

Engineering Fundamentals Exam

Electrical Engineering Standards



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Introduction

Engineering standards are the set of knowledge, abilities, and professional attributes necessary to practice the engineering profession [3-5]. Every Engineering Standard is linked to a number of indicators. These indicators can be viewed as instruments that measure the examinee fulfillment of the corresponding standard. In other words, a Standard is a broad statement about a specific topic, whereas, the Indicators are specific requirements extracted from the Standard and directly linked to the exam question.

Some of these first level standards are drawn from the completion of a Bachelor of Engineering degree from an accredited engineering college. An accredited engineering degree program usually has the breadth of understanding of a wide range of technologies and applications. It also usually has sufficient depth in at least one specific area of practice to develop competence in handling technically complex problems [6].

The knowledge part of the first level standards include, generally, knowledge of science and engineering fundamentals, in-depth technical competence in an engineering discipline, knowledge of theoretical and experimental techniques, knowledge of basic business and project management practices, and broad general knowledge.

The ability part of the first level standards include, generally, the ability to identify, formulate, and solve problems, ability to understand environmental and social issues, ability to deal with ambiguity and complex problems, ability to perform engineering design, and an ability to interpret and visualize data [3-5].

The professional Attributes part of the first level standards are the sets of skills often sought by employers for hiring engineers either fresh graduates or experienced. They are sometimes called “soft” or “general” skills. They include capacity for effective communication [7] with the engineering team and costumers, capacity for effective work within multidisciplinary and multicultural teams, capacity for lifelong learning and professional development, self-drive and motivation, creativity and innovation, leadership, and capacity to maintain a professional image in all circumstances [3-5].



Electrical Engineering Standards

The Engineering Standards for the Electrical Engineering Discipline are structured around nine core Topics:

1. Electrical circuits
2. Power systems
3. Electromagnetics
4. Control systems
5. Communications
6. Signal Processing
7. Electronics
8. Digital systems
9. Computer systems

Each Indicator is projected onto three Learning Levels (obtained by combining every two consecutive levels in the revised Bloom's taxonomy into one level)

1. Remembering and Understanding
2. Applying and Analyzing
3. Evaluating and Creating

Standards are coded EE-TJ where:

- EE denotes Electrical Engineering
- TJ denotes Topic Number J

Indicators are coded EE-TJ-K (where K denotes the Indicator number).

Example

Topic:	T1: Circuits
Standard:	EE-T1: Electrical engineers should possess the ability to identify electrical circuit components and write the relationships governing voltages and currents in simple circuits as well as employ theorems and equivalent relationships to solve and assess the performance of electrical circuits.
Indicator:	EE-T1-05: Express voltage-current relationships and perform node and loop analysis of electrical circuits
Learning Level:	Applying and Analyzing (AA)



T1: Circuits (16%)

EE-T1 Electrical engineers should possess the ability to identify electrical circuit components and write the relationships governing voltages and currents in simple circuits as well as employ theorems and equivalent relationships to solve and assess the performance of electrical circuits. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T1-Indicators

- EE-T1-01** Write equations, express and apply fundamental circuit theorems, including KCL, KVL, to simple electrical circuits
- EE-T1-02** Derive and employ series/parallel equivalent circuits to simplify electrical circuits
- EE-T1-03** Model and calculate impedance of various electrical elements and components
- EE-T1-04** Derive and apply transfer functions for electrical systems
- EE-T1-05** Express voltage-current relationships and perform node and loop analysis of electrical circuits
- EE-T1-06** Analyze electrical circuits using Thevenin / Norton theorems
- EE-T1-07** Apply 2-port theory to analyze and investigate performance of electrical circuits
- EE-T1-08** Use frequency/transient response to analyze and investigate electrical circuits
- EE-T1-09** Select and apply Laplace transforms to analyze electrical circuits
- EE-T1-10** Utilize frequency/transient response in the design of electrical circuits
- EE-T1-11** Apply resonance principles in the design of electrical circuits
- EE-T1-12** Conduct design and assess performance of passive Filters
- EE-T1-13** Demonstrate familiarity with the practical aspects and implications of resonance



