

DAWIA CONTRACTING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE EXAM (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. When is a cost-reimbursement contract appropriate?**
 - A. When the work has well-defined technical requirements and low risk.
 - B. When the work involves substantial uncertainty or technical risk, and the government reimburses allowable costs with a fee.
 - C. For small, straightforward tasks with fixed price.
 - D. When the contractor bears most of the cost risk.
- 2. Which statement about Sealed Bidding is true?**
 - A. It uses public opening of bids and awards based on price
 - B. It requires post-award debriefings
 - C. It uses negotiated best-value tradeoffs
 - D. It is used only for services
- 3. Which term is used for a rapid closeout process negotiated by the CO/KO?**
 - A. Normal closeout
 - B. Quick closeout
 - C. Accelerated closeout
 - D. Immediate closeout
- 4. How long must contractors retain contract files?**
 - A. 1 year
 - B. 3 years
 - C. 5 years
 - D. 7 years
- 5. Which statement is accurate about unlimited rights in DoD data rights?**
 - A. Unlimited rights allow unrestricted government use and disclosure.
 - B. Government rights may not be disclosed publicly.
 - C. Limited rights are always superior to unlimited rights.
 - D. Unlimited rights allow the government to use data for any purpose and to disclose it without restriction.

- 6. What is the CPARS threshold for construction contracts?**
- A. \$750K+
 - B. \$500K+
 - C. Not required, but optional
 - D. \$1M+
- 7. Who prepares an offer?**
- A. The Government & The Buyer.
 - B. The Contractor and the Seller.
 - C. The KO.
 - D. The Public Contractor.
- 8. Which activity best supports determining the competition strategy and contract type before issuing a solicitation?**
- A. Conducting market research to identify sources and capabilities
 - B. Waiting until after award
 - C. Publishing the RFP without market analysis
 - D. Reducing competition to a single bidder
- 9. In federal acquisitions, which part governs competition requirements?**
- A. FAR Part 8
 - B. FAR Part 6
 - C. FAR Part 9
 - D. FAR Part 3
- 10. What is the CPARS threshold for ship repair/overhaul contracts?**
- A. \$1M+
 - B. \$750K+
 - C. Not required, but optional
 - D. \$500K+

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When is a cost-reimbursement contract appropriate?

- A. When the work has well-defined technical requirements and low risk.
- B. When the work involves substantial uncertainty or technical risk, and the government reimburses allowable costs with a fee.**
- C. For small, straightforward tasks with fixed price.
- D. When the contractor bears most of the cost risk.

Cost-reimbursement contracts are appropriate when the work has substantial uncertainty or technical risk, and the government reimburses allowable costs with a fee. This approach recognizes that total costs and even the exact scope may not be knowable at the outset, such as in research and development or complex engineering work where requirements evolve or new information emerges. The contractor is paid for actual allowable, allocable costs incurred, plus a fee to provide incentive and profit. Because the government bears the cost risk, there must be rigorous oversight, cost reporting, and audit rights to ensure costs are allowable and reasonable and that they align with the contract terms. If the work is well-defined with low risk, a fixed-price contract is usually better because it establishes a firm price and shifts most cost risk to the contractor. For simple, small tasks, fixed-price is also typically more efficient. When the contractor bears most of the cost risk, that tendency points to fixed-price arrangements, not cost-reimbursement.

2. Which statement about Sealed Bidding is true?

- A. It uses public opening of bids and awards based on price**
- B. It requires post-award debriefings
- C. It uses negotiated best-value tradeoffs
- D. It is used only for services

Sealed bidding centers on transparent price competition for a clearly defined requirement. Bids are submitted in sealed form and are opened publicly at a prescribed time, so everyone can witness the price competition. Awards are made to the lowest responsible bid that meets the specifications, with no discussions or negotiations to improve price or terms after bids are opened. This focus on a public, price-based decision distinguishes sealed bidding from negotiated approaches that use best-value tradeoffs. Debriefings after award are not an inherent feature of sealed bidding, and the method is not restricted to services—it's commonly used for well-defined supplies as well. So the statement that best captures what sealed bidding is about is the public opening of bids and awards based on price.

3. Which term is used for a rapid closeout process negotiated by the CO/KO?

- A. Normal closeout
- B. Quick closeout**
- C. Accelerated closeout
- D. Immediate closeout

When a contract needs to be wrapped up quickly, the process is a streamlined, accelerated closeout that the Contracting Officer or KO approves and guides. This approach trims the usual administrative steps, clarifies exactly what actions are needed, and aims to finish the file without the typical delays. The term used to describe this rapid, CO/KO-negotiated path is "quick closeout," which explicitly conveys both the speed and the negotiated nature of the process. Normal closeout implies standard procedures and timelines, while accelerated closeout suggests faster handling but isn't the established label for a CO/KO-directed streamlined closeout. Immediate closeout isn't a standard term for a formal process.

