

Geotechnical Engineer Examination Reference List

The following is a list of recommended references for the Geotechnical Engineer examination. References included in this list should be considered suggested material only.

1. **An Introduction to Geotechnical Engineering, 2nd Edition**; Robert D. Holtz et al. (2010)
2. **Annual book of ASTM Standards, Section 4 – Construction, Volume 04.08 and 0.09: Soil and Rock (I)** (Current edition)
3. **California Building Code, Volume II** (2022)
4. **Designing with Geosynthetics, 6th Edition**; Robert M. Koerner (2012)
5. **Seepage Analysis and Control for Dams**; Engineer Manual No. 1110-2-1901
http://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Publications/EngineerManuals/EM_1110-2-1901.pdf
6. **Foundation Analysis and Design, 5th Edition**; Joseph E. Bowles (1995)
7. **Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures** (ASCE/SEI 7-16)
8. **Foundation Design Principles and Practices, 3rd Edition**; Donald P. Coduto et al. (2015)
9. **Foundation Engineering Handbook, 2nd Edition**; Hsai-Yang Fang (Editor); Van Nostrand Reinhold (1991)
10. **Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, 2nd Edition**; Steven L. Kramer and Jonathan P. Stewart (2025)
11. **Geotechnical Engineering Principles and Practices, 2nd Edition**; Donald P. Coduto et al. (2010)
12. **Guidelines for Evaluating and Mitigating Seismic Hazards in California**; California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Publication 117A (2008)
https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/documents/publications/special-publications/SP_117a.pdf
13. **Principles of Foundation Engineering, 10th Edition**; Braja M. Das (2023)
14. **Professional Engineers' Act and Board Rules**; Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (2025) https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/pe_act.pdf
15. **Soil Liquefaction During Earthquakes**; I.M. Idriss and R.W. Boulanger, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (2008)
16. **Recommended Procedures for Implementation of DMG Special Publication 117: Guidelines for Analyzing and Mitigating Liquefaction Hazards in California**; Southern California Earthquake Center; USC (March 1999)
17. **Seepage, Drainage, and Flow Nets, 3rd Edition**; Harry R. Cedergren; John Wiley and Sons (1989)
18. **Civil Engineering Reference Manual for the PE Exam, 16th Edition**; Michael R. Lindeburg; Professional Publications (2018)
19. **Soil Mechanics, DM 7.1**; Unified Facilities Criteria, UFC 3-220-10 (2022)
https://www.wbdg.org/FFC/DOD/UFC/ufc_3_220_10_2022.pdf
20. **Foundations and Earth Structures, DM 7.2**; Unified Facilities Criteria, UFC 3-220-20 (2025)
https://www.wbdg.org/FFC/DOD/UFC/ufc_3_220_20_2025.pdf
21. **Soil Dynamics and Special Design Aspects, MIL-HDBK-1007/3 (Superseding NAVFAC DM 7.3)**; Department of Defense (1997) https://web.mst.edu/~rogersda/umrcourses/ge441/dm7_03.pdf
22. **Soil Mechanics in Engineering Practice, 3rd Edition**; Karl Terzaghi, Ralph B. Peck and Gholamreza Mesri (1996)
23. **California Geological Survey-Note 48** (November 2022)
<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/Documents/Publications/CGS-Notes/CGS-Note-48-a11y.pdf>

24. **Evaluation of Settlements in Sands due to Earthquake Shaking**; K. Tokimatsu and H. B. Seed; ASCE Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, Vol. 113, No. 8, (August 1987)
25. **Caltrans Standard Specifications**, (2024 Edition)
https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/2024_stdspecs-a11y.pdf
26. **Greenbook: Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction** (2024)
27. **Caltrans Corrosion Guidelines** (2021 Edition)
<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/engineering/documents/mets/corrosion-guidelines-a11y.pdf>
28. **Caltrans Highway Design Manual** (2023 Edition)
<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/manual-highway-design-manual-hdm>