



ASCE YMF SD Fall/Spring 2018/19 PE Review Course
PE Exam Tips

Tips for Studying:

- Put together a study schedule and stick to it. If necessary, find someone to hold you accountable.
- Put together all your study materials
 - o Design Standards
 - o References
 - o Class Notes
 - o Post-it Notes/Tabs
 - o Binders, paper, etc.
 - o Highlighters, pens, pencils, rulers, etc.
 - o Calculator
 - o Practice Exams and books
- Go online. Engineering boards and forums can help answer questions when you're stuck
- Create a cheat sheet for every subject with important formulas and references
- Practice, practice, practice. Do tons of practice problems. When you think you've done enough, do more.
 - o Some students have separated practice problems into binders per subject and used them on the exam.
- Take at least one practice exam sometime during the time you're studying before the test. Focus on the sections you are weakest.
- Have a box or bin nearby to put helpful material while you're studying (extra calculator, references, pens, pencils, etc.). You can take it with you on test day.

Preparing for Test Day:

- Check you've received your testing notification from NCEES (usually 2 weeks before the exam date). Print and read through all the instructions.
- Know where the test site is and how to get there (print directions if needed).
- Consider booking a hotel room or getting to the test location early on test day.
- Organize your material, references, and any other items you will take with you.
- Make a checklist of items you are going to take with you and pack them a day or two before test day. Here's a sample checklist, feel free to add or use your own:
 - o 2 NCEES approved calculators
 - o Photo ID that matches the information on your application
 - o NCEES "exam day" information and admission letter
 - o Snacks, lunch, water bottle
 - o Glasses (if applicable)
 - o Sweater/sweatshirt
 - o Watch
 - o Cough drops/gum
 - o All your references (can make a separate checklist for these too)



ASCE YMF SD Fall/Spring 2018/19 PE Review Course
PE Exam Tips

Tips for Test Day:

- Make sure all your materials are packed and ready the night before
 - o No loose leaf or unbound sheets are allowed!
- Get a good night's sleep
- Set your alarm (or two, or three) or ask a friend to wake you up
- Eat a good breakfast
- If planning to drive, check traffic prior to test day to make sure you will be there on time
- Fill car gas tank before test day
- Bring money (cash) for parking if applicable
- Relax, breathe, and be confident
- Go through the test three times:
 - o First Time: Read through all the problems and do the ones you find easiest, mark the ones you can do but will take time. Make sure to fill in the appropriate answers (skip the ones you didn't answer!)
 - o Second Time: Go through and work on the second level of questions. If you get stuck on one, skip and move on.
 - o Third Time: Work on the more challenging problems
 - o If you have time at the end, review your answers to make sure you haven't missed anything!
- Know where to look. If you've got references, make sure they are appropriately tabbed so you can find what you're looking for quickly.

Good Luck!