8-Week ARE® 5.0 Prep Schedule

Study Time: 32 Hours/Week | 8 Weeks

AMBER BOOK®

Prepare to be Licensed

Use our week-by-week study plan with tips to aid long-term recall from cognitive science researcher and "How We Learn: The Surprising Truth About When, Where, and Why It Happens" author, Benedict Carey.

Additional steps to reinforce long-term recall.

Weeks

1 Orientation, Systems, & Construction

Systems: All of it | **Construction:** Roofs

When you get tired of the screen, test your memory on the last day's material. The whole process should take about 3 minutes.

2 Construction, Site, & BQs

Construction: Wood, Steel, Concrete, Masonry, Enclosures, Structures | **Site:** All of it
Systems, Construction, & Site Bonus Questions: All of it

3 minutes each day testing your memory on the topics you've studied yesterday & last week.

3 Codes, Pro Practice & BQs

Codes: All of it | **Codes Bonus Questions:** All of it
Pro Practice: All of it
Pro Practice Bonus Questions: All of it

3 minutes each day testing your memory on the topics you've studied yesterday & last week.

4 Catch Up (or Work Ahead on Flashcards)

Use this week to catch up if you've fallen behind. Skip ahead to Week 5 to start next week's flashcards early.

3 minutes each day testing your memory on the topics you've studied yesterday & last week.

5 Flashcards

Flashcards: PPD, PDD, PA | Flashcard weeks can be demanding. Aim for 3.5 minutes per card to finish all decks. Check progress weekly—if on track, schedule all exams for one month out (see Week 9). To avoid forgetting Week 1 material and manage content overlap, take all exams at once. If six in a week feels too much, spread them over two or three weeks for extra review time.

Treat the flashcards as you would any other course material. Spend 3 minutes each day testing your memory on the topics you studied yesterday, last week, **& last month**.

6 Flashcards

Flashcards: PcM, PjM, CE. Aim to spend an average of 4 minutes per flashcard to complete all three decks this week.

3 minutes each day testing your memory on the topics you studied yesterday, last week, & last month.

7 Amber Book Practice Exams & Reviews

Amber Book Practice Exams: All of it. Review any unclear content and each exam afterward, using flashcards and feedback for deeper review. Use the Video Index to find relevant video lessons to strengthen your grasp of core concepts.

Treat these as a dress rehearsal. Take them in one sitting in a test-like environment.

8 NCARB Practice Exams & Reviews

NCARB Practice Exams: All of it – Review any content you do not fully understand.

9+ Take All Remaining Exams

Review the "Amber Book Essential Course Notes" the night before each exam and go into the testing center like you own it. Reschedule any exams that you did not pass for the earliest possible re-take date (possible exception: if your scaled score is below 490 or you have multiple content areas scored below 55%. If this is the case, you might need to adjust your strategy. If you'd like help with this, email us at info@amberbook.com and attach a copy of your score report).