

AACOG Block 3 Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. What provides consistency and fairness in scoring bids in a solicitation evaluation rubric?**
 - A. Random Selection of Winners**
 - B. Defined Scoring Method**
 - C. Personal Preference of Evaluator**
 - D. Lack of Criteria**

- 2. Which statement best describes the phenomenon known as frozen fright?**
 - A. A freezing response characterized by shock and numbness**
 - B. A proactive coping strategy**
 - C. A long-term memory loss**
 - D. A spontaneous recovery**

- 3. Which statement about trauma and regression is supported by the material?**
 - A. Trauma can be so overwhelming that it causes a person to regress to childhood, mentally and physically.**
 - B. Regression only occurs in childhood.**
 - C. Trauma never leads to changes in behavior.**
 - D. Regression is a sign of recovery.**

- 4. Which internal control helps prevent fraud in public procurement by ensuring no single individual handles all phases of a transaction?**
 - A. Separation of Duties**
 - B. Excessive approvals**
 - C. Single-person Processing**
 - D. Minimal documentation**

- 5. Stage 2 involves a cataclysm of emotions. Which set best represents this stage?**
 - A. Anger/rage, fear/terror, grief/sorrow, confusion/frustration, guilt, violation and shame/humiliation**
 - B. Relief, contentment, serenity, balance**
 - C. Disorientation, nausea, dizziness**
 - D. Focus, determination, ambition**

- 6. In the grants management lifecycle, which phase typically follows the reporting phase?**
- A. Award**
 - B. Closeout**
 - C. Monitoring**
 - D. Application**
- 7. Which symptoms characterize the psychological response stage 1?**
- A. Memory problems**
 - B. Shock, disbelief, denial**
 - C. Detachment, numbness**
 - D. Anger, fear, grief**
- 8. What is the purpose of an asset management program in local government?**
- A. To maximize asset purchases regardless of need.**
 - B. To outsource all assets to private vendors.**
 - C. To track, maintain, and optimize the lifecycle of fixed assets for value, safety, and reliability.**
 - D. To minimize maintenance to lower costs.**
- 9. What is the purpose of debt service funds in a local government's budget?**
- A. To accumulate resources to pay principal and interest on debt**
 - B. To fund capital projects**
 - C. To pay employee salaries**
 - D. To manage operating expenses**
- 10. Do Family Violence laws allow protection from asset forfeiture?**
- A. Yes**
 - B. No**
 - C. Only if there is a court order**
 - D. Only if the property is jointly owned**

Answers

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1. B
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. A
6. B
7. B
8. C
9. A
10. A

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Explanations

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1. What provides consistency and fairness in scoring bids in a solicitation evaluation rubric?

- A. Random Selection of Winners**
- B. Defined Scoring Method**
- C. Personal Preference of Evaluator**
- D. Lack of Criteria**

Consistency and fairness in scoring bids come from having a clearly defined scoring method in the evaluation rubric. When criteria, scales, and how much each criterion counts are documented and applied uniformly to every bid, evaluators rely on the same standards, making results transparent and repeatable. This approach reduces bias, ensures similar bids are judged against the same benchmarks, and supports defensible decisions. Randomly selecting winners ignores merit and can be unfair; relying on personal preference introduces bias and inconsistency; and lacking criteria leaves nothing to judge against, making scores arbitrary.

2. Which statement best describes the phenomenon known as frozen fright?

- A. A freezing response characterized by shock and numbness**
- B. A proactive coping strategy**
- C. A long-term memory loss**
- D. A spontaneous recovery**

The idea being tested is how a fear response called frozen fright fits within coping approaches. This phenomenon is best described as a proactive coping strategy because it involves intentionally pausing to observe the situation, conserve energy, and plan the next move in order to reduce risk or prepare a future action. It's about actively managing the threat rather than simply reacting instinctively. This differs from a pure freezing reflex, which is an automatic, involuntary shutdown often accompanied by shock and numbness. It also isn't about memory loss or a reappearance of a learned response after extinction, which are unrelated concepts to how someone handles fear through deliberate preparation and planning.

3. Which statement about trauma and regression is supported by the material?

- A. Trauma can be so overwhelming that it causes a person to regress to childhood, mentally and physically.**
- B. Regression only occurs in childhood.**
- C. Trauma never leads to changes in behavior.**
- D. Regression is a sign of recovery.**

When trauma is overwhelming, people may rely on earlier coping patterns and regress to earlier developmental states as a way to feel safe. This regression can show up in how they think and behave—in their thoughts, feelings, and in physical signs of needing comfort or care akin to childhood. So, trauma can lead someone to temporarily revert to childlike ways, mentally and physically, rather than progressing forward. That's why this statement fits best. The other options aren't consistent with how regression is understood: it isn't limited to childhood, trauma can and often does change behavior, and regression isn't a sign of recovery but a sign that coping is overwhelmed.

4. Which internal control helps prevent fraud in public procurement by ensuring no single individual handles all phases of a transaction?

