



Department of Civil and
Environmental Engineering

Cullen College of Engineering

Calculator Policy for Undergraduate Courses

Must use NCEES FE/PE Approved Calculators

Applies to all undergraduate CIVE and CNE 1000-5000 level classes,
ENGR 1304 Engineering Graphics and ENGR 2301 Mechanics I (Statics)
regardless of student major.

Casio:

Must have "fx-115" or "fx-991" in model name

Texas Instruments:

Must have "TI-30X" or "TI-36X" in model name

Hewlett Packard:

HP 33s and HP 35s (both out of production, expensive)

(Calculator list unchanged for 15+ years.)

Most FE/PE calculator blogs recommend
models below. All around \$15-\$30.



Casio fx-115 ES Plus 2nd Ed.
Casio fx-991EX



TI 36X Pro
TI 30 XS Multiview

TI-30X IIS is available digitally on exam

Calculator policy can be viewed at <https://ncees.org/exams/fe-exam/>
(see link near bottom of page in right sidebar menu).

Engineering Licensure

- A licensed engineer is referred to as a registered engineer or Professional Engineer (PE).
- Only a licensed engineer may prepare, sign and seal, and submit engineering plans and drawings to a public authority for approval, or seal engineering work for public and private clients.
- In the United States, engineers are licensed at the state level. Each state (or territory) defines what constitutes the “practice of engineering” and exceptions to licensing requirements in that state/territory.
- While each state has its own licensing laws, typically there is a four-step process to obtain licensure:
 1. Earn an engineering degree.
 2. Pass the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam.
 3. Gain acceptable, progressive, and verifiable work experience under the supervision of a PE. (Four years with ABET accredited degree in most states, including Texas).
 4. Pass the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination in the appropriate discipline. (Note - in Texas you can take the PE exam before completing your work experience, but you must first complete BS degree and pass FE.)

IMPORTANT - simply passing the FE Exam does not mean you are an Engineer-in-Training (EIT). You won't be an EIT in Texas until you have graduated with your BSCE degree, passed the FE exam, **AND** filed proper forms with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers. Until Texas has given you an EIT Number, don't claim to be an EIT.

In Texas, students in EAC ABET programs (like the UH BSCE program) become eligible to take the FE exam when they are within one calendar year of graduation. Best time to sit for the FE is typically right before or right after graduating semester.

For more information:

National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)

- <https://ncees.org/exams/fe-exam/>

Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (TBPELS)

- pels.texas.gov/