

Associate Contractors License 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. Which document describes the business procedures for a specific project and changes the initial procedures?**
 - A. Project Budget Plan**
 - B. Project Timeline**
 - C. Supplementary Conditions**
 - D. Project Scope Document**

- 2. If the plumbing plans had the abbreviation DWV on them, what does the DWV mean?**
 - A. Drain Water Valve**
 - B. Drain Waste and Vent**
 - C. Direct Waste Vent**
 - D. Drainage Water Vessel**

- 3. What characteristic is important when selecting type M masonry cement?**
 - A. Low compressive strength**
 - B. High bond strength**
 - C. Rapid curing time**
 - D. Low water retention**

- 4. Which position is primarily responsible for assigning crews, maintaining a job diary, and scheduling subcontractors?**
 - A. Project Manager**
 - B. Crew Leader**
 - C. Superintendent**
 - D. Pile Driver**

- 5. Which act prohibited the use of unfair labor practices associated with union pressures?**
 - A. Davis-Bacon Act**
 - B. Norris-LaGuardia Act**
 - C. Wagner Act**
 - D. Taft-Hartley Act**

6. What material is sprayed onto structural steel to enhance its fire resistance?

- A. Gypsum**
- B. Mineral Wool**
- C. Polystyrene Foam**
- D. Concrete Mix**

7. In a wire rope designation of 1-3/4 inch, 6 x 37 - IWRC, what does the number 6 represent?

- A. The diameter of the rope**
- B. The number of wires per strand**
- C. The number of strands**
- D. The strength rating**

8. What is termed as the wrongful act of ignoring safety rules after being informed of them?

- A. Negligence**
- B. Wilful Violation**
- C. Criminal Negligence**
- D. Unsafe Practice**

9. Which inspection term is used for soil that is protruding from the face of an excavation into the excavation?

- A. Heaving**
- B. Bulging**
- C. Fissure**
- D. Boiling**

10. How often should time be distributed to construction activities on time cards for admissible evidence in court?

- A. Once a day**
- B. Twice a day**
- C. Every other day**
- D. At the end of the week**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which document describes the business procedures for a specific project and changes the initial procedures?

- A. Project Budget Plan**
- B. Project Timeline**
- C. Supplementary Conditions**
- D. Project Scope Document**

The document that describes the business procedures for a specific project and outlines any modifications to the initial procedures is the Supplementary Conditions. This document typically accompanies the standard contract and provides additional stipulations or modifications that are specific to a given project. It addresses unique aspects of a project that may not be covered by the standard contract terms, allowing for flexibility in the management of that project. For instance, Supplementary Conditions may specify different performance standards, regulatory requirements, or project delivery modifications that need to be adhered to beyond what is standardly laid out in the general conditions. This allows all parties involved in the project to be aware of the precise expectations and responsibilities, potentially preventing disputes related to differing interpretations of contract terms. In contrast, other options focus on different aspects of project management: the Project Budget Plan deals primarily with financial aspects, the Project Timeline outlines the schedule for project completion, and the Project Scope Document defines the overall objectives and deliverables of the project without necessarily changing procedures. Thus, while all these documents are important for project management, only the Supplementary Conditions address the modification of initial business procedures specific to the project at hand.

2. If the plumbing plans had the abbreviation DWV on them, what does the DWV mean?

- A. Drain Water Valve**
- B. Drain Waste and Vent**
- C. Direct Waste Vent**
- D. Drainage Water Vessel**

The abbreviation DWV on plumbing plans stands for Drain, Waste, and Vent. This terminology is fundamental in plumbing systems as it encompasses the essential functions of managing wastewater and ventilation in a building's plumbing system. The "Drain" aspect refers to the pipes that carry wastewater away from fixtures like sinks, toilets, and showers. The "Waste" signifies the materials—liquid or solid—that these drains transport, primarily sewage and wastewater. "Vent" refers to the pipes that allow sewage gases to escape and helps maintain proper pressure within the drainage system, preventing the development of vacuums that could impede drainage efficiency. Understanding DWV is critical for ensuring effective drainage, proper venting to avoid sewer gas accumulation, and maintaining overall plumbing system health. This knowledge is vital for compliance with building codes and for ensuring the longevity and effectiveness of a plumbing system. The other choices presented do not accurately capture the combination of functions that the DWV abbreviation represents in plumbing.