A. Separation of Duties

B. Excessive approvals

C. Single-person Processing

D. Minimal documentation

Separating duties is an internal control that prevents fraud by dividing responsibilities so no one person handles every step of a transaction—from initiation and authorization to execution and recording. In public procurement, different people should be involved in tasks such as initiating a purchase, evaluating bids, approving contracts, signing agreements, and processing payments. When these phases are handled by separate individuals, there's a built-in checks-and-balances system: one person cannot single-handedly initiate, approve, and finalize a procurement, making it much harder to commit and conceal fraud. This arrangement also creates clearer accountability and helps auditors trace actions through an independent trail. While excessive approvals or minimal documentation have their own downsides, they don't inherently provide the same protection against opportunistic or collusive fraud as distributing duties does.

5. Stage 2 involves a cataclysm of emotions. Which set best represents this stage?

A. Anger/rage, fear/terror, grief/sorrow, confusion/frustration, guilt, violation and shame/humiliation

B. Relief, contentment, serenity, balance

C. Disorientation, nausea, dizziness

D. Focus, determination, ambition

Stage 2 is an emotional storm after the initial shock of loss, when a cascade of intense feelings erupts. Anger and rage, fear or terror, grief or sorrow, confusion and frustration, guilt, and even feelings of violation and shame often surge together as a person struggles to absorb what has happened and what it means for their life. This wide range and depth of emotion reflect the upheaval inside as the reality sets in and the person starts to process, search for meaning, and figure out how to cope. The other sets don't fit as well because they describe calmer, physical, or forward-moving states—relief or serenity, disorientation and physical symptoms, or focus and ambition—that come later or represent a different kind of response than the turbulent emotional surge characteristic of this stage.

6. In the grants management lifecycle, which phase typically follows the reporting phase?

- A. Award
- B. Closeout**
- C. Monitoring
- D. Application

In grants management, reporting documents what was done, what was achieved, and how funds were used during the period of performance. After those reporting obligations are satisfied and the project's outcomes and expenditures have been reviewed, the cycle moves into closeout. Closeout is the formal wrap-up: finalizing financials, reconciling expenditures, submitting any remaining deliverables, ensuring all terms were met, and officially closing the grant in the records. The other phases occur earlier—application and award before work starts, and monitoring during implementation to check ongoing compliance—whereas closeout comes after reporting as the final administrative step.

7. Which symptoms characterize the psychological response stage 1?

- A. Memory problems
- B. Shock, disbelief, denial**
- C. Detachment, numbness
- D. Anger, fear, grief

Stage 1 in the psychological response to trauma is dominated by shock, disbelief, and often denial. This immediate reaction acts as a protective shield, helping the person gently begin to absorb the reality of what happened. Denial may pop up as a quick way to push back the full impact while the mind starts to cope. While numbness or detachment can occur early, they tend to follow the initial surge of shock as the person processes the experience. Memory problems can happen with acute stress, but they aren't the defining feature of this first phase. Anger, fear, and grief usually emerge as processing continues beyond the initial moment.

8. What is the purpose of an asset management program in local government?

- A. To maximize asset purchases regardless of need.
- B. To outsource all assets to private vendors.
- C. To track, maintain, and optimize the lifecycle of fixed assets for value, safety, and reliability.**
- D. To minimize maintenance to lower costs.

Asset management is about knowing what fixed assets exist, how they're performing, and planning their use over time to protect value, ensure safety, and keep public services reliable. In a local government context, this means tracking inventories, assessing condition, scheduling preventive maintenance, and planning replacements so that assets remain functional and cost-effective over their lifecycles. By focusing on maintenance and strategic lifecycle decisions, the program helps optimize asset value, minimize risk, and support stable budgeting and service delivery. The other options miss the essential balance: purchases should meet need rather than be maximized; outsourcing is not the core purpose of asset management; and maintenance should be proactive rather than minimized to cut costs.

9. What is the purpose of debt service funds in a local government's budget?

- A. To accumulate resources to pay principal and interest on debt**
- B. To fund capital projects**
- C. To pay employee salaries**
- D. To manage operating expenses**

Debt service funds are dedicated to ensuring there are resources available to meet debt obligations. They accumulate money—often from tax revenues, transfers, or restricted grants—so that when principal and interest payments on long-term debt come due, there are funds specifically set aside to cover them. This separation keeps debt payments distinct from day-to-day operating costs and provides a clear, dedicated source for repaying bondholders. They aren't used to finance new capital projects, which would be handled by a capital projects fund, and they aren't used for salaries or routine operating expenses, which come from the government's operating funds.

10. Do Family Violence laws allow protection from asset forfeiture?

- A. Yes**
- B. No**
- C. Only if there is a court order**
- D. Only if the property is jointly owned**

Family Violence laws include protections that keep a victim from losing needed property because of the crime or the pursuit of the offender. Asset forfeiture targets property tied to criminal activity, but FV protections recognize that taking away a survivor's car, home, or other essentials can endanger safety and stability. So these laws provide a safeguard that allows the victim's property to be exempt or shielded from forfeiture, focusing on preventing additional harm to the person seeking safety. This protection isn't strictly dependent on a court order—the protections are built into the FV framework to prevent automatic loss of essential assets. It also isn't about whether the property is jointly owned; the aim is to preserve the victim's ability to live securely, regardless of ownership configuration, while forfeiture can still proceed against assets that belong to the offender or are clearly linked to the crime.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://aacogblock3.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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