T2: Power (14%)

EE-T2 Electrical engineers should be able to model and analyze 3-phase power systems as well as analyze and assess performance of basic electrical machines, transformers, and power electronic devices. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T2-Indicators

- EE-T2-01** Compute 3-phase voltage, current, and power quantities for electrical systems
- EE-T2-02** Model and calculate parameters of transmission lines
- EE-T2-03** Draw and compute phasor quantities representing electrical systems
- EE-T2-04** Perform delta-wye transformation in the analysis of three-phase power networks
- EE-T2-05** Evaluate and analyze power factor and investigate its impact on system performance
- EE-T2-06** Conduct performance analysis of electrical motors
- EE-T2-07** Analyze and investigate power electronics circuits and devices
- EE-T2-08** Analyze and assess performance of transformers
- EE-T2-09** Employ voltage regulation concepts in the design of power systems
- EE-T2-10** Apply optimal performance requirements in the design of electrical motors
- EE-T2-11** Apply optimal performance requirements in the design of transformers
- EE-T2-12** Recognize and distinguish various types of motors and demonstrate familiarity with their operation in practice
- EE-T2-13** Recognize different types of transformers and their functions in practical applications



T3: Electromagnetics (6%)

EE-T3 Electrical engineers should be able to model, analyze and assess performance of various electrostatic and magnetostatic components and devices as well as interpret and apply basic wave propagation principles. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T3-Indicators

- EE-T3-01** Model various electrostatics/magnetostatics components and derive the associated basic relationships
- EE-T3-02** Analyze and investigate electrostatics/magnetostatics systems using vector analysis
- EE-T3-03** Conduct electromagnetic analysis using wave propagation concepts
- EE-T3-04** Analyze performance of high frequency transmission lines
- EE-T3-05** Conduct design of high frequency transmission lines
- EE-T3-06** Demonstrate awareness and knowledge of wave propagation in real life communications applications



T4: Control Systems (10%)

EE-T4 Electrical engineers should possess the ability to model and analyze control systems, build block diagrams, design and assess performance of controllers as well as investigate the stability of various control systems. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T4-Indicators

- EE-T4-01** Interpret process flow and construct associated feed forward and feedback block diagrams
- EE-T4-02** Interpret and formulate basic concepts of stability of engineering systems
- EE-T4-03** Analyze performance and evaluate steady-state errors of control systems subjected to various input signals
- EE-T4-04** Apply root locus and Bode plots to analyze and investigate performance of control systems
- EE-T4-05** Analyze controller performance in regard to gain, PID parameters, and steady-state errors
- EE-T4-06** Apply design principles to optimize controller performance in regard to gain, PID parameters, and steady-state errors in control systems
- EE-T4-07** Explore and apply concepts of stability to design stable control systems
- EE-T4-08** Describe and explain usage and importance of stability in practical electrical engineering applications



T5: Communications (10%)

EE-T5 Electrical engineers should be able to model and analyze various communication components, including modulation/demodulation devices as well as interpret and apply multiplexing principles to design and assess performance of communication systems. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T5-Indicators

- EE-T5-01** Model and apply basic modulation/demodulation concepts, including AM, FM, and PCM
- EE-T5-02** Model and apply concepts of multiplexing in communication systems
- EE-T5-03** Employ design principles of computer networks, including OSI model
- EE-T5-04** Apply concepts of Pulse-Position Modulation (PPM), Phase-shift keying (PSK) and Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM) in the design of communication systems
- EE-T5-05** Demonstrate awareness of implementing basic modulation/demodulation concepts, including AM, FM, and PCM in real life applications



T6: Signal Processing (8%)

