

CEA BODY OF KNOWLEDGE AND STUDY GUIDE Preparation for the CEA Certification Exam



The CEA Certification Exam is a four-hour open book exam. The examination questions are based on the Body of Knowledge listed below. Because of the diversity and background and experience of Energy Auditors, the examination has 12 different subject sections, all of which are included in the exam. You must bring a hand-held calculator to the exam as the CEA exam does not allow computers, tablets, or cell phones to be used during the test.

It is highly recommended that you review the complete Study Guide and answer the 20 Exam Review questions included in the Study Guide to determine your readiness for the exam.

The CEA Examination contains the following subjects:

Body of Knowledge		Percent of Exam
1	Developing an Energy Audit Strategy & Plan	9% - 13%
2	Energy Use Analysis	7% - 11%
3	Data Collection & Analysis	8% - 12%
4	Economic Analysis	7% - 11%
5	Lighting Systems	6% - 8%
6	Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Systems	12% - 18%
7	Domestic Hot Water Systems	5% - 7%
8	Motors & Drives & Compressed Air Systems	8% - 12%
9	Building Envelope	6% - 8%
10	BAS, PAS and EMCS	6% - 8%
11	Alternative Generation & Storage	4% - 6%
12	Transport	3% - 5%

CERTIFIED ENERGY AUDITOR® (CEA®) EXAM

The following is a list of the subjects for the CEA exam. Each subject covers several topics. Following the list of topics are suggested references with chapter numbers. The primary references are the [Handbook of Energy Audits](#), 9th Edition, by Albert Thumann, Terry Niehus, and William J. Younger, the [Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook](#), 3rd Edition by Steve Doty, [Energy Management Handbook](#), 9th Edition by Stephen Roosa, Steve Doty and Wayne C. Turner and the [Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook](#), 2021.

The exam will: be open book, four hours, and have 120 multiple choice questions to answer. Of the 120 questions, 100 are scored and 20 randomly located questions are trial questions being prepared for possible use on future exams. The 20 trial questions do not count toward the examinee's score. The trial questions are randomly located and are not identified. Therefore, all 120 questions should be answered. There are 12 sections listed below from which questions mainly are drawn.

BODY OF KNOWLEDGE: STUDY GUIDE TOPICS & REFERENCES

1 Developing an Energy Audit Strategy & Plan

- 101 Plan an energy audit
- 102 Define required audit procedures
- 103 Define the project team
- 104 Determine appropriate audit level
- 105 Define pre-audit tasks
- 106 Define data & instrumentation required for energy analysis
- 107 Communicate procedures and data gathering
- 108 Identify operations and maintenance team and create pre-audit O&M interview questions
- 109 Define audit report format and requirements
- 110 Draft audit report / final audit report
- 111 Conduct audit follow-up
- 112 Support ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems
- 113 Understand industry standards (ASHRAE 211, ISO 50002)
- 114 Awareness of code, legal, industry-specific energy requirements

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapters 2 and 3

REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapter 1

REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 1

2 Energy Use Analysis

- 201 Define required energy usage & other information
- 202 Review rate classifications
- 203 Establish utility / costs baseline
- 204 Establish utility / energy usage baseline
- 205 Establish relevant variables, regression analysis, energy performance indicators
- 206 Analyze Energy Use Graphs
- 207 Facility benchmarking, targets, EUI, ECI, load factor & savings potential
- 208 Analyze & breakdown energy end use

- 209 Utilize balance point temperature
- 210 Perform analysis of fleet information

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 4 and 23
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapters 2 and 3
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapters 1 and 6
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 2

3 Data Collection & Analysis

- 301 Define pre-site data collection
- 302 Collect pre-site data
- 303 Define on-site data collection
- 304 Collect on-site data
- 305 Determine EEMs to be evaluated/considered
- 306 Account for interactive effects of measures
- 307 Understand energy modelling methods (Ordinary Least Square = regression)

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 27
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapters 2 and 4
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapter 6
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 3

