

CAL FIRE FIRE CAPTAIN PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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 locations are included in the PROS PLAN?

- A. Pendelton, Riverside, Oceanside, San Diego
- B. Pendelton, Riverside, San Diego, Oceanside
- C. Pendelton, Riverside, Oceanside, San Diego
- D. Oceanside, San Diego, Palm Springs, Riverside

2. In Rescue Mode for the 1st arriving engine company, what is the first action to take?

- A. Spot Apparatus in a safe location
- B. Secure water supply if readily available or have second arriving Engine Company lay in supply line.
- C. Initial tactics will be based on rescue situation presented.
- D. Company Officer provides a brief report on conditions to ECC with the following information: Building address, if different than dispatched; Size and type of building; Any observed fire conditions; Any life safety / rescue considerations; Exposure problems; Declaration of Command Mode; Status of water supply; Announce Accountability Collection Point; Establish incident name.

3. What is the first priority in the Ventilation Group's stated order on First Alarm?

- A. 1st Pressurization of the Fire Attack stairwell(s); 2nd Pressurization of the Evacuation stairwell(s); 3rd Ventilation of the Fire floor(s)
- B. 1st Ventilation of Fire floor(s); 2nd Pressurization of Fire Attack stairwell(s); 3rd Pressurization of Evacuation stairwell(s)
- C. 1st Pressurization of Evacuation stairwell(s); 2nd Pressurization of Fire Attack stairwell(s); 3rd Ventilation of Fire floor(s)
- D. 1st Pressurization of Evacuation stairwell(s); 2nd Ventilation of Fire floor(s); 3rd Pressurization of Fire Attack stairwell(s)

4. Fire Front Following is used as a follow up tactic under what conditions?

- A. A tactic to pre-emptively gird the area before the fire front arrives
- B. Search for victims, effect perimeter control, extinguish spot fires around structures, control hot spots and reduce ember production
- C. A method used only in rural areas far from structures
- D. Extinguish spot fires around structures by approaching from the head of the fire

- 5. Which unit is responsible for ventilation during a high-rise first-alarm incident?**
- A. Incident Commander
 - B. Ventilation Group
 - C. Medical Branch
 - D. Fire Ground Operations
- 6. In High Rise operations, which role is located just outside the entry point, ready to relieve Fire Attack?**
- A. Fire Attack
 - B. On Deck
 - C. Stand-By
 - D. Division Supervisor
- 7. In an MCI, what is the second due company's action?**
- A. Spot in a location to not interfere with ambulance loading.
 - B. Assist with triage
 - C. Establish a Treatment Unit Leader (or MEDCOM if not done)
 - D. Remainder of company either begins patient packaging and/or treatment or establishes treatment areas.
- 8. Which item is an element of a good ROC (Wildland)?**
- A. Incident location
 - B. Incident type
 - C. Fire Size
 - D. Rate of Spread
- 9. Which document is developed to guide incident actions?**
- A. Tactical Worksheet
 - B. Incident Action Plan
 - C. Transfer of Command
 - D. Standard Operating Guidelines

10. What is the assignment of the 10th Arriving Engine Company on the Second Alarm?

- A. Stand-By
- B. Fire Ground Operations
- C. Staging
- D. On Deck

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which locations are included in the PROS PLAN?

- A. Pendelton, Riverside, Oceanside, San Diego
- B. Pendelton, Riverside, San Diego, Oceanside
- C. Pendelton, Riverside, Oceanside, San Diego**
- D. Oceanside, San Diego, Palm Springs, Riverside

This question is asking you to identify which communities are designated in the PROS PLAN as the included locations for prioritized response and resource pre-positioning. The PROS PLAN lists a specific set of sites that are intended to receive pre-staged assets to shorten response times in emergencies. The best choice matches the plan exactly: Pendelton, Riverside, Oceanside, and San Diego. The order of cities doesn't matter because it's a fixed list of locations, not a sequence. Other options either include a city not in the plan (Palm Springs) or omit one of the included cities, so they don't align with the official PROS PLAN.

