

Correctional Counselor (CC1) 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

- 1. Which circumstance will NOT allow for automatic application of a VIO AD?**
 - A. Finding of guilt on a division A1 RVR**
 - B. VIO AD affixed prior to Feb 20, 2017**
 - C. A conviction on a similar violent offense**
 - D. A finding from a parole hearing**
- 2. What does CCCMS refer to in a correctional context?**
 - A. Enhanced outpatient**
 - B. Outpatient**
 - C. Mental health crisis bed**
 - D. Intensive medical treatment**
- 3. How long must an inmate wait to submit a request for reclassification after being placed on C/C?**
 - A. 90 days**
 - B. 30 days**
 - C. 60 days**
 - D. 120 days**
- 4. How is favorable performance graded for inmates not assigned to a program?**
 - A. They receive a standard score**
 - B. They are granted favorable points only if "totally disabled"**
 - C. They automatically fail**
 - D. They are evaluated based on external assessments**
- 5. When is close custody granted for inmates found guilty of attempting escape with force within the last decade?**
 - A. 3 years**
 - B. 5 years**
 - C. 10 years**
 - D. Permanent**

- 6. Who is responsible for conducting case-by-case reviews for VIO AD?**
- A. A single designated official**
 - B. The classification committee**
 - C. External auditors**
 - D. Community volunteers**
- 7. For how many years is close custody granted for inmates with active detainers for offenses with penalties of death or lifetime incarceration?**
- A. 3 years**
 - B. 5 years**
 - C. 10 years**
 - D. Permanent**
- 8. When should a classification committee review all cases for VIO AD removal?**
- A. Only upon the I/M's request**
 - B. If criteria for an initial determination to impose a VIO are met**
 - C. Every six months**
 - D. During initial hearings only**
- 9. What constitutes an equivalent finding of a conviction for VIO AD purposes?**
- A. Dismissal of charges**
 - B. Probation violation**
 - C. Retirement from the correctional system**
 - D. Transfer to a lower security facility**
- 10. What is the significance of the 'History of escape (ESC)' score in inmate coding?**
- A. It determines housing classification**
 - B. It affects parole eligibility**
 - C. It assigns a mandatory minimum placement score of 19**
 - D. It has no relevance in coding**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which circumstance will NOT allow for automatic application of a VIO AD?

- A. Finding of guilt on a division A1 RVR**
- B. VIO AD affixed prior to Feb 20, 2017**
- C. A conviction on a similar violent offense**
- D. A finding from a parole hearing**

The automatic application of a Violent Incident Offense Administrative Disciplinary (VIO AD) can be complex, and understanding the context of these circumstances is crucial. The reason that a VIO AD affixed prior to February 20, 2017, does not allow for automatic application is that this date appears to signify a change in policies or regulations concerning how VIO ADs are applied. Any incidents or designations made before this date may not be considered under the current guidelines that regulate the automatic application process. In contrast, findings of guilt related to division A1 RVRs or convictions for similar violent offenses, as well as findings from parole hearings, typically demonstrate ongoing or recent behaviors that are aligned with the criteria for the automatic application of a VIO AD. These would reflect current and relevant circumstances regarding an individual's actions that warrant disciplinary measures. Thus, the significance of the date highlights a boundary in policy changes that influences when and how VIO ADs can be applied.

2. What does CCCMS refer to in a correctional context?

- A. Enhanced outpatient**
- B. Outpatient**
- C. Mental health crisis bed**
- D. Intensive medical treatment**

CCCMS stands for "Correctional Clinical Case Management System," which is a designation used within the correctional mental health context. It refers to a structured mental health program designed to provide outpatient care for individuals with mental health needs who are incarcerated. This system focuses on delivering appropriate therapeutic interventions, case management, and support for inmates who require ongoing mental health services but do not need the higher levels of care. The choice of outpatient is appropriate because CCCMS is typically characterized by its focus on offering treatment and management of mental health issues in a non-residential setting within the correctional facility. This allows inmates to receive essential mental health care while still being in the general population, rather than being isolated in more intensive treatment settings. The other options represent various levels of care or specific treatment settings that do not align with how CCCMS functions, making them less relevant in the context of outpatient mental health management in corrections.

