

COLLIN COLLEGE FIRE ACADEMY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. A branch in the IMS is responsible for which activity?**
 - A. Maintaining span of control over subordinate organization units
 - B. Setting incident objectives
 - C. Managing finance
 - D. Logistics coordination

- 2. If 40 feet of a 50 foot extension ladder is used, how far away should the butt of the ladder be placed from the building?**
 - A. 10 feet
 - B. 5 feet
 - C. 15 feet
 - D. 20 feet

- 3. What does the color red signify in triage tagging?**
 - A. Immediate (life-threatening) injuries requiring urgent care
 - B. Delayed treatment
 - C. Minor injuries
 - D. Deceased

- 4. Decontamination takes place in which zone of the hazmat incident?**
 - A. Warm Zone
 - B. Hot Zone
 - C. Cold Zone
 - D. Transition Zone

- 5. What is the primary objective of overhaul after extinguishment?**
 - A. To ventilate the structure and remove smoke
 - B. To perform a quick check of all systems
 - C. To locate and extinguish hidden fires and restore safety by ensuring structure stability
 - D. To document the incident for report

- 6. What are the two main ventilation types used in firefighting?**
- A. Vertical (top) ventilation and horizontal ventilation
 - B. Mechanical ventilation and natural ventilation
 - C. Forward ventilation and backward ventilation
 - D. Internal ventilation and external ventilation
- 7. At a hazardous materials emergency, the Operations section serves the task of**
- A. Managing the overall incident
 - B. Controlling the tactical portion of the incident
 - C. Providing medical care
 - D. Directing public information
- 8. What is the function of a PASS device?**
- A. To alert others if a firefighter is in distress or motionless
 - B. To monitor air quality
 - C. To regulate water flow
 - D. To augment radio communications
- 9. In regards to technical decontamination, the level of personal protective equipment should be ____.**
- A. One level above the entry team
 - B. One level below the entry team
 - C. The same as the entry team
 - D. Two levels below the entry team
- 10. CHEMTREC provides information for chemical emergencies; what is its full name?**
- A. Chemical Transportation Emergency Center
 - B. Chemical Transportation Emergency Committee
 - C. Chemical Transport Emergency Center
 - D. Chemical Transportation Emergency Council

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A branch in the IMS is responsible for which activity?

- A. Maintaining span of control over subordinate organization units**
- B. Setting incident objectives
- C. Managing finance
- D. Logistics coordination

In the Incident Management System, a Branch is created to supervise a major portion of the Operations Section by grouping several divisions or groups under one director. The main function of that level is to oversee and coordinate these subordinate units and keep the number of resources reporting to a supervisor within a manageable span. This helps ensure clear supervision, communication, and accountability across the branches' units. Incident objectives are set by the Incident Commander (and refined by Planning), finance is handled by the Finance/Administration Section, and logistics is managed by the Logistics Section. The Branch's role focuses on supervising and coordinating multiple divisions or groups, which is why maintaining span of control over subordinate units is the most fitting responsibility.

2. If 40 feet of a 50 foot extension ladder is used, how far away should the butt of the ladder be placed from the building?

- A. 10 feet**
- B. 5 feet
- C. 15 feet
- D. 20 feet

The main idea here is leaning ladders at the proper angle for stability. For extension ladders, a safe rule of thumb is to place the base about one-quarter of the ladder's working length away from the wall, which gives a ladder angle of roughly 75 degrees. If the ladder is extended to 40 feet, the base should be about $40 \div 4 = 10$ feet from the building. This position lets you reach high enough while keeping the ladder stable and less prone to tipping or slipping. If you set the base much closer (like 5 feet), the angle becomes too steep (nearly vertical), increasing tipping risk; if you move it farther out (like 15 or 20 feet), the angle becomes too shallow and stability or reach can be compromised. So, about 10 feet away is the correct, safe placement.

3. What does the color red signify in triage tagging?

- A. Immediate (life-threatening) injuries requiring urgent care**
- B. Delayed treatment
- C. Minor injuries
- D. Deceased

In triage, colors are used to quickly signal who needs attention first. The red tag marks injuries that are life-threatening but potentially survivable with immediate care. Those patients need urgent interventions right away—like securing the airway, stopping severe bleeding, or supporting breathing and circulation—to prevent death. It's not about being minor or non-urgent, and it's not about being already beyond help. Those other tags represent different priorities: yellow for injuries that are serious but can wait a bit, green for minor injuries, and black for deceased or unsalvageable cases. So red means treat now—the most urgent cases that require rapid action to save a life.

4. Decontamination takes place in which zone of the hazmat incident?

- A. Warm Zone
- B. Hot Zone
- C. Cold Zone
- D. Transition Zone

Decontamination happens in the Warm Zone because it serves as the buffer between the contaminated Hot Zone and the clean Cold Zone. In this zone, responders perform decon tasks—removing contaminated PPE, washing exposed areas, and ensuring gear is decontaminated—so that nothing dirty enters the Cold Zone. The Hot Zone contains the actual contamination and is not the place for decon, while the Cold Zone remains clean for command, medical, and support functions. The Warm Zone is specifically set up to safely reduce and control contaminants before people and equipment move into the clean area.

