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# Codes and References Used to Prepare This Book

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This book is based on the NCEES *FE Reference Handbook* (*NCEES Handbook*), ninth edition (June 2016 revision). The other documents, codes, and standards that were used to prepare this book were the most current available at the time.

NCEES does not specifically tie the FE exam to any edition (version) of any code or standard. Rather than make the FE exam subject to the vagaries of such codes and standards published by the American Concrete Institute (ACI), the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), ASTM International (ASTM), the International Code Council (ICC), and so on, NCEES effectively writes its own “code,” the *NCEES Handbook*.

Most surely, every standard- or code-dependent concept (e.g., the design of rectangular, tied concrete columns) in the *NCEES Handbook* can be traced back to some section of some edition of a standard or code (e.g., ACI 318). So, it would be logical to conclude that you need to be familiar with everything (the limitations, surrounding sections, and commentary) in the code related to that concept. However, that does not seem to be the case. The *NCEES Handbook* is a code unto itself, and you won’t need to study the parent documents. Nor will you need to know anything pertaining to related, adjacent, similar, or parallel code concepts.

Therefore, although methods and content in the *NCEES Handbook* can be ultimately traced back to some edition (version) of a relevant code, you don’t need to know which. You don’t need to know whether that content is current, limited in intended application, or relevant. You only need to use the content.