

Departmental Calculator Policy Statement

Revision: 8/10/12

The Department of Chemical Engineering employs a calculator policy for CHEN2AA0 and CHEN3AA0. This same policy may be employed by any faculty member in any course and will be specifically mentioned in the course syllabus and discussed at the beginning of the term if it is in effect. On homework and for other non-exam activities, students may employ any calculators desired.

Only models of calculators approved by NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying) are permitted to be employed during examinations and quizzes[†]. This is consistent with the calculator policy employed in professional licensing (Fundamentals Exam “FE” and Professional Exam “PE”). The approved calculators are inexpensive and widely available. Sources include bookstores, discount stores, online sources, etc.

Casio: All fx-115 models. Any Casio calculator must contain fx-115 in its model name. Examples of acceptable Casio fx-115 models include (but are not limited to)

- fx-115 MS
- fx-115 MS Plus
- fx-115 MS SR
- fx-115 ES

Hewlett Packard: The HP 33s and HP 35s models, but no others.

Texas Instruments: All TI-30X and TI-36X models. Any Texas Instruments calculator must contain either TI-30X or TI-36X in its model name. Examples of acceptable TI-30X and TI-36X models include (but are not limited to)

- TI-30Xa
- TI-30Xa SOLAR
- TI-30Xa SE
- TI-30XS Multiview
- TI-30X IIB
- TI-30X IIS
- TI-36X II
- TI-36X SOLAR
- TI-36X Pro

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- * This list is updated annually so that the availability and features are current.
- + If you currently own a calculator with equivalent or lesser capabilities you may apply for a waiver from the Undergraduate Program Chair (please bring your calculator to Dr. Placek, Ross 228 for inspection). If approved, you will be issued a signed waiver which you must keep with the calculator. You will NOT be permitted to use an equivalent calculator without the waiver statement. *Please be aware, waiver statements are not valid when taking the FE and PE exams.*

2. What if a calculator not shown on the approved list has similar capabilities as those on the list or is in the same series as those on the list?

Even if the model you have is similar to those on the NCEES-approved list, it may not be used during examinations unless you have a signed waiver. Use of any other calculator will be considered an act of academic dishonesty.

3. Why does the department have a calculator policy? Why can't I bring any kind of calculator I want to?

The Department of Chemical Engineering reserves the right to take those measures necessary to protect the integrity of the exam process and promote academic honesty. This includes, for example, restricting cell phones, certain calculators, and recording devices; controlling access into and out of the exam site; and monitoring activity in and around the exam room.

4. Other related issues:

During an exam, the following devices and items cannot be accessible or employed during the examination. In particular, cell phones and other such devices must be turned off and put away (backpack, etc). You may not bring out such devices to “turn them off” once an exam begins.

- Any device having a QWERTY keypad arrangement similar to a typewriter or keyboard is prohibited.
- Devices with communication capabilities are prohibited. These include but are not limited to cameras; smart phones; cell phones; desktop, hand-held, laptop, and palmtop computers; databanks; data collectors; organizers; pagers or beepers; PDAs; radios; headsets; tape players; portable fax machines; calculator watches; reproduction equipment; electronic dictionaries; electronic translators; and recorders.
- Note: Smart phones and cell phones may NOT be used as “time pieces”. If you do not own a watch, you should obtain one. Smart phones and cell phones may NOT be used as “calculators”.

These limitations and policies are not intended to supersede any exemptions granted to students under the American's With Disabilities Act.

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