4 Economic Analysis

- 401 Review client financial decision-making criteria (Investment projects, The Need for Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA), Capital Investment Characteristics)
- 402 Costing both O&M and capital EEMs
- 403 Understand financial calculations and results (Simple Payback Period (SPP), Net Present Value (NPV), Internal Rate of Return (IRR), Life Cycle Cost (LCC), Free Cash Flow (FCF), Saving to Investment Ratio (SIR) – Benefit cost Ratio (BCR), Analysis of projects with different life spans: Annual Value (AV), Replacement Chain Approach (RCA), Equivalent Annual Annuity (EAA)
- 404 Conduct economic analysis of transport options
- 405 Conduct What-if Analysis (Break-even Analysis, Sensitivity Analysis, Scenario Analysis)
- 406 Perform detailed financial analysis
- 407 Present results of analysis (Cash Flow Diagram, Revenues and Costs, Indirect Effects on Incremental Earnings)

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 4
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapters 2 and 4
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 4

5 Lighting Systems

- 501 Determine efficiency/efficacy of light source
- 502 Calculate replacement period given lamp lumen depreciation
- 503 Determine lamp & fixture types and characteristics
- 504 Evaluate lamp types & characteristics for replacement
- 505 Audit lighting control system
- 506 Calculate Lighting power density

- 507 Evaluate illumination levels
- 508 Evaluate daylight harvesting opportunities
- 509 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 510 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
- 511 Calculate energy savings

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 13
 REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapter 7
 REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapter 16
 REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 5

6 Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Systems

HVAC

- 601 Evaluate and identify HVAC terminal units
- 602 Audit & determine types of HVAC systems
- 603 Determine existing HVAC efficiencies
- 604 Identify existing control strategies including locations of thermostats, scheduling of loads and occupants
- 605 Identify HVAC system components
- 606 Audit & determine types of chillers: electric, gas driven, absorbers
- 607 Identify piping arrangements for chilled water and or refrigerant systems
- 608 Audit & determine types of heat pump, chillers, or split system units
- 609 Examine filter performance and maintenance
- 610 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 611 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
- 612 Calculate energy savings

Heating Systems

- 613 Audit & determine types of boilers: fire tube, water tube, cast iron & burners (atmospheric, power burners, modulating ...)
- 614 Audit & determine types of furnaces: electric, gas, pulse, condensing
- 615 Determine existing boiler efficiencies
- 616 Evaluate distribution systems, (ductwork and/or piping), for insulation, pressure drop, leaks and steam traps
- 617 Identify terminal units
- 618 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 619 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
- 620 Calculate energy savings

Ventilation Systems

- 621 Audit & determine types of ventilation systems
- 622 Examine filters types classification and energy impacts
- 623 Determine ventilation requirements (code related)
- 624 Evaluate ventilation control options
- 625 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 626 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities

627 Calculate energy savings

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 10
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapter 8 and 9
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapter 11 and 14
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 6

7 Domestic Hot Water Systems

- 701 Audit & determine types of hot water systems
- 702 Calculate efficiencies
- 703 Identify temperature set points
- 704 Evaluate circulating systems
- 705 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 706 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
- 707 Calculate energy savings

Water Conservation

- 708 Evaluate irrigation and landscaping installation and efficiency
- 709 Audit water use
- 710 Identify water efficiency measures
- 711 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
- 712 Calculate water savings

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapters 5 and 21
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapter 13
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapters 18 and 22
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 7

8 Motors and Drives & Compressed Air Systems

Motors and Drives

- 801 Understand electrical fundamentals (inductive & resistive loads, power factor)
- 802 Audit & determine types and sizes of motors
- 803 Evaluate appropriate types of motors
- 804 Determine operating characteristics of motors and drives
- 805 Calculate efficiencies of motors and drives
- 806 Review potential energy savings of variable frequency drives
- 807 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 808 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
- 809 Calculate energy savings

Compressed Air Systems

- 810 Analyze existing conditions for improvement opportunities
- 811 Identify supply (Compressor types, operation, control, application, heat recovery)
- 812 Evaluate treatment & distribution (condensate, drying, filtering, storage, distribution)
- 813 Characterize demand (leaks, inappropriate use, artificial demand)
- 814 Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
- 815 Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities

816 Calculate energy savings

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapters 11 and 22
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapters 7 and 10
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapter 12 and 14
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 8