4. How long must contractors retain contract files?

- A. 1 year
- B. 3 years**
- C. 5 years
- D. 7 years

Retention duration for contract files is the main concept. In government contracting, you keep contract records for a set period to support audits, resolve claims, and address post award inquiries. The standard baseline is three years after final payment on the contract. This window starts after the last payment is made and after any contractual issues have been settled, ensuring records are available if questions or audits arise. If a dispute, claim, or audit is still open, you keep the files until those actions are resolved. After that period—and absent any other legal or agency requirements—the files can typically be disposed of.

5. Which statement is accurate about unlimited rights in DoD data rights?

- A. Unlimited rights allow unrestricted government use and disclosure.
- B. Government rights may not be disclosed publicly.
- C. Limited rights are always superior to unlimited rights.
- D. Unlimited rights allow the government to use data for any purpose and to disclose it without restriction.**

Unlimited rights are the broadest form of DoD data rights. When data is delivered with unlimited rights, the government can use the data for any purpose, modify it, reproduce it, distribute it, and disclose it to others without restriction. It also lets the government authorize others to do the same. This direct phrasing—use for any purpose and disclose without restriction—captures the full scope of what unlimited rights permit. The other statements don't fit as well. One option suggests the government's rights may not be disclosed publicly, which contradicts the ability to disclose. Another claims that limited rights are always superior, which isn't true because unlimited rights encompass everything limited rights do and much more.

6. What is the CPARS threshold for construction contracts?

- A. \$750K+**
- B. \$500K+
- C. Not required, but optional
- D. \$1M+

Contractor performance reporting for construction contracts is required when the contract value meets or exceeds 750,000 dollars. This threshold ensures that substantial construction efforts have a formal performance record, which supports future source selections by providing standardized, reliable feedback on how the contractor performed in areas like quality, schedule adherence, and cost management. For contract values below this level, CPARS evaluations are not mandatory, which is why the threshold is set at 750K rather than lower or higher amounts.

7. Who prepares an offer?

- A. The Government & The Buyer.
- B. The Contractor and the Seller.**
- C. The KO.
- D. The Public Contractor.

In government contracting, the offer is created by the party bidding to do the work—the contractor—often with input from the seller as the provider of goods or services. The government issues the solicitation and, after evaluation, the contracting officer awards the contract. So the entity that actually prepares the offer is the contractor (the bidder) and the seller who will provide the goods or services. The contracting officer's role is to manage the process and finalize the award, not to draft the bid. The other options don't fit because the government or the contracting officer doesn't prepare the offer, and "public contractor" isn't a standard term.

8. Which activity best supports determining the competition strategy and contract type before issuing a solicitation?

- A. Conducting market research to identify sources and capabilities**
- B. Waiting until after award
- C. Publishing the RFP without market analysis
- D. Reducing competition to a single bidder

Market research that identifies sources and capabilities is what shapes how you approach competition and choose a contract type before issuing a solicitation. By surveying what vendors can do, their qualifications, pricing landscapes, and performance histories, you determine whether there are multiple capable sources and whether a set-aside or full-and-open competition is appropriate. This also guides the contract type decision: with well-defined requirements and active price competition, a firm-fixed-price arrangement may be suitable; with higher risk or uncertainty, a cost-reimbursement or other type might be warranted. Skipping this step and issuing an RFP without analysis risks improper competition strategy and an ill-suited contract type, which can lead to higher costs, performance risk, and potential protests. Reducing competition to a single bidder without justified need undermines competition and isn't the best way to determine how to structure the solicitation.

9. In federal acquisitions, which part governs competition requirements?

- A. FAR Part 8
- B. FAR Part 6**
- C. FAR Part 9
- D. FAR Part 3

Competition requirements in federal acquisitions are governed by FAR Part 6. This part codifies the policy to promote full and open competition to the maximum extent practicable, aligning with the Competition in Contracting Act. It sets the standard procedures for how solicitations are issued, how proposals are evaluated, and how awards are made to ensure competitive outcomes, while also spelling out valid justifications and approvals for when competition cannot be full and open (the exceptions and the process to use them). In short, Part 6 provides the overarching framework that drives competitive procurement across most acquisitions. Other parts cover specialized paths or related areas but do not replace this overarching rule. For example, certain acquisitions use simplified procedures or specific catalogs, which are addressed in other parts; source selection and contractor qualifications are addressed within separate sections, and general policy and administration are covered by Part 3. Those parts support procurement activities, but the fundamental requirement to compete to the maximum extent practicable comes from Part 6.

10. What is the CPARS threshold for ship repair/overhaul contracts?

- A. \$1M+
- B. \$750K+
- C. Not required, but optional
- D. \$500K+**

CPARS is the government's formal system for evaluating contractor performance on contracts, and agencies rely on it to inform future source selections. For ship repair and overhaul work, the evaluation requirement kicks in when the contract value reaches \$500,000 or more, so any such contract at or above this amount must have a CPARS report. If the value is below \$500K, CPARS isn't required, though some agencies may still collect performance information through other means. The other options don't fit because they set different thresholds or imply CPARS is optional at the threshold, which isn't the standard rule for ship repair/overhaul contracts.

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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://dawiacontractingpro.examzify.com>

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

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