

DAU Contracting Certification 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. What does DFARS stand for in the context of government regulations?**
 - A. Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement**
 - B. Department of Federal Acquisition Regulations Standard**
 - C. Defense Fixed Asset Regulation System**
 - D. Department of Financing and Acquisition Regulatory Services**
- 2. What does a Statement of Work (SOW) establish in a contract?**
 - A. Financial requirements for the contract**
 - B. All non-specification requirements for contractor efforts**
 - C. The schedule for contract execution**
 - D. Specific contractor qualifications**
- 3. What is true regarding the contractor's inability to supply its own resources?**
 - A. It justifies offering Government property**
 - B. It must be formally documented**
 - C. It indicates a need for contract re-evaluation**
 - D. It should not be a reason for furnishing property**
- 4. Which method is NOT a part of FAR Part 17's description of special contracting?**
 - A. Multi-year contracting**
 - B. Contingency contracting**
 - C. Options**
 - D. Leader company contracting**
- 5. Which of the following is NOT a common element of a PR Package?**
 - A. Requirements Documents**
 - B. Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL)**
 - C. Sole Source Justification**
 - D. Final Contract Award**

- 6. What must be made available in the GPE alongside specifications and technical data?**
- A. Contract awards**
 - B. Solicitation**
 - C. Proposal evaluations**
 - D. Industry reports**
- 7. What is the main principle of the Antideficiency Act?**
- A. It allows for unlimited spending by federal employees**
 - B. It prohibits federal employees from obligating funds without Congressional approval**
 - C. It mandates that federal contracts must be finalized by end of fiscal year**
 - D. It restricts the procurement of goods and services**
- 8. In what situation would a Performance Work Statement not be appropriate?**
- A. When clear performance objectives are required**
 - B. When the acquisition is highly technical**
 - C. When offering innovative solutions is not necessary**
 - D. When following a traditional contract structure**
- 9. Which method is NOT a formal technique for soliciting industry feedback?**
- A. Requests for information (RFIs)**
 - B. Draft requests for proposals (RFPs)**
 - C. Online surveys**
 - D. Industry days**
- 10. Where should PSCs be included according to guidelines?**
- A. General contract clauses**
 - B. Each contract line item number (CLIN)**
 - C. Final invoice submissions**
 - D. Contractor performance reviews**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does DFARS stand for in the context of government regulations?

- A. Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement**
- B. Department of Federal Acquisition Regulations Standard**
- C. Defense Fixed Asset Regulation System**
- D. Department of Financing and Acquisition Regulatory Services**

DFARS stands for Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, which is a set of regulations that specifically supplements the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) for Department of Defense (DoD) acquisitions. DFARS provides additional policies and procedures unique to the DoD's procurement processes. This supplement is designed to address the unique needs of defense procurement, including various statutory requirements and considerations that apply specifically to the Department of Defense. Understanding the significance of DFARS is crucial for individuals involved in contracting and procurement within the defense sector, as it governs how contracts are awarded, managed, and overseen, ensuring that the procurement process aligns with national security interests and the strategic objectives of the DoD.

2. What does a Statement of Work (SOW) establish in a contract?

- A. Financial requirements for the contract**
- B. All non-specification requirements for contractor efforts**
- C. The schedule for contract execution**
- D. Specific contractor qualifications**

A Statement of Work (SOW) is a crucial document in a contract that outlines all non-specification requirements related to the contractor's efforts. It details the specific tasks, deliverables, and objectives expected from the contractor, ensuring that there is a clear understanding of the work to be performed. This document serves as a guide for both the contractor and the client, establishing expectations and requirements that go beyond mere technical specifications. By focusing on the non-specification elements, such as performance standards, quality metrics, and responsibilities, the SOW helps to create a comprehensive framework within which the contractor can operate. It is essential for minimizing ambiguities and disputes during contract execution, as it provides a clear reference point for what is expected from the contractor throughout the lifecycle of the project. This context makes the SOW fundamental in ensuring that both parties have aligned goals and understand their respective contributions to the work.