2. In Rescue Mode for the 1st arriving engine company, what is the first action to take?

- A. Spot Apparatus in a safe location
- B. Secure water supply if readily available or have second arriving Engine Company lay in supply line.**
- C. Initial tactics will be based on rescue situation presented.
- D. Company Officer provides a brief report on conditions to ECC with the following information: Building address, if different than dispatched; Size and type of building; Any observed fire conditions; Any life safety / rescue considerations; Exposure problems; Declaration of Command Mode; Status of water supply; Announce Accountability Collection Point; Establish incident name.

In Rescue Mode, securing a water supply is the essential first step. If water is readily available, lock it in immediately; if not, have the second arriving engine lay in a supply line so water can reach the scene without delay. This creates the critical logistical backbone that enables any rescue effort and supports potential fire control. Once a reliable water source is established, you can drive tactical decisions and communications from a solid footing. While locating the apparatus safely and briefing command are important, they come after the foundational step of ensuring water is available to sustain operations.

3. What is the first priority in the Ventilation Group's stated order on First Alarm?

- A. 1st Pressurization of the Fire Attack stairwell(s); 2nd Pressurization of the Evacuation stairwell(s); 3rd Ventilation of the Fire floor(s)**
- B. 1st Ventilation of Fire floor(s); 2nd Pressurization of Fire Attack stairwell(s); 3rd Pressurization of Evacuation stairwell(s)
- C. 1st Pressurization of Evacuation stairwell(s); 2nd Pressurization of Fire Attack stairwell(s); 3rd Ventilation of Fire floor(s)
- D. 1st Pressurization of Evacuation stairwell(s); 2nd Ventilation of Fire floor(s); 3rd Pressurization of Fire Attack stairwell(s)

The main idea is to protect life safety and establish safe routes before doing the actual smoke removal. Pressurizing the Fire Attack stairwell first creates a clean, protected entry path for firefighters into the fire area and helps keep smoke out of the route they'll use to reach the fire. Next, pressurizing the Evacuation stairwell safeguards the occupants who are evacuating and keeps that egress path tenable for both civilians and crews. Ventilating the Fire floor is done last to remove smoke and heat once those critical stairwells are secured, improving conditions for suppression without pushing smoke into the stairs. This sequence balances keeping three essential paths—attack, evacuation, and the fire floor itself—in a way that supports safety and effective firefighting on a first alarm.

4. Fire Front Following is used as a follow up tactic under what conditions?

- A. A tactic to pre-emptively gird the area before the fire front arrives
- B. Search for victims, effect perimeter control, extinguish spot fires around structures, control hot spots and reduce ember production**
- C. A method used only in rural areas far from structures
- D. Extinguish spot fires around structures by approaching from the head of the fire

Fire Front Following is a post-front tactic used after the fire edge has moved through an area to address safety and property protection. It focuses on locating any trapped or endangered people, establishing a perimeter, extinguishing spot fires around structures, and knocking down hot spots to reduce ember production and rekindling. This approach allows crews to work along and behind the leading edge to secure the scene, protect buildings, and prevent new ignitions from embers. It isn't about pre-emptively girding the area before the front arrives, it isn't restricted to rural areas far from structures, and it isn't specifically about approaching from the head of the fire to tackle spots.

5. Which unit is responsible for ventilation during a high-rise first-alarm incident?

- A. Incident Commander
- B. Ventilation Group**
- C. Medical Branch
- D. Fire Ground Operations

Controlling smoke and heat movement is essential in a high-rise incident, and a dedicated Ventilation Group is established to handle all smoke-control operations. This unit plans and directs ventilation tactics—such as pressurizing stairwells, placing exhaust and supply fans, and coordinating openings—to create tenable conditions for occupants and firefighters. They assess the building layout, determine the best paths for air to move, and work with fire attack and search teams to ensure ventilation helps, not hinders, operations. By centralizing this function, the incident avoids conflicting actions and ensures a coordinated approach to smoke removal and visibility, which is why the Ventilation Group is the responsible unit.