3. What characteristic is important when selecting type M masonry cement?

- A. Low compressive strength
- B. High bond strength**
- C. Rapid curing time
- D. Low water retention

When selecting type M masonry cement, high bond strength is a crucial characteristic to consider. Type M masonry cement is specifically formulated for high-strength applications, often used in structural masonry due to its ability to create a strong bond between the masonry units and the mortar. This high bond strength is essential for ensuring the durability and stability of structures such as walls, columns, and other elements where significant load-bearing is required. In scenarios where Type M cement is used, the bond strength directly influences the overall performance and longevity of the masonry work. A strong bond contributes to resistance against cracking, weathering, and other stress conditions that masonry structures may face over time. Thus, when selecting type M masonry cement, prioritizing high bond strength aligns perfectly with the requirements of a robust and enduring construction.

4. Which position is primarily responsible for assigning crews, maintaining a job diary, and scheduling subcontractors?

- A. Project Manager
- B. Crew Leader
- C. Superintendent**
- D. Pile Driver

The superintendent is the position primarily responsible for assigning crews, maintaining a job diary, and scheduling subcontractors. This role is crucial in the field to ensure that daily operations run smoothly. A superintendent oversees the construction site, making it their responsibility to allocate the right teams to various tasks based on the project's needs, which includes keeping track of who is on-site and what work is being accomplished through the job diary. Additionally, scheduling subcontractors falls under the superintendent's purview, as they must coordinate the different trades involved in a project and ensure that these subcontractors are on-site at the appropriate times. This level of oversight helps maintain productivity and keeps the project on track, reflecting the superintendent's essential role in managing resources and timelines effectively. In contrast, while a project manager may also be involved in scheduling and coordination, they typically focus more on higher-level planning and budget management rather than day-to-day site operations. Crew leaders are more focused on managing the performance and tasks of their specific teams on-site. The role of a pile driver, which specifically focuses on the operation of driving piles for foundations, does not encompass the broader management responsibilities necessary for assigning crews and scheduling.

5. Which act prohibited the use of unfair labor practices associated with union pressures?

A. Davis-Bacon Act

B. Norris-LaGuardia Act

C. Wagner Act

D. Taft-Hartley Act

The Taft-Hartley Act is significant because it was designed to restrict the activities and power of labor unions, particularly addressing unfair labor practices associated with union pressures. Enacted in 1947, this legislation aimed to balance the power between labor unions and employers, ensuring that both parties had fair rights during negotiations. One of the key provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act is its limitation on union activities that could be considered coercive. It prohibits unions from engaging in secondary boycotts, jurisdictional strikes, and closed shops, which could impose undue pressure on employers or other businesses. This was a response to concerns about the unchecked power of unions and their influence on labor relations. In contrast, other acts listed have different focuses. The Davis-Bacon Act mandates payment of local prevailing wages on public works projects, while the Norris-LaGuardia Act restricts the use of injunctions in labor disputes and protects workers' rights to organize. The Wagner Act, also known as the National Labor Relations Act, was designed to protect the rights of workers to organize and collectively bargain but did not impose restrictions on union activities. These differences highlight why the Taft-Hartley Act is the correct answer in the context of prohibiting unfair labor practices associated

6. What material is sprayed onto structural steel to enhance its fire resistance?

A. Gypsum

B. Mineral Wool

C. Polystyrene Foam

D. Concrete Mix

The material that is commonly sprayed onto structural steel to enhance its fire resistance is gypsum. Gypsum-based fireproofing materials are widely utilized due to their effectiveness in slowing down the spread of fire and providing a thermal barrier. When applied to steel, gypsum helps to protect the structural integrity of the steel members during a fire by forming a gypsum board-like layer that insulates and maintains the steel's temperature at a level that prevents it from losing strength. Mineral wool, while it does have certain fire-resistant properties, is not typically used in a sprayed application for steel fireproofing, focusing instead on insulation and soundproofing applications. Polystyrene foam is not fire-resistant and can burn, making it unsuitable for fireproofing applications. Concrete mixes, though they offer some fire-resistant qualities, are more commonly used as a structural element or as a concrete encasement rather than a spray-on solution. Therefore, gypsum is the correct choice when identifying materials specifically designed for spraying onto steel to enhance fire resistance.

