

CBT Transition FAQ

You may download the NCEES Examinee Guide from <http://ncees.org/exams/examinee-guide/> for the official policies and procedures for all NCEES exams. NCEES also offers a number of [videos](#) to help you better understand the CBT format and specific aspects of the Pearson VUE exam-day experience (such as check-in procedures, breaks, etc.)

When is the last nuclear PE pencil and paper exam?

The final pencil-and-paper nuclear PE exam was administered on October 27, 2017. The first CBT exam was administered on October 19, 2018.

How often will be nuclear PE exam be offered after the transition to CBT?

The exam will continue to be offered one day a year, in late October, same as the former pencil-and-paper format that used to be held.

How will exam registration be affected by the transition to the CBT exam format?

Each state licensing board's unique registration procedures will remain in effect and should be understood before registering for the exam. You will register for your exam through NCEES. During the registration process, you will select your Pearson VUE exam location.

How does an examinee find the applicable CBT exam sites?

NCEES has partnered with Pearson VUE to administer the computer-based exams. You can search for the test center closest to you using the [Test Center Search Tool](#).

Am I guaranteed a seat at my preferred Pearson VUE exam location?

Nuclear PE examinees will receive priority seating at the Pearson VUE test locations on the day of the nuclear PE exam, although, at the end of the registration period availability at some sites might be limited. Realistically, the number of nuclear PE examinees is sufficiently small that the expectation is that there will be no issues with seat availability. Nonetheless, it is recommended that you register early to guarantee a seat is available for the exam.

Will the fee be the same for the CBT exam as for the current format?

The exam fee for the 2018 exam was \$375. Examinees should check <https://ncees.org/engineering/pe/nuclear/> for the current NCEES examination fees.

What am I allowed to bring into the test room?

You will be supplied a lockable storage location at the test center for your personal items. Only the following items are allowed in the test room:

- Your ID used during the admission process
- A calculator (without the cover) that complies with the current NCEES Calculator Policy
- Key to your test center locker
- Reusable booklet and marker supplied by Pearson VUE
- Eyeglasses (without the case)
- Light sweater or jacket
- Items included in the Pearson VUE Comfort Aid List such as earplugs, noise cancelling headphones, tissue. Special consideration for other items is allowed. See the NCEES

Examinee Guide for additional information.

The “Nuclear Engineering Supplied Reference Handbook” will be electronically delivered to your test center exam terminal with your exam. No personal reference materials are allowed in the test room.

Are there any items that I am NOT allowed to bring into the test room?

Yes! Several items are prohibited from the test site. It is recommended that you DO NOT bring your cell phone to the test site (even though a locker will be provided for personal items). Each year, several FE and PE examinees’ exams are invalidated because test takers brought their cell phones into the exam room. If your exam is invalidated, you will have to re-register and take the exam at a later date. Be sure to carefully read and follow all instructions to avoid such an occurrence.

How do I get familiar with the look and feel of the CBT exam layout before taking my exam?

View the [Pearson VUE computer-based testing demo](#) for a preview of the computer-based testing format.

How do I obtain a copy of the “Nuclear Engineering Supplied Reference Handbook”?

The official handbook is available for download free of charge with a MyNCEES account. Login or create a new MyNCEES account at <https://account.ncees.org/login>.

Are there any Alternative Item Types (AIT) sample nuclear questions available?

AITs are questions other than traditional multiple-choice questions. All computer-based exams will incorporate commonly used AITs that include but are not limited to the following:

- Multiple correct options—allows multiple choices to be correct
- Point and click—requires examinees to click on part of a graphic to answer
- Drag and drop—requires examinees to click on and drag items to match, sort, rank, or label
- Fill in the blank—provides a space for examinees to enter a response to the question

A video providing examples of working AIT problems is available at <http://ncees.org/exams/cbt/>. Four nuclear-specific AIT problems are available from ANS at <http://cdn.ans.org/pe/docs/AIT.pdf>.