EE-T6 Electrical engineers should be able to apply various signal processing techniques such as analog/digital conversion algorithms as well as employ various signal processing methods in the design and performance assessment of electrical systems. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T6-Indicators

- EE-T6-01** Write and apply basic formulas and relationships of analog/digital conversion
- EE-T6-02** Apply Z-transforms in the analysis of electrical systems
- EE-T6-03** Apply Fourier transforms/Fourier series to analyze and process signals
- EE-T6-04** Analyze and investigate performance of communication systems using sampling theorem
- EE-T6-05** Apply Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) and Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) in processing signals



T7: Electronics (14%)

EE-T7 Electrical engineers should be able to model, analyze, and design various electronic components and devices, including discrete devices, operational amplifiers, differential amplifiers, active filters, etc. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T7-Indicators

- EE-T7-01** Model and apply basic solid-state fundamentals, including tunneling, diffusion/drift current, energy bands, doping bands, and p-n theory
- EE-T7-02** Model components and derive relationships governing active filters
- EE-T7-03** Analyze components and formulate relationships of discrete devices, including diodes, transistors, BJT, and CMOS
- EE-T7-04** Analyze and investigate performance of discrete devices and assess their performance
- EE-T7-05** Apply bias circuits in the analysis and investigation of electronic systems
- EE-T7-06** Analyze and assess performance of differential amplifiers
- EE-T7-07** Apply design concepts to optimize performance of operational amplifiers
- EE-T7-08** Design optimal performance active filters
- EE-T7-09** Explain practical applications of active filters and demonstrate familiarity with their operation in practice
- EE-T7-10** Demonstrate awareness of instrumentation aspects, including measurements, data acquisitions, and transducers, as well as explain their functions in practice



T8: Digital Systems (12%)

EE-T8 Electrical engineers should possess the ability to model, analyze, and apply digital system components and devices, including counters, flip-flops, programmable logic devices and gate arrays. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T8-Indicators

- EE-T8-01** Formulate and apply numbering systems
- EE-T8-02** Model and apply counters
- EE-T8-03** Employ Boolean logic in the analysis of digital systems
- EE-T8-04** Analyze and investigate performance of digital systems using state tables/diagrams
- EE-T8-05** Apply logic minimization using SOP, POS, and Karnaugh maps in the analysis and investigation of digital systems
- EE-T8-06** Apply timing diagrams to analyze digital systems
- EE-T8-07** Apply and perform data path/control system design
- EE-T8-08** Design and assess performance of flip-flops
- EE-T8-09** Apply design principles to build programmable logic devices and gate arrays
- EE-T8-10** Design and assess performance of logic gates and circuits
- EE-T8-11** Recognize and distinguish various types of programmable logic devices and gate arrays and demonstrate familiarity with their operation in real life applications



T9: Computer Systems (10%)

EE-T9 Electrical engineers should have the ability to recognize modern computer system components as well as model, investigate, and design computer system related components, including microprocessors, memory, etc. They should also have the ability to apply modern software design methods and optimize performance for computer systems. The following *Indicators* are addressed in the *Test Questions* on this *Topic Area*:

T9-Indicators

- EE-T9-01** Describe and model components of computer systems architecture, including pipelining, and cache memory
- EE-T9-02** Model and derive basic relationships governing microprocessors
- EE-T9-03** Analyze interfacing mechanisms in computer systems
- EE-T9-04** Apply memory technology in the analysis of computer systems
- EE-T9-05** Analyze and assess performance of microprocessors
- EE-T9-06** Apply design principles to optimize performance of microprocessors
- EE-T9-07** Use memory technology and systems in the design of computer systems
- EE-T9-08** Apply software design methods (structured, top-down, bottom-up, object-oriented design) to optimize performance for computer systems
- EE-T9-09** Describe and explain usage and importance of microprocessors in practice
- EE-T9-10** Demonstrate knowledge and awareness of software implementation (structured programming, algorithms, data structures) techniques in real life applications



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