structural design). Bi-weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly full-length practice tests. Build Accountability. Join a study group or partner with a colleague. Share your weekly goals and the partner with a colleague. Share your weekly goals and the partner with a colleague. The partner with a colleague with a colleague with a colleague. The partner with a colleague with a colleague with a colleague with a colleague. The partner with a colleague with a colleagu resources ensures you study efficiently and effectively. Consider a balanced mix of:Resource TypeExamplesWhy It HelpsOfficial ReferencesNCEES Civil Engineering Reference HandbookAuthoritative formulas and definitionsReview BooksMichael R. Lindeburgs FE/PE Civil ReviewConcise topic summaries and practice problemsOnline CoursesPPI2Pass, School of PEVideo lectures and guided problem-solvingPractice examsNCEES practice examsNCEES practice examsNCEES practice examsNceelistic question formats and timingPractice examsNceelistic question formats and pacing. Analyze Missed ProblemsLog errors in a mistake journal.Re-solve each problem until youre confident.Rotate TopicsUse spaced repetition: revisit each topic every 23 weeks.Prevents forgetting and reinforces connections between concepts.Exam Day StrategiesWhen the big day arrives, these tactics will help you stay calm and sharp: Morning RoutineEat a balanced breakfast with protein and complex carbs. Arrive early to the testing center to settle in. Time Management Tackle easier questions first to build momentum. Flag difficult items and revisit them if time remains. Stress Control Practice deep-breathing for 30 seconds between sections. Keep a positive mantra (e.g., Ive prepared thoroughly). Post-Exam Reflection Regardless of the outcome, reflection fuels your next move: Review Your FeelingsIdentify which topics felt strongest and which felt shaky. Plan Next StepsIf you pass, celebrate and consider mentoring other candidates. If not, adjust your study plan based on feedback and retake. Additional Tips and Resources Mobile Apps: Use apps like Practice PE for on-the-go question drills.Professional Networks: Join state licensing board forums to stay updated on exam changes.Wellness Practices: Incorporate short exercise breaks and mindfulness to maintain focus.Approach your PE exam preparation as a structured projectdefine clear goals, measure progress, and iterate until youre exam-day ready. Good luck!Recommended Review Materials to prepare for the PE Exam in Civil EngineeringOfficial NCEES ReferencesNCEES Civil Engineering Reference Handbook (latest edition)Your primary open-book resource, with all formulas and tables youll need on exam day. Core Review BooksTitleAuthorCoverageCivil Engineering Reference Manual for the PE ExamMichael R. Lindeburg, PEBreadth topics plus depth reviewPE Civil Practice ExamsNCEESTwo full-length, timed examsPPIs PE Civil Practice Problems (PPI2Pass)Water Resources Depth Practice Problems (PPI2Pass)Geotechnical and Video LibrariesPPI2Pass Live Review Course (in-depth lectures and Q&A)School of PE Civil PE Course (self-paced videos and quizzes)Civil PE Exam Prep on YouTube (free walkthroughs of tough problem types)Practice Tools and AppsPractice PE (mobile app for on-the-go drills)Go Trips! (flashcards and topic quizzes)TI-36X Pro calculator guide (essential functions review)Study Plans and CommunitiesNCEES PE Exam Forum (official discussion board)LinkedIn Civil PE Study Groups (peer support and resource sharing)Slack channels like CivilPEPrep (daily problem challenges)Read Also-How to Hire a Structure Engineer in USA? (2025 Guide)Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) in Civil EngineeringInternational Residential Code 2017 Residential Code 2017 Residential PE exam for Civil Engineering is held? PE exam is now computer based and you can give is year round at any NCEES-approved Pearson VUE test center. 222 Palisades Creek DriveRichardson, TX 75080Phone: 972-952-9393Fax: 972-952-9435Email: Get the study materials you need from the leaders in engineering exam prep. The National Council of Engineers for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) updated theexamspecifications for the PE Civil exam in April 2024. In response to these changes, School of PE revamped all of our PE Civil coursesandweve got youcovered on the new exam! Please clickhere to read more about the exam spec changes and what you should expect from the exam from April 2024 onward. The PE exam tests for competency within your selected engineering discipline. Itis designed forengineerswho have passed their FE exam and gained a minimum of four years of engineering license. School of PE is a division of EduMind. EduMind is accredited bythe International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). We are grateful for our service men and women, and we hopeto show that gratitudewith our military discount. Please visit our military discount Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for allcourses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for all courses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for all courses. Please check out our pass-guarantee policypage for more information and the downloaded directly from your Study Hub for all courses. more information. Email This Post IntroductionThis exam is referred to as the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam that is conducted to measure a minimum amount of proficiency