

COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE (CITI) CERTIFICATION PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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 role do ethics committees play in research oversight?**
 - A. They provide funding for research projects
 - B. They evaluate the ethical implications of research proposals
 - C. They supervise laboratory work
 - D. They recruit participants for studies

- 2. What is the requirement for continued IRB review of a study that was approved on February 15, 2019?**
 - A. The study must be reviewed quarterly
 - B. The study needs re-review on or before February 14, 2020
 - C. The study can continue without further review
 - D. The study must be reviewed annually

- 3. Under U.S. regulations, what is one of the responsibilities of an Institutional Review Board (IRB)?**
 - A. Facilitating research funding
 - B. Protecting the rights and welfare of human subjects
 - C. Conducting experiments themselves
 - D. Publishing research findings

- 4. What is the purpose of the informed consent process in research?**
 - A. To ensure complete anonymity for participants.
 - B. To inform participants about data usage and confidentiality.
 - C. To guarantee successful outcomes in research.
 - D. To allow researchers to bypass ethical guidelines.

- 5. In research studies, what does "anonymity" mean?**
 - A. Participants can withdraw at any time
 - B. Participants' identities are not disclosed even to researchers
 - C. Participants remain unknown to the public
 - D. Data is stored securely without identification

- 6. When may an IRB conduct an expedited review of a new study?**
- A. If it involves minimal risk and qualifies under specified categories
 - B. When it has been previously denied
 - C. If the researcher requests it
 - D. For all new studies regardless of risk
- 7. What type of consent must be obtained for research involving human subjects?**
- A. Informed consent
 - B. Implied consent
 - C. Verbal consent
 - D. Written consent only
- 8. How does the CITI Program support researchers in international studies?**
- A. By offering training on statistical analysis
 - B. By providing funding opportunities
 - C. By offering training on ethical considerations
 - D. By facilitating international collaborations
- 9. Which statement most accurately describes the role of IRBs?**
- A. To oversee all aspects of research funding
 - B. To protect the rights and welfare of human subjects
 - C. To review only low-risk studies
 - D. To evaluate the scientific merit of proposals
- 10. How do researchers safeguard against coercion in obtaining consent?**
- A. By ensuring that participation is voluntary and free from undue influence
 - B. By offering financial incentives to participate
 - C. By limiting the information given about the study
 - D. By allowing participants to withdraw at any time without consequences

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What role do ethics committees play in research oversight?

- A. They provide funding for research projects
- B. They evaluate the ethical implications of research proposals**
- C. They supervise laboratory work
- D. They recruit participants for studies

Ethics committees, also known as Institutional Review Boards (IRBs), play a crucial role in research oversight by evaluating the ethical implications of research proposals. Their primary responsibility is to ensure that research involving human subjects is conducted in accordance with ethical principles and regulatory requirements. This includes assessing the risks and benefits of the research, ensuring informed consent is obtained from participants, and protecting the rights and welfare of individuals involved in the studies. The evaluation process conducted by ethics committees is vital for promoting ethical standards in research, fostering trust between researchers and participants, and ensuring compliance with applicable laws and guidelines. By scrutinizing research proposals, ethics committees help to guarantee that the research conducted is not only scientifically sound but also ethical and respectful of participants' rights. The other options, while related to research, do not accurately reflect the primary function of ethics committees. Funding provision, laboratory supervision, and participant recruitment are responsibilities that typically fall outside the purview of ethics committees. Instead, these tasks are handled by other entities or individuals involved in the research process.

2. What is the requirement for continued IRB review of a study that was approved on February 15, 2019?

- A. The study must be reviewed quarterly
- B. The study needs re-review on or before February 14, 2020**
- C. The study can continue without further review
- D. The study must be reviewed annually

The requirement for continued IRB review of a study that was approved on February 15, 2019, is that the study needs to be re-reviewed on or before February 14, 2020. This aligns with the regulatory framework which typically requires that studies undergo a continuing review at least annually, or as specified by the IRB. Since the study received approval on February 15, 2019, the IRB must conduct a continuing review before the one-year mark, which is February 14, 2020. This ensures that the research continues to be ethical, compliant, and safe for all participants involved. In this context, continuing review requirements aim to assess the ongoing risk to participants and to ensure that the research is still meeting ethical standards. While some options suggest annual or more frequent reviews, the exact timeframe points to the necessity for re-review by February 14, 2020, which reflects the one-year review cycle typical in human subjects research oversight.