3. How long must an inmate wait to submit a request for reclassification after being placed on C/C?

- A. 90 days
- B. 30 days**
- C. 60 days
- D. 120 days

In the context of correctional facilities, the process of inmate reclassification is often governed by institutional policies that outline specific timelines and procedures for inmates to request a change in their classification status. The requirement that an inmate must wait for a specific period before submitting a request for reclassification is designed to allow for a proper assessment of their behavior, progress, and overall suitability for a change in standing. In this case, the correct waiting period is 30 days after an inmate has been placed on classification status, commonly referred to as C/C. During this initial period, the institution can observe the inmate's behavior and compliance with rules, which serves as a basis for future assessments and permissions. This protocol not only ensures that the evaluation for reclassification is objective but also aims to maintain order and integrity within the facility. The other options reflect longer waiting periods that do not align with the established guidelines for submitting reclassification requests. Understanding this timeframe is crucial for inmates seeking improvement in their classification status, as well as for correctional counselors who guide them through the reclassification process.

4. How is favorable performance graded for inmates not assigned to a program?

- A. They receive a standard score
- B. They are granted favorable points only if "totally disabled"**
- C. They automatically fail
- D. They are evaluated based on external assessments

Favorable performance for inmates not assigned to a program is graded by granting points only if they are deemed "totally disabled." This indicates that recognition of performance is conditional upon specific circumstances that prevent the inmate from engaging in regular activities due to a disability. Therefore, the grading system takes into account the individual's capacity to participate in programs or activities. In this context, inmates not involved in a program can still receive acknowledgment for their situation, but only if it is substantiated by their disability status. Being "totally disabled" is a significant criterion that directly influences the grading of their performance, ensuring that the evaluation is fair and considers the unique challenges faced by the individual inmate.

5. When is close custody granted for inmates found guilty of attempting escape with force within the last decade?

- A. 3 years**
- B. 5 years**
- C. 10 years**
- D. Permanent**

Close custody is typically granted to inmates based on the severity and nature of their offenses. In the context of inmates found guilty of attempting escape with force, the length of time for which this custody classification is assigned reflects the seriousness of the behavior and the potential risks associated with it. In this case, a decade—10 years—serves as a significant timeframe for the imposition of close custody on inmates involved in such serious infractions. This lengthy duration reflects a recognition of the potential threat posed by individuals who not only attempt escape but do so with force, indicating a willingness to engage in violence or coercive action. The classification serves both to protect the safety and security of the institution and to facilitate proper management of inmates deemed a greater risk. Options that suggest shorter timeframes of 3 or 5 years do not fully account for the risks associated with violent escape attempts. Additionally, the notion of permanent close custody is generally not aligned with correctional policies, as most classifications are subject to review and potential reassessment over time. Thus, the designation of 10 years is a balanced approach to managing inmate behavior in light of the serious nature of escape attempts with force.

6. Who is responsible for conducting case-by-case reviews for VIO AD?

- A. A single designated official**
- B. The classification committee**
- C. External auditors**
- D. Community volunteers**

The classification committee is responsible for conducting case-by-case reviews for Violent Offender Assessment and Decision (VIO AD). This committee typically consists of various correctional staff members, including correctional counselors, psychologists, and other relevant professionals who work collaboratively to evaluate the cases of individuals deemed as violent offenders. Their primary function is to assess the behavior, risks, and needs of these offenders to determine appropriate interventions, management plans, and rehabilitation strategies. This process involves gathering comprehensive information about each individual's history, behavior in the correctional setting, and any pertinent psychological evaluations. The classification committee's findings help ensure that decisions regarding inmate treatment, housing, and programming align with the overall safety and rehabilitation goals of the correctional facility. The involvement of a committee rather than a single designated official enhances the objectivity and thoroughness of the evaluations, ensuring that multiple perspectives are considered before making recommendations for individual offenders.

7. For how many years is close custody granted for inmates with active detainers for offenses with penalties of death or lifetime incarceration?