5. What is the primary objective of overhaul after extinguishment?

- A. To ventilate the structure and remove smoke
- B. To perform a quick check of all systems
- C. To locate and extinguish hidden fires and restore safety by ensuring structure stability
- D. To document the incident for report

The main idea behind overhaul after extinguishment is to locate and extinguish hidden fires and restore safety by ensuring the structure is stable. Even after the visible flames are out, embers can linger in walls, ceilings, attics, or other voids. Those hidden fires can smolder for hours or rekindle if not found and cooled, so a thorough search and targeted extinguishment are essential to prevent a rekindle and to reduce the risk to occupants and responders if the structure remains in use or is entered for investigation. Overhaul also includes checking the building's integrity—assessing for sagging or compromised floors, walls, or roof components—to determine any immediate hazards and to stabilize the structure as needed. This safety-focused work helps prevent collapse and protects everyone who enters the space during further investigation or salvage operations. While tasks like ventilating to remove smoke or quick checks of systems can be part of the broader response or follow-up steps, they are not the primary objective of overhaul. Documenting the incident is important for reporting and investigation, but it serves a different purpose than the essential goal of finding hidden fires and ensuring structural safety.

6. What are the two main ventilation types used in firefighting?

- A. Vertical (top) ventilation and horizontal ventilation
- B. Mechanical ventilation and natural ventilation
- C. Forward ventilation and backward ventilation
- D. Internal ventilation and external ventilation

The main concept is how firefighters remove heat and smoke from a burning structure by opening up the building in opposite directions to create a controlled airflow. The two primary approaches are vertical (top) ventilation and horizontal ventilation. Vertical ventilation uses a hole cut in the roof so hot gases, heat, and smoke escape upward. This reduces heat buildup inside, improves visibility, and makes conditions safer for interior crews. It also helps pull fire gases toward the opening as they rise, creating a path for the smoke to exit the structure. Horizontal ventilation involves opening openings on the same level or along the sides of the building, such as doors or windows, to establish a flow of fresh air into the structure while smoke exits through the openings. This method is useful when roof access isn't safe or feasible, or when you want to quickly establish a direction of airflow from the fire toward exterior openings. Other descriptions like mechanical versus natural or moving air in different directions exist, but the two most widely taught categories focus on where the ventilation openings are placed and how they affect the air flow: top/vertical and side/horizontal.

7. At a hazardous materials emergency, the Operations section serves the task of

- A. Managing the overall incident
- B. Controlling the tactical portion of the incident**
- C. Providing medical care
- D. Directing public information

In a hazardous materials emergency, the Operations section is where the on-scene actions happen. It translates the incident's objectives into hands-on tasks and directly directs the tactical activities needed to control the situation. That includes implementing containment and control measures, setting up and enforcing exclusion zones, guiding decontamination and rescue efforts, and coordinating resources to stabilize the hazard and protect people. It's separate from the overall management and policy being set by Command, from medical care managed by medical resources, and from public information handled by the Public Information Officer. So, the focus is on the on-the-ground, tactical work required to handle the incident.

8. What is the function of a PASS device?

- A. To alert others if a firefighter is in distress or motionless**
- B. To monitor air quality
- C. To regulate water flow
- D. To augment radio communications

A PASS device is a Personal Alert Safety System that will alert others if a firefighter is in distress or motionless. It monitors movement and, if the wearer stops moving for a preset time or if the device is manually activated, it emits a loud alarm and often flashing lights. This rapid audible/visual signal helps teammates locate and reach a firefighter who may be incapacitated in smoke, heat, or darkness, enabling a swift rescue. It works in conjunction with the breathing apparatus to provide safety on the fire ground. It's not meant to measure air quality, regulate water flow, or boost radio communications, which are handled by the SCBA, hoses, and radios respectively.

9. In regards to technical decontamination, the level of personal protective equipment should be ____.

- A. One level above the entry team
- B. One level below the entry team**
- C. The same as the entry team
- D. Two levels below the entry team

Technical decontamination uses a PPE gradient: the entry team works closest to the hazard and needs the highest level of protection, while the decontamination crew operates just behind them in the decon zone. Wearing one level below the entry team provides enough protection for handling contaminated PPE and surfaces without the encumbrance of the highest level, which would slow down operations and hinder dexterity. This setup helps prevent cross-contamination as you move from the hot zone toward the clean area. If the decon team wore the same or higher level, it would add unnecessary bulk and reduce efficiency; if they wore too little, their exposure during decon tasks could rise. So the best practice is for the decon crew to be equipped one level below the entry team.

10. CHEMTREC provides information for chemical emergencies; what is its full name?

- A. Chemical Transportation Emergency Center**
- B. Chemical Transportation Emergency Committee**
- C. Chemical Transport Emergency Center**
- D. Chemical Transportation Emergency Council**

CHEMTREC stands for Chemical Transportation Emergency Center. The word "Center" conveys it as a central information hub that provides 24/7 emergency guidance to responders, shippers, and facilities during chemical incidents—especially those involving transportation of hazardous materials. The other options change the word to Committee, Council, or use a different spelling, and do not reflect CHEMTREC's role as a central resource.

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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://collincollegefireacademy.examzify.com>

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

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