3. Under U.S. regulations, what is one of the responsibilities of an Institutional Review Board (IRB)?

- A. Facilitating research funding
- B. Protecting the rights and welfare of human subjects**
- C. Conducting experiments themselves
- D. Publishing research findings

One of the critical responsibilities of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) is protecting the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in research. The IRB plays a vital role in ensuring that ethical standards are met and that participants are treated with respect and care throughout the research process. This includes reviewing research proposals to assess potential risks to participants, ensuring informed consent is obtained, and that the research complies with institutional, federal, and ethical guidelines. In this context, the IRB's focus on participant protection aligns with the ethical principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, autonomy, and justice, as outlined in the regulations governing human subjects research. By safeguarding the rights and welfare of participants, the IRB helps to maintain public trust in research and enhances the integrity of scientific inquiry. Other options, such as facilitating research funding or conducting experiments, do not fall within the IRB's responsibilities. The role of the IRB is specifically focused on oversight of the ethical aspects of research involving human subjects rather than participating in the research itself or managing administrative functions like funding. Additionally, publishing research findings is generally the responsibility of the researchers and their institutions, not the IRB.

4. What is the purpose of the informed consent process in research?

- A. To ensure complete anonymity for participants.
- B. To inform participants about data usage and confidentiality.**
- C. To guarantee successful outcomes in research.
- D. To allow researchers to bypass ethical guidelines.

The purpose of the informed consent process in research is to inform participants about data usage and confidentiality, which is captured in the correct choice. This process is fundamental to upholding ethical standards within research involving human subjects. It ensures that participants are fully aware of what their participation entails, including how their data will be used, stored, and shared, as well as the measures taken to protect their privacy. Informed consent also encompasses details about the nature of the research, any potential risks, and the right of participants to withdraw at any time without penalty. This transparency is crucial for fostering trust and respect between researchers and participants, and it empowers individuals to make educated decisions about their involvement in research. Other options reflect misunderstandings of the informed consent process. For instance, while anonymity can be a goal of research, informed consent is more focused on transparency about data usage rather than guaranteeing complete anonymity. The process does not guarantee successful outcomes of research, which is another incorrect notion; informed consent is about ethical obligation rather than research outcomes. Lastly, informed consent cannot be a mechanism for bypassing ethical guidelines; instead, it embodies adherence to these guidelines, ensuring that participants' rights and well-being are prioritized in research endeavors.

5. In research studies, what does "anonymity" mean?

- A. Participants can withdraw at any time
- B. Participants' identities are not disclosed even to researchers**
- C. Participants remain unknown to the public
- D. Data is stored securely without identification

In research studies, "anonymity" specifically refers to the condition in which the identities of participants are not disclosed to anyone, including the researchers themselves. This means that regardless of the data collection methods used, researchers have no way of linking the data back to the individual participants. The goal of ensuring anonymity is to protect participants' privacy and encourage them to provide honest and accurate responses without fear of identification or repercussions. While there are other important concepts related to participant rights, such as the ability to withdraw from the study and the secure storage of data, these do not define anonymity. Fulfilling the aim of maintaining anonymity hinges on the complete separation of individuals from their responses, hence preserving their confidentiality and privacy throughout the research process.

6. When may an IRB conduct an expedited review of a new study?

- A. If it involves minimal risk and qualifies under specified categories**
- B. When it has been previously denied
- C. If the researcher requests it
- D. For all new studies regardless of risk

An IRB (Institutional Review Board) may conduct an expedited review when a study involves minimal risk and meets specific criteria as set forth by federal regulations. This type of review is designed to streamline the approval process for research that does not pose greater than minimal risk to participants and fits within defined categories that typically include certain types of research involving existing data, biological specimens, or the use of surveys and interviews. Expedited review facilitates faster processing for studies that qualify under these low-risk conditions, ensuring that the research can proceed without undergoing the full-board review that is generally required for higher-risk studies. This approach helps balance the need for participant protection with the efficiency of the review process for minimal-risk research. Other options presented do not accurately represent the conditions under which an expedited review can be granted. For example, prior denial of a study does not automatically make it eligible for expedited review, nor does a researcher's request guarantee such a review; the eligibility is based on risk assessment and compliance with regulatory categories. Lastly, conducting expedited reviews for all new studies, regardless of risk, would undermine the protective purpose of institutional review boards.