6. In High Rise operations, which role is located just outside the entry point, ready to relieve Fire Attack?

- A. Fire Attack
- B. On Deck**
- C. Stand-By
- D. Division Supervisor

In high-rise operations, keeping interior fire attack continuous while managing firefighter fatigue is essential, so a rotation is built around a relief position just outside the entry point. The person stationed there is the one ready to relieve the Fire Attack team—the On Deck. This role watches the entry, communicates with the interior crew, and steps in to take over the inside attack when the current Fire Attack needs relief. That handoff keeps the hose line in operation without long gaps and helps maintain safety and coordination with the outside team and command. The other roles don't fit this specific function. The Fire Attack is the team inside actively applying water. The Division Supervisor is responsible for managing a floor or division, not the immediate relief swap. Stand-By is a general readiness concept but does not define the specific relief position just outside the entry.

7. In an MCI, what is the second due company's action?

- A. Spot in a location to not interfere with ambulance loading.
- B. Assist with triage
- C. Establish a Treatment Unit Leader (or MEDCOM if not done)**
- D. Remainder of company either begins patient packaging and/or treatment or establishes treatment areas.

In a mass casualty incident, you need a clear leader for the medical response to keep patient care organized. The second arriving company steps into that role by establishing the Treatment Unit Leader (TUL) and, if MEDCOM hasn't been set up yet, establishing MEDCOM. This creates a central point to supervise how patients are triaged, treated, and routed to transport, and it defines where treatment areas will be located. With a TUL in place, you can quickly designate treatment zones, assign staff, and coordinate with ambulance teams and hospitals, preventing chaos in the care area. Other tasks like assisting with triage or placing ambulances are important, but they depend on having a defined medical command structure first; setting up the TUL (or MEDCOM) provides that essential framework.

8. Which item is an element of a good ROC (Wildland)?

A. Incident location

B. Incident type

C. Fire Size

D. Rate of Spread

A good ROC is about getting the right resources to the right place fast. The incident location acts as the anchor for all logistics—dispatch routing, staging, and accountability. If the location isn't precise, resources can be misdirected or delayed, even if you know the incident type, size, or rate of spread. A clear location can be a exact GPS point, a mapped area, cross streets, or a defined boundary that everyone understands. While incident type, fire size, and rate of spread describe the situation and will change as the incident evolves, they don't on their own ensure that resources are delivered where they're actually needed. So pinpointing the location makes the ROC most effective for rapid, accurate resource support.

9. Which document is developed to guide incident actions?

A. Tactical Worksheet

B. Incident Action Plan

C. Transfer of Command

D. Standard Operating Guidelines

During incident response, a single, coordinated plan is developed to guide actions across all responding units. This document, the Incident Action Plan, establishes the incident objectives for the operational period, describes the strategies to achieve them, names the resource assignments, and includes safety considerations. It serves as the primary source of direction for operations, ensuring everyone is working toward the same goals and that communications and resources are aligned. The IAP is produced by the Incident Commander with the Command and General Staff and is updated as conditions change, typically on a daily or periodic basis. The other instruments have different purposes: a Tactical Worksheet documents on-scene tactics and progress but does not replace the overall plan; Transfer of Command is the process of handing leadership from one incident commander to another; Standard Operating Guidelines are broad internal procedures that guide routine operations, not the incident-specific actions for a particular event.

10. What is the assignment of the 10th Arriving Engine Company on the Second Alarm?

A. Stand-By

B. Fire Ground Operations

C. Staging

D. On Deck

On a second alarm, arriving engines are assigned to roles that directly support the fire ground with hands-on tasks. The 10th arriving engine goes into Fire Ground Operations, meaning it will actively assist on the fire ground—advancing lines, backing up crews, supporting water supply, performing searches or ventilation as directed by the incident commander. This keeps the attack and rescue efforts moving and prevents the scene from bottlenecking. Stand-by would keep a unit ready but not engaged, which isn't the goal once a second alarm is struck. On deck is a reserve position to relieve or fill gaps, but the 10th engine is intended to contribute actively on the fire ground. Staging is for units to assemble away from the immediate hazard until assigned, not for ongoing fire ground work. So Fire Ground Operations is the appropriate assignment for the 10th arriving engine on a second alarm.

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://calfirefirecaptain.examzify.com>

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

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