

FE Civil Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

110 Scored questions	5h 20m Time limit	— Passing score
\$225 Exam fee	National Council of Exa... Governing body	— Pass rate

The numbers to remember

- 110 questions total
- 6-hour total appointment; 5 hours 20 minutes of actual exam time
- 8-minute tutorial, 2-minute nondisclosure agreement, 25-minute scheduled break
- Exam fee: \$225 to NCEES
- Computer-based test (CBT) at Pearson VUE centers, closed book with an electronic reference
- Both SI and US Customary System units appear
- Only specific approved calculators allowed (Casio fx-115/fx-991, HP 33s/35s, TI-30X/TI-36X families); list reviewed annually
- One attempt per testing window, max 3 attempts per 12 months
- Results typically post in 7-10 business days

Content domains and weights

- Geotechnical Engineering: 10-15
- Structural Engineering: 10-15
- Water Resources and Environmental Engineering: 10-15
- Transportation Engineering: 9-14
- Statics: 8-12
- Mathematics and Statistics: 8-12
- Construction Engineering: 8-12
- Mechanics of Materials: 7-11
- Fluid Mechanics: 6-9
- Surveying: 6-9
- Engineering Economics: 5-8
- Materials: 5-8
- Dynamics: 4-6
- Ethics and Professional Practice: 4-6

High-yield review areas

- Geotechnical, Structural, and Water Resources together can reach up to 45 questions — prioritize depth here first.
- Transportation Engineering is close behind at up to 14 questions; don't treat it as an afterthought.
- Statics and Mathematics/Statistics underpin problems across other domains, so weakness here compounds elsewhere.
- Ethics and Engineering Economics are conceptual, lower-question domains — efficient for a final quick pass.

Top traps

- Bringing a calculator that isn't on the current year's approved list — the list is reviewed annually, so re-check it even if you tested before.
- Studying from a textbook instead of practicing with the actual electronic reference you'll have on screen.
- Assuming a specific numeric passing score exists — NCEES uses a scaled score, and no fixed cutoff percentage is published.
- Ignoring unit-system switching — both SI and US Customary units appear, and misreading units mid-problem is a common, avoidable miss.
- Under-budgeting the single 25-minute break — decide in advance where in your pacing you'll take it.
- Expecting instant results — plan for the 7-10 business day turnaround rather than checking obsessively the next morning.
- Spending equal study time across all 14 domains instead of weighting toward the domains worth the most questions.
- Forgetting the retake limit — only one attempt per testing window and no more than three attempts in any 12-month period, so a rushed re-schedule can cost you a full cycle.

Official sources

- National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) — Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) CIVIL CBT Exam Specifications: <https://ncees.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FE-Civil-CBT-specs-1.pdf>
- National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) — FE Exam | NCEES: <https://ncees.org/exams/fe-exam/>
- National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) — Exams | NCEES: <https://ncees.org/exams/calculator/>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/practice/exams/engineering/fe-civil