9	Building Envelope
901	Determine R and U values
902	Evaluate efficiency of walls, roofs, windows
903	Evaluate replacement with alternative glass types
904	Audit building envelope infiltration
905	Determine thermal weight
906	Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
907	Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
908	Understand different energy estimating and modelling methods
909	Calculate energy savings

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 9
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapter 6
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapter 17
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 9

10	Building Automation Systems, Process Automation Systems, & Energy Management and Control Systems
1001	Understand energy saving control strategies
1002	Identify controls issues from EMS evaluation
1003	Understand which points exist and which should be added for particular EEMs
1004	Evaluate operator understanding and usage of systems
1005	Understand how to read trend logs and identify opportunities
1006	Understand accuracy of sensors and how to identify and handle questionable data before use
1007	Identify energy efficiency measures (EEMs)
1008	Evaluate O&M characteristics and opportunities
1009	Calculate energy savings

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 12
REF: Thumann, Niehus, and Younger, **Handbook of Energy Audits**, Chapter 2
REF: Doty, **Commercial Energy Auditing Reference Handbook**, Chapter 7
REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 10

11	Alternative Generation & Storage
1101	Know the different alternative energy technologies
1102	Understand the different renewable and storage energy technologies, sites, and their costs
1103	Determine technical and economic implications of integrating renewable and energy storage
1104	Identify subsidies and incentives associated with alt generation or energy storage

- 1105 Evaluate opportunities (first cut potential) in energy storage, thermal and electrical storage, and demand response
- 1106 Evaluate opportunities (first cut potential) for use of alternative generation, cogeneration, and renewable energy source

REF: Roosa, Doty and Turner, **Energy Management Handbook**, Chapter 16 and 19

REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 11

12 Transport

- 1201 Understand types/modes of transport (road, rail, ship, air), public transport vs. private transport
- 1202 Understand type of vehicles, transport sectors - options available and fuel costs (Primarily Road)
- 1203 Understand vehicle operation, impacts on fuel consumption, training & awareness (All modes)
- 1204 Understand maintenance & cost of vehicle maintenance - for different fuels (Road transport only)
- 1205 Understand planning and logistics, route management, fleet management, getting most benefit from the journey
- 1206 Evaluate data collection, energy performance Indicators, benchmarking for transport
- 1207 Utilize energy estimating and modelling methods, vehicle specification data vs. real life figures
- 1208 Understand vehicle improvements opportunities (under vehicle dampers, remove roof racks etc.)
- 1209 Understand information management, vehicle monitoring systems (The M&T of transport), monitoring driver performance

REF: **Certified Energy Auditor Training Workbook**, Section 12

REVIEW QUESTIONS (Sample Only)

Some of these review questions may be more complex or difficult than the exam but will be good practice problems.

- Which of the following is **not** correct?
 - 1 kWh = 3,600 kJ
 - 1 litre diesel = 39,000 kJ
 - 1 litre gasoline = 35,000 kJ
 - 1 cubic meter natural gas = 3,700 kJ
- A factory has a kWh usage in August of 550,000 and a peak demand of 3,000 kW. Calculate the August energy and demand charges if the utility costs for this rate class are \$0.06/kWh and \$15/kW-month for demand.
 - \$33,000
 - \$60,000
 - \$78,000
 - \$45,000
- Lighting efficacy is measured in lumens per watt.
 - True
 - False
- A chiller has a COP of 5.02. What is the full load kW if this unit has a thermal load of 703.37 kW?
 - 286
 - 140
 - 900
 - 75
- An office building replaced 20W CFLs with 14W LEDs. The lights are on 3,000 hrs/yr. The average electricity cost is \$0.10/kWh. The cost of each LED lamp is \$12. Calculate the simple payback.
 - 6.67 years
 - 8.67 years
 - 0.15 years
 - 4.25 years
- A customer wants to install an occupancy sensor in the break room. A data logger has shown that, on average, the lights can be turned off 5 hrs/week. The lights in this room have a combined wattage of 3 kW. Electricity is \$0.09/kWh and an occupancy sensor cost \$150 installed. What is the simple payback?
 - 0.47 years
 - 3.63 years
 - 0.90 years
 - 2.14 years