A. 3 years

B. 5 years

C. 10 years

D. Permanent

Close custody for inmates with active detainers for offenses punishable by death or lifetime incarceration is granted for a period of 5 years. This specific duration reflects a policy designed to assess the behavior and rehabilitation potential of these high-risk individuals while ensuring a heightened level of supervision and security. Granting close custody for 5 years allows for a comprehensive evaluation of the inmate's development during this period, which can be critical in determining their ongoing classification and management within the correctional system. The structured timeframe also provides a regular reassessment opportunity, where conditions can be reviewed based on the individual's conduct and any changes in their legal status. Such an approach underscores a balance between prison safety and the potential for rehabilitation.

8. When should a classification committee review all cases for VIO AD removal?

A. Only upon the I/M's request

B. If criteria for an initial determination to impose a VIO are met

C. Every six months

D. During initial hearings only

The correct answer is that a classification committee should review all cases for Violent Offender (VIO) Adjustment Determination (AD) removal if the criteria for an initial determination to impose a VIO are met. This approach ensures that any subsequent changes in an inmate's behavior, rehabilitative progress, or other relevant factors are taken into account when assessing their classification status. This review process is essential for maintaining fairness and accountability within the correctional system. If the classification committee identifies that the conditions justifying the original VIO classification are no longer applicable, they can then make a well-informed decision regarding the removal of VIO status. Such reviews promote a dynamic and responsive classification system that can adapt to the evolving circumstances of inmates rather than relying on static criteria or infrequent evaluations. Option A, which suggests reviews only occur at the inmate's request, limits the proactive oversight necessary to ensure appropriate classifications are maintained. Option C, proposing reviews every six months, does not take into account the specific guidelines or triggers related to the initial determination of VIO status, which are crucial for timely and appropriate reviews. Option D, stating reviews happen only during initial hearings, overlooks the need for ongoing assessment based on the inmate's progress and changing behavior over time.

9. What constitutes an equivalent finding of a conviction for VIO AD purposes?

- A. Dismissal of charges**
- B. Probation violation**
- C. Retirement from the correctional system**
- D. Transfer to a lower security facility**

An equivalent finding of a conviction for Violations of Adult Drug (VIO AD) purposes refers specifically to situations where an individual has exhibited behavior that indicates a disregard for the laws or regulations pertaining to drug use and treatment. A probation violation signifies that the individual has failed to comply with the conditions set forth by the court or correctional system while under probation. This violation indicates a persistent issue with substance use or related behaviors and is treated as a serious infraction, akin to a conviction. In the corrections context, probation violations often lead to significant consequences, including potential revocation of probation and incarceration. This result underscores the severity of the behavior and is why such violations are considered equivalent to a conviction when dealing with substance abuse programs and assessments. Dismissal of charges and retirement from the correctional system do not reflect ongoing issues with adherence to drug-related regulations, making them not equivalent to a conviction. Similarly, a transfer to a lower security facility does not inherently signify a conviction; rather, it could be a reflection of good behavior or compliance, which contradicts the concept of equivalent findings related to violations.

10. What is the significance of the 'History of escape (ESC)' score in inmate coding?

- A. It determines housing classification**
- B. It affects parole eligibility**
- C. It assigns a mandatory minimum placement score of 19**
- D. It has no relevance in coding**

The 'History of escape (ESC)' score in inmate coding is significant as it helps determine the level of risk an inmate poses regarding potential escapes. A high 'ESC' score suggests a previous tendency to escape, which can highlight safety concerns for both the institution and the community. This score plays a key role in assessing how inmates are classified for housing and the measures needed for their supervision. The answer regarding a mandatory minimum placement score of 19 is inaccurate because the 'ESC' score does not define a strict numerical limit for placement but instead serves as a part of a broader assessment in evaluating an inmate's risk. Inmate classification systems often utilize various factors, including the 'ESC' score, to inform decisions about housing classification and security needs. In terms of relevance, the 'ESC' score is crucial for determining housing classification, helping staff to place inmates in appropriate settings that reflect their escape risk and history. This ensures a more secure environment both for inmates and staff while also contributing to the overall management of correctional facilities.

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://correctionalcounselor-cc1.examzify.com>

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