3. What is true regarding the contractor's inability to supply its own resources?

- A. It justifies offering Government property**
- B. It must be formally documented**
- C. It indicates a need for contract re-evaluation**
- D. It should not be a reason for furnishing property**

The assertion that a contractor's inability to supply its own resources should not be a reason for furnishing property aligns with the principles of contract management and responsibility. In contractual agreements, contractors are generally expected to provide their own resources to fulfill the terms of the contract. If a contractor cannot meet this obligation, it reflects on their capability and financial health, necessitating careful evaluation. Furnishing government property to a contractor simply because they cannot supply their own resources sets a precedent that could undermine the contractual responsibility. This can lead to dependency on government-provided resources rather than encouraging contractors to develop and maintain their own capabilities. It is crucial to ensure that contractors are prepared to manage their resources effectively before receiving government property. Factors such as justifying the use of government property, the necessity for contract re-evaluation, or formally documenting the situation may be relevant in different contexts, but they do not justify providing property to a contractor unable to meet basic resource requirements. Instead, these scenarios call for exploring more sustainable solutions that reinforce contractual objectives and the independent functioning of the contractor.

4. Which method is NOT a part of FAR Part 17's description of special contracting?

- A. Multi-year contracting**
- B. Contingency contracting**
- C. Options**
- D. Leader company contracting**

The method that is NOT a part of FAR Part 17's description of special contracting is contingency contracting. FAR Part 17 focuses on specific contracting methods that aim to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of government procurement. These methods include multi-year contracting, which allows for the procurement of supplies or services for more than one year, and options, which provide the government with the flexibility to extend a contract under specified conditions. Contingency contracting, while an important aspect of procurement strategy particularly in military and emergency situations, is not categorized under the special contracting methods defined in FAR Part 17. Instead, it relates to contracts established to support operations during the onset of contingencies and emergencies but does not fit within the framework of the specific contracting methods laid out in Part 17. Leader company contracting does not fall under the traditional definitions found in FAR Part 17 either but may refer to other collaborative or joint venture contracting approaches that exist outside of the specific terminology used in FAR for special contracting methods.

5. Which of the following is NOT a common element of a PR Package?

- A. Requirements Documents**
- B. Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL)**
- C. Sole Source Justification**
- D. Final Contract Award**

The final contract award is not typically considered a common element of a PR (Procurement Request) Package. A PR Package mainly serves to outline the essential details and conditions involved in the procurement process, which includes documentation and justification for the items or services being acquired. Requirements documents articulate the specific needs and expectations of the contract. They provide a foundation for what is to be procured and serve as a reference throughout the contracting process. The Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL) is equally important as it outlines the data deliverables required from the contractor, ensuring that all necessary information is accounted for. Sole source justification is also a key component, explaining the rationale for choosing a specific supplier without a competitive bidding process, and providing necessary support for decision-making. In contrast, the final contract award signifies the culmination of the contracting process and is the result of the procurement efforts laid out in the PR Package rather than a part of it. The PR Package's focus is on gathering and presenting the relevant information and documentation required to initiate and conduct the contracting process effectively.

6. What must be made available in the GPE alongside specifications and technical data?

- A. Contract awards**
- B. Solicitation**
- C. Proposal evaluations**
- D. Industry reports**

The correct choice highlights that the solicitation must be made available in the Governmentwide Point of Entry (GPE) alongside specifications and technical data. A solicitation is a formal request for proposals or bids that outlines the requirements and criteria for obtaining goods or services. By ensuring that the solicitation is accessible, all potential offerors can review the necessary information, allowing for competitive bidding and transparency in the procurement process. This availability is crucial because it fosters fair competition and ensures that all interested parties have access to the same information. The specifications and technical data provided in the solicitation clarify the exact needs of the government, and when paired with the solicitation itself, it enables bidders to prepare their proposals accurately, ensuring compliance and relevancy with the government's requirements. Thus, making the solicitation accessible in the GPE is vital for maintaining integrity and fairness in the contracting process.

