NCEES
advancing licensure for engineers and surveyors

Structural Bridges Depth—Lateral Forces (Wind/Seismic) Exam Specifications

Effective Beginning April 2027

- The exam is computer-based. It is closed book with electronic references. The NCEES *PE Structural Engineering Reference Handbook* is included in the exam along with the design standards shown on the last page of the specifications.
- Examinees have 6.5 hours to complete this exam, which contains 4 scenarios with a total of 48 questions. The 6.5-hour appointment time includes a tutorial and a scheduled break. The exam will contain scored and unscored (pretest) questions.
- The exam uses the US Customary System (USCS) of units.
- The exam includes alternative item types (AITs) as well as multiple-choice questions.
- The exam includes wind content and seismic content of Seismic Zones 3 and 4.
- All questions are equally weighted.
- Solutions to seismic design are based on force-based methodology following *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*.

	Number of Questions
1. General Analysis of Lateral Forces A. Conceptual Design and Project Planning B. Structural Loading and Analysis	**11–17**
2. Column Piers A. Conceptual Design and Project Planning Design B. Design C. Preparation of Details	**10–15**
3. Abutments, Pier Walls, and Other Pier Types A. Conceptual Design and Project Planning B. Design C. Preparation of Details	**10–15**
4. Foundations A. Conceptual Design and Project Planning B. Design C. Preparation of Details	**9–14**

NCEES
advancing licensure for engineers and surveyors

Structural Bridges Depth—Lateral Forces Design Standards

Effective Beginning April 2027

In addition to the NCEES *PE Structural Engineering Reference Handbook*, the following codes and standards will be supplied in the exam as searchable, electronic pdf files with links for easy navigation. Solutions to exam questions that reference a standard of practice are scored based on this list and the revision year shown. Solutions based on other standards will not receive credit. All questions use the US Customary System (USCS) of units.

NCEES does not sell design standards or printed copies of the NCEES handbook. The NCEES handbook is accessible from your MyNCEES account.

ABBREVIATION	DESIGN STANDARD TITLE
AASHTO	*AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*, 10th edition, American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials, Washington, DC.
AISC	*Steel Construction Manual*, 16th edition, American Institute of Steel Construction, Chicago, IL.