7. A commercial customer has set a peak demand of 100 kW and has used 45,500 kWh during the 30-day billing period month of April. Calculate the load factor for the April billing period.
- (A) 0.63
 - (B) 0.42
 - (C) 0.81
 - (D) 1.63
8. The terms load factor and power factor can be used interchangeably.
- (A) True
 - (B) False
9. A three-phase AC induction motor draws 13 amps at 240 volts. The power factor is 0.9. Determine the kW.
- (A) 5.54
 - (B) 5.16
 - (C) 4.86
 - (D) 6.32
10. A hospital uses 1,520,000 litres of water per year just for showers. The showers have recently been replaced from an old style showerheads that used 17.1 litres per minute with showerheads that meet the July 2018 WaterSense specification. What is the annual amount of water (in litres) that will be saved by replacing these showerheads with the WaterSense showerheads (assuming the same number of showers will be taken each year)?
- (A) 285,770 litres per year
 - (B) 385,580 litres per year
 - (C) 675,560 litres per year
 - (D) 844,440 litres per year
11. An office building has the following:
- Existing: 100 T-12 fixtures @ 164 watt/fixture
 - Proposed: 100 T-8 fixtures @ 106 watts/fixture
 - 4,000 hrs/yr operation
 - Utility costs: \$.10/kWh and \$13/kW-month
 - Installation cost: \$100/fixture
- Determine the simple payback.
- (A) 0.32 years
 - (B) 1.86 years
 - (C) 3.10 years
 - (D) 2.46 years

12. A company has a 300 kW natural gas boiler with an efficiency of 70%. They want to replace it with a 90% efficient condensing boiler. The average fuel usage at the meter for the last five heating seasons was 2,111 GJ. If natural gas costs 0.035 €/kWh, calculate the annual savings per heating season for switching to a condensing boiler.
- (A) 1,670 €
(B) 2,660 €
(C) 4,170 €
(D) 4,560 €
13. A two-pole pair three-phase AC induction motor is installed in Madrid. What is the synchronous speed of this motor?
- (A) 1,500 RPM
(B) 1,800 RPM
(C) 3,000 RPM
(D) 3,600 RPM
14. A 15 kW standard fan motor runs 8,760 hours per year has an efficiency of 86.5%. What will the simple payback be for replacing this motor with a 15 kW premium one with an efficiency of 93.5%? The premium motor cost \$725 installed. The utility charges are \$0.05/kWh and \$14.00/kW-month. Motor loading is 0.7.
- (A) 0.75 years
(B) 2.65 years
(C) 1.32 years
(D) 3.33 years
15. How many kW of cooling are supplied by a chiller with a 10°C chilled water supply temperature, a 15°C chilled water return temperature with a chilled water flow rate of 15 litres per second?
- (A) 116 kW
(B) 315 kW
(C) 488 kW
(D) 562 kW
16. A building wall is made up of the following materials:
- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| Concrete block | R = 2.2 |
| Brick façade | R = 3.1 |
| Drywall | U = 0.5 |
- What is the total R value of this wall?
- (A) 5.8
(B) 7.3
(C) 6.4
(D) 1.9

17. True motor slip is defined as:
- (A) Pulley (sheave) displacement
 - (B) Percentage of winding drift
 - (C) The difference between the synchronous speed and actual speed
 - (D) The difference between nominal efficiency and actual efficiency
18. An energy efficient chiller has a cooling COP of 7.8. What is the equivalent cooling EER?
- (A) 2.2 kJ/Wh
 - (B) 3.2 kJ/Wh
 - (C) 4.2 kJ/Wh
 - (D) 28.1 kJ/Wh
19. A 14 kW heat pump with a SEER of 14 kJ/Wh and an HSPF of 8.0 kJ/Wh operates 3,100 full load hours/yr in the cooling mode and 1,200 hours/yr in the heating mode. What are the annual operating cost if the electricity costs \$0.15/kWh?
- (A) \$2,808/yr
 - (B) \$3,200/yr
 - (C) \$4,878/yr
 - (D) \$1,320/yr
20. Motor slip is proportional to loading.
- (A) True
 - (B) False

Answer Key:

- 1- D
- 2- C
- 3- A
- 4- B
- 5- A
- 6- D
- 7- A
- 8- B
- 9- C
- 10- D
- 11- C
- 12- D
- 13- A
- 14- C
- 15- B
- 16- B
- 17- C
- 18- D
- 19- A
- 20- A

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