NCEES
advancing licensure for engineers and surveyors

Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination
ENVIRONMENTAL CBT Exam Specifications

Effective Beginning April 2026

- The PE Environmental exam is computer based. It is closed book with an electronic reference.
- Examinees have 9 hours to complete the exam, which contains 80 questions. The 9-hour time includes a tutorial and an optional scheduled break. Examinee works all questions.
- The exam uses both the International System of units (SI) and the U.S. Customary System (USCS).
- The exam is developed with questions that will require a variety of approaches and methodologies, including design, analysis, and application.
- The knowledge areas specified as examples of kinds of knowledge are not exclusive or exhaustive categories.

		Number of Questions
1.	**Water**	**19–29**
	A. Water engineering applications (e.g., hydraulics, fluid mechanics, hydrology, hydrogeology, environmental chemistry, biology, microbiology, fate and transport, sampling, monitoring, project management)	
	B. Drinking water (e.g., sources of water, treatment technologies and management, distribution systems, residuals management)	
	C. Wastewater (e.g., pollution prevention and minimization, treatment technologies and management, collection systems, residuals management, water reuse)	
	D. Stormwater and water resources (e.g., sources of pollution, watershed management and planning, stormwater management)	
2.	**Solid and Hazardous Waste**	**11–17**
	A. Engineering applications (e.g., environmental chemistry, fate and transport, codes, standards, regulations, guidelines, risk assessment, sampling and measurement methods, reduction, recycling, mass and energy balance, hydrology, hydrogeology, geology, project management)	
	B. Municipal and industrial solid waste (e.g., storage, collection, transportation systems, treatment and disposal technologies, management)	
	C. Hazardous, medical, and radioactive waste (e.g., storage, collection, transportation systems, treatment and disposal technologies, management)	
3.	**Sustainability**	**7–11**
	A. Resources conservation (e.g., energy conservation, renewable and nonrenewable, material conservation, life-cycle analysis)	
	B. Resilience (e.g., infrastructure vulnerability, climate impacts, redundancy, reliability)	

4. Air **13–20**

A. Engineering applications (e.g., sampling and measurement methods, codes, standards, regulations, guidelines, chemistry, fate and transport, atmospheric science and meteorology, project management)
B. Pollution control (e.g., sources of pollution, emissions characterization, inventory, treatment and control technologies, pollution minimization and prevention)

5. Site Assessment and Remediation **13–20**

A. Site assessment (e.g., site investigation, risk assessment, fate and transport, project management)
B. Remediation (e.g., remedial alternatives, remedial technologies and management, feasibility studies, project management)

6. Environmental and Occupational Health **7–11**

A. Regulatory compliance (e.g., health, security, emergency plans, incident response procedures, codes, standards, regulations, guidelines)
B. Exposure assessments (e.g., environmental health, occupational health, exposure assessments, project management)