7. In a wire rope designation of 1-3/4 inch, 6 x 37 - IWRC, what does the number 6 represent?

- A. The diameter of the rope**
- B. The number of wires per strand**
- C. The number of strands**
- D. The strength rating**

In the wire rope designation of 1-3/4 inch, 6 x 37 - IWRC, the number 6 signifies the number of strands in the wire rope construction. The designation is structured in a way where the first number (in this case, 6) indicates how many strands are present in the rope. Each strand contains a number of wires, which is shown by the second number, 37, meaning that there are 37 wires in each strand. Understanding this structure is critical for identifying the configuration of the wire rope, as it affects the rope's flexibility, strength, and application suitability. The diameter of the rope is indicated at the start of the designation, which is 1-3/4 inch, not by the number 6. The strength rating is also not represented by this number; rather, it is influenced by the entire construction, including the materials and the number of wires and strands. Thus, the correct interpretation of the wire rope's description allows for proper selection and use in applications where different strengths and flexibility are required.

8. What is termed as the wrongful act of ignoring safety rules after being informed of them?

- A. Negligence**
- B. Wilful Violation**
- C. Criminal Negligence**
- D. Unsafe Practice**

The act of ignoring safety rules after having been informed about them is rightly termed as a wilful violation. This term signifies a conscious decision to disregard established safety protocols, which can lead to increased risks of accidents or injuries in a work environment. The individual demonstrates an awareness of the rules but chooses to overlook them, indicating a level of intent or willfulness in the action, making it a serious offense in the context of workplace safety. Negligence pertains to a failure to take reasonable care, but it does not imply an intention to ignore safety rules. Criminal negligence relates to actions that grossly deviate from the standard of care, typically involving a higher degree of recklessness but not necessarily the knowing violation of rules. Unsafe practice is a more general term that can describe various behaviors that compromise safety but does not specifically denote the willful aspect of ignoring known rules.

9. Which inspection term is used for soil that is protruding from the face of an excavation into the excavation?

- A. Heaving**
- B. Bulging**
- C. Fissure**
- D. Boiling**

The term that best describes soil protruding from the face of an excavation into the excavation itself is "bulging." This phenomenon typically occurs due to pressure or instability in the surrounding soil, which causes the earth to push outward as it loses its equilibrium. When soil bulges, it can indicate that the slope may be at risk of collapse or failure, making it crucial for safety during excavation work. In contrast, heaving refers to upward movement of the soil, usually in reaction to moisture changes or frost, rather than bulging into the excavation. A fissure describes a crack or fracture in the ground, which doesn't necessarily pertain to soil material protruding outward. Boiling, on the other hand, is a term mostly used in contexts related to the movement of water through the soil, often seen in saturated conditions, and does not apply to soil protrusion. Understanding these specific terms is vital for recognizing signs of soil stability and ensuring safe excavation practices.

10. How often should time be distributed to construction activities on time cards for admissible evidence in court?

- A. Once a day**
- B. Twice a day**
- C. Every other day**
- D. At the end of the week**

Distributing time to construction activities on time cards twice a day is considered best practice for ensuring admissible evidence in court. This frequency provides a more accurate and detailed account of the time spent on various tasks, making it easier to demonstrate diligence and accountability in project work. When time is recorded twice a day, it reduces the potential for errors or memory lapses that can occur if employees wait until the end of the week or day to document their hours. This practice supports clear record-keeping, which is critical in legal situations where precise timelines and labor allocation may be scrutinized. By confirming time entries more regularly, it bolsters the credibility of the records as reliable evidence if disputes arise or if a court needs to assess the work done and associated costs. Less frequent recording, such as once a day or at the end of the week, can increase the potential for inaccuracies that might weaken the integrity of the documentation. In contrast, capturing this information twice a day aligns with best practices that emphasize transparency and accountability in reporting labor hours within construction projects.

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://associatecontractors.examzify.com>

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

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