in a certain discipline of engineering and have attained professional work experience in that field. The format of the exam is such that it comprises 80 questions and the time given to attend those questions and the time given to attend those questions and the time given to attend those questions in pencil-and-paper format. At present, such exams are offered in pencil-and-paper format. in two halves, i.e., the first half comprises questions from all five regions of civil engineering and the second half comprises questions from any one area of practice. The instructions and level of this exam are modified 6 months before the exam administration. The notification for this exam to be conducted in April will be posted in November, and for October, it will be posted in May. When you have to fill out the form for this exam, you will be required to select an afternoon module, based on which scoring will be done. Given below are the five specializations in Civil EngineeringConstruction EngineeringConstructio and Environmental EngineeringThe exam results are declared 810 weeks after the exam administration to the licensing boards. You will be notified via postal mail from your state licensing board. The fees required to appear in this exam vary from state to state or as per the foreign location. Depending upon your place of registration, fees may be paid directly to NCEES, the state licensing board, or the designer of the board. The exam type is an open book where you are allowed to bring reference materials, they may bound it with ring binders, brads, plastic snap binders, spiral-bound notebooks, or screw posts. Staple is not permitted inside the examination hall. Flags and notes are permitted only when attached to bound materials, otherwise, they are not allowed when these are taken loose. NCEES also conducts mock tests so you can familiarise yourself with the exam format. These tests comprise questions that are based on past years and questions written just for study materials to provide extra practice. Fig 1: Books available online for PE Civil ExamCourtesy: GoogleUnderstanding examPreparing for this exam is not a tough journey at all. Before starting with the preparation, it is important to know which subject is the easiest and which one is hardest. Here are some points- Starting with Construction Engineering, it is the most popular exam taken by most civil engineers. This is because they think that the topics found in the tough questions in this, they worked on topics or questions that they never expecting general questions which according to them would be easy. Eventually, they worked on topics or questions that they never expecting general questions which according to them would be easy. studied, or that were set up in a way that was difficult to understand and solve. Upon looking at the Civil Engineering Reference Manual, this subject comprises topics that need to be covered and so an in-depth specific book is required. It can be considered the fourth easiest compared to other ones. Next is Water Resources. It has some difficult topics which, when studied and practiced properly, will enable you to score more. If you are good with waste management, chemistry, or water quality, then you will excel. However, these topics need to be revised every day for the quick answering of questions, as most of them are theoretical ones. It can be considered as the second easiest as no codes are needed to solve the questions which eliminate a lot of work. Coming to Structural Engineering, it requires extensive use of codes that are needed to solve the questions which eliminate a lot of work. Coming to Structural Engineering, it requires extensive use of codes that are needed to solve the questions which eliminate a lot of work. at the Civil Engineering Reference Manual, we can see that the amount of material needed is thinner than other sections. Furthermore, the number of standards required for this exam is only two, i.e., the ASCE 7 and the OSHA 29 CFR. The OSHA is a material that you can find using the CERM as it covers a lot of material that has appeared on the exam and the ASCE 7 is material for load combination, e.g., 1.2DL+1.6LL. It can be considered the easiest and most neglected subject. Finally, Transportation Officials (AASHTO) design books, and one can easily excel in this if he/she is comfortable in the field and is familiar with their designs. Apart from AASHTO, you must know about the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM), the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), and many more. At present, there are 11 standards included in this exam. It can be considered as the third hardest exam among all as it can be tough sometimes and sometimes easy as well. You can score more if you know the standards, but a lot of money is required to invest in extra books. Some Important TipsStart your preparation with the basics in CERM. Study everything and then work on as many problems as you can until you get the idea of the solutions within minutes by looking at the question. It is better to work on harder problems before the exam day. By doing this, you wont be surprised by looking at any unfamiliar question. Familiarize yourself with the calculator that you are going to use in the exam. Since now the HP48s are banned, as you practice solving problems, do not use yours, but use the actual model that you are going to take with you. Take an engineering dictionary with you, as there