7. What type of consent must be obtained for research involving human subjects?

A. Informed consent

B. Implied consent

C. Verbal consent

D. Written consent only

Informed consent is essential for ethical research involving human subjects. This process ensures that participants are fully aware of the nature of the study, including its purpose, procedures, risks, benefits, and their rights. Informed consent is not merely a form to be signed; rather, it is a comprehensive process that involves providing participants with information sufficient to make an informed decision about their participation. The key element is that consent must be obtained voluntarily without coercion or undue influence. Participants need to demonstrate an understanding of what participation entails, which reinforces their autonomy and respect for individual rights in the research context. While other forms of consent may be used in specific situations—for example, implied consent in certain observational studies or verbal consent in low-risk research—these do not offer the same level of transparency and information exchange as informed consent. Written consent is often used to document informed consent, but it is the informed aspect that is paramount, highlighting the ethical responsibility researchers have to their participants.

8. How does the CITI Program support researchers in international studies?

A. By offering training on statistical analysis

B. By providing funding opportunities

C. By offering training on ethical considerations

D. By facilitating international collaborations

The CITI Program plays a crucial role in equipping researchers with the knowledge and understanding of ethical considerations necessary for conducting international studies. Training on ethical considerations is vital because researchers often encounter diverse cultural norms, legal standards, and ethical dilemmas when conducting research across different countries. The CITI Program provides comprehensive training that addresses issues such as informed consent, participant rights, and the protection of vulnerable populations, ensuring that researchers are prepared to navigate the complex ethical landscape they may face. While other options, like offering training on statistical analysis or facilitating international collaborations, may indeed support researchers, the primary focus of the CITI Program is on fostering an ethical approach to research. Understanding ethical considerations ensures that researchers can uphold the integrity of their studies and safeguard the well-being of participants, which is especially important in an international context where ethical standards may vary.

9. Which statement most accurately describes the role of IRBs?

- A. To oversee all aspects of research funding
- B. To protect the rights and welfare of human subjects**
- C. To review only low-risk studies
- D. To evaluate the scientific merit of proposals

The role of Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) is primarily centered around the protection of the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in research. This is a fundamental responsibility that stems from ethical principles defined in guidelines such as the Belmont Report, which emphasizes respect for persons, beneficence, and justice. IRBs ensure that any research involving human participants is conducted ethically, assessing the risks and potential harms against any possible benefits to the individuals and society. This involves reviewing research proposals to ensure that informed consent is obtained, risks are minimized, and participants' privacy and confidentiality are protected. Additionally, IRBs have the authority to approve or disapprove research studies based on these ethical considerations. While they may also glance at factors relating to scientific merit, their core function remains significantly focused on safeguarding participants rather than evaluating funding aspects, scientific quality, or merely overseeing low-risk studies. These other functions are not the primary purpose of IRBs, reinforcing why the accurate description is about protecting human subjects.

10. How do researchers safeguard against coercion in obtaining consent?

- A. By ensuring that participation is voluntary and free from undue influence**
- B. By offering financial incentives to participate
- C. By limiting the information given about the study
- D. By allowing participants to withdraw at any time without consequences

Researchers safeguard against coercion in obtaining consent by ensuring that participation is voluntary and free from undue influence. This principle is foundational in ethical research practices, as it guarantees that participants make informed and free choices about their involvement in a study without feeling pressured or manipulated. If individuals feel coerced, the integrity of their consent is compromised, undermining ethical standards and potentially impacting the validity of the research outcomes. Voluntary participation means that individuals should not feel obligated to participate due to pressures from authority figures or the promise of rewards or benefits. By fostering an environment where participants can choose freely, researchers uphold ethical guidelines that protect the rights and welfare of those involved in a study. The other choices do not promote ethical consent practices. Financial incentives can lead to undue influence, especially if participants feel they need the compensation. Limiting information about the study can hinder participants' ability to make informed decisions, while allowing withdrawal is indeed an important aspect of ethical research but does not address coercion at the outset of the consent process.

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://citicertification.examzify.com>

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

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