7. What is the main principle of the Antideficiency Act?
- A. It allows for unlimited spending by federal employees
 - B. It prohibits federal employees from obligating funds without Congressional approval**
 - C. It mandates that federal contracts must be finalized by end of fiscal year
 - D. It restricts the procurement of goods and services

The main principle of the Antideficiency Act is centered on the need for fiscal responsibility within federal government operations, which is why the prohibition of federal employees from obligating funds without Congressional approval is correct. This act ensures that government expenditure does not exceed the amounts that have been appropriated by Congress, thereby maintaining budgetary control and preventing overspending. By requiring that federal funds cannot be obligated without prior approval, the act protects the integrity of the appropriations process and ensures accountability in government spending. This principle is crucial for establishing trust and transparency in federal budgeting, as any unauthorized commitment could result in financial discrepancies and legal issues. In contrast, the other options present misunderstandings about the act's purpose. Allowing unlimited spending would counteract the act's goal of maintaining fiscal discipline. Mandating that contracts must be finalized by the end of the fiscal year and restricting procurement of goods and services do not accurately reflect the Antideficiency Act's core intention, which specifically focuses on the commitment of funds rather than on operational deadlines or procurement limits.

8. In what situation would a Performance Work Statement not be appropriate?
- A. When clear performance objectives are required
 - B. When the acquisition is highly technical
 - C. When offering innovative solutions is not necessary**
 - D. When following a traditional contract structure

A Performance Work Statement (PWS) is designed to articulate the outcomes and performance required by a contractor in a contract. It emphasizes results rather than specifying how tasks should be accomplished. In scenarios where offering innovative solutions is unnecessary, a PWS may not be the best fit because it thrives on the dynamic and creative input that contractors bring to fulfilling the performance objectives. When innovative approaches are not required, a more traditional or prescriptive statement of work (SOW) can be more appropriate. This allows for clearer, direct instructions on what needs to be done without inviting or encouraging alternative methodologies. The PWS is ideally suited for situations where creativity and innovation can add value, whereas situations with fixed requirements may benefit from a different approach that clearly lays out the work tasks without necessitating innovative or performance-driven methods. Using a PWS in contexts where innovation is not sought could lead to misunderstandings about the intended contract performance, making it less effective in those settings.

9. Which method is NOT a formal technique for soliciting industry feedback?

- A. Requests for information (RFIs)**
- B. Draft requests for proposals (RFPs)**
- C. Online surveys**
- D. Industry days**

The method that is not typically considered a formal technique for soliciting industry feedback is online surveys. While online surveys can be a useful tool for gathering opinions and insights from various stakeholders, they do not have the same level of formality and structured approach that the other options provide. Requests for information (RFIs), draft requests for proposals (RFPs), and industry days are all established methods used in the contracting process to engage with industry partners and gather detailed feedback in a structured manner. RFIs are solicited documents that allow the agency to obtain information and capabilities from potential vendors before crafting a formal request. Draft RFPs serve a similar purpose, providing a preliminary framework that allows industry input before the final proposal is issued. Industry days are organized events where agencies directly engage with industry representatives, allowing for a comprehensive exchange of information. In contrast, online surveys often lack the direct interaction and immediate dialogue that characterize formal feedback mechanisms. While they can collect valuable data, the process is generally less formalized and may not provide the depth of insights that come from the structured techniques of the other three options.

10. Where should PSCs be included according to guidelines?

- A. General contract clauses**
- B. Each contract line item number (CLIN)**
- C. Final invoice submissions**
- D. Contractor performance reviews**

Including PSCs, or Product Service Codes, at the contract line item number (CLIN) level is essential because CLINs represent specific items or services within a federal contract. This granularity allows for accurate identification and categorization of the goods or services being procured. By placing PSCs with each CLIN, it facilitates clearer reporting and analysis of the types of products or services purchased, which is crucial for budget tracking, performance measurement, and compliance with various federal contracting regulations. This practice ensures that stakeholders can easily assess the contract's execution related to specific services or products and enhances the transparency and accountability of procurement efforts. It also aligns with federal acquisition regulations that emphasize precision in categorizing contracting actions.

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://daucontractingcert.examzify.com>

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