are some problems that can be solved by simply looking at the engineering dictionary. This will significantly add up to your percentage. Take as many of the resources recommended on the PPI website with you in the hall. It is not important to memorise the formulas as the most important part is taking the correct materials with you. Like if you come across problems where it is mentioned, IBC or ASCE 7, then you should be able to quickly find the code and solve accordingly. Get your hands on Civil Engineering Reference Manual and the current codes that are important for the exam. Never use other editions of the code or never even try to, as its not a good idea to try out editions other than the one mentioned. Take CERM and tab each section with labels for access to the reference quickly. You can also colour code the labels by section as it is a good idea. It is only about the speed that is essential when you have only a few minutes left. Take a printout of the CERM index and put it in a binder so you can use it separately and in this way, you can save time. For the geotechnical materials. Take AASHTO Bridge Design Manual for the exam as you may find some problems related to it in this section. Moreover, take IBC as there are easential in the geotechnical section because not everything is there in CERM. Bring NAVFAC DM-7 with you as you can easily download it from the web. Take with you CERM, or the section because not everything is there in CERM. Bring NAVFAC DM-7 with you as you can easily download it from the web. Take with you can easily download it from the web. Take with you can easily download it from the web. Take with you can easily download it from the web. geotechnical texts, the Highway Capacity Manual, the AASHTO pavement design manual, and some environmental references for the structural part, the NCEES sample questions book is highly suggested as most of the time it has problems that resemble the ones given in exam. Use both Structural Depth Reference Manual and Civil Engineering Reference Manual to prepare. Practise problems on masonry and structural dynamics. You should be prepared for questions on construction scheduling, open channel flow, pipe flow, retaining walls, piles, concrete, and steel design. Timber construction, wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the NDS and the AASHTO bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the NDS and the AASHTO bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by CERM so you will need to bring the wood, or bridges are not covered by the wood, or bridges are not covered by the wood will need to bridge and the wood will need to be a to familiarise yourself with environmental topics as there are questions that appear in this section. 20% of the exam this time comprised of signalisation, so study that too. This time the soil problem in metric units was also there, so prepare for that too. Other problems like different braking type, trip-generation, mass diagram problems, parking garages, min or max stopping sight distance, length of curve, highway sign letter height data, horizontal and vertical curve problems on geotechnical/retaining walls and pipe/open channel flow have been encountered quite a number of times. Thus, it is advisable to study everything in this section as the question as t Environmental Engineering Calculations, Metcalf & Eddys Wastewater Treatment, Metcalf & Eddys Wastewater theory as all these are very helpful for some problems. Take CERM too, but remember it is not as comprehensive as you need and not related to real life problems. Study the hydraulic conductivity, water demand, wells, and tank chlorination as CERM is not enough for hydrology. Look for problems on meteorology, population growth, pipe-sizing problems, Darcy-Weisbach equations, Moody Diagram, organic composting, hazardous waste, environmental law, federal permitting for landfills, BOD and environmental remediation as these are common. Become familiar with converting units as many options are there without units in exam. You can find some conversions inside the front cover of CERM. Be prepared for geotechnical, transportation and structural problems too, as sometimes they are mixed up in every section. Fig 2: A flow chart depicting PE Civil exam format Courtesy: School of PEConclusion No exam is tough or easy. It solely depends on the candidates preparation is done beforehand, then it is easy to excel in any exam Rarely is the possibility of some students excelling in such exams with preparation just before the exam. This exam should be taken seriously as it decides the destination of the candidates interest to pursue a branch of interest. With good preparation and applying such beneficial techniques, one can come out with flying colours and become the best civil engineer to whom the world is looking up to. References Jacobs, 20 tips to pass the professional engineer exam- WGI, Tips for Passing the PE Exam Hard? Is it Tricky? | Civil Engineering Academy, Which Civil PE Exam is the Easiest? | Civil Engineering Academy, Is the Civil Engineering Academy, Which Civil PE Exam is the Easiest? | Civil Engineering Academy | Civil Engineering Academy, Is the Civil Engineering Academy, Is the Civil PE Exam is the Easiest? | Civil Engineering Academy | Civil Engine Engineering Academy-PPI2PASS, PE Civil Exam Advice from Past Examinees- If you have a query, you can ask a question here.

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