

# DC Gun Laws & Firearms Safety 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**

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- 1. What kind of background check is required for firearm registration in DC?**
  - A. Criminal and mental health**
  - B. Credit report**
  - C. Employment history**
  - D. No background check is required**
  
- 2. What is required to legally transport a firearm through DC?**
  - A. The firearm must be unloaded and locked**
  - B. A valid DC firearm registration**
  - C. A permit from the DC police**
  - D. An open carry permit**
  
- 3. Is open carry of firearms legal in DC?**
  - A. Yes, in all places**
  - B. Yes, but in limited places**
  - C. No**
  - D. Only for law enforcement**
  
- 4. What is required to legally transport a firearm through DC?**
  - A. The firearm must be unloaded and locked**
  - B. The firearm must be visible at all times**
  - C. The firearm must be loaded but not in reach**
  - D. No special requirements**
  
- 5. Before registering a firearm in DC, what must an applicant complete?**
  - A. Background check**
  - B. Firearm safety training course**
  - C. Mental health evaluation**
  - D. All of the above**

**6. Is a safety training course required to register a firearm in DC?**

- A. No, it is not required**
- B. Yes, for handguns only**
- C. Yes, for all types of firearms**
- D. Yes, but only for residents under 25**

**7. Are high capacity magazines (more than 10 rounds) legal in D.C.?**

- A. Yes, in all cases**
- B. No, in all cases**
- C. Yes, but only for law enforcement**
- D. Yes, with special permits**

**8. Who is prohibited from registering a firearm in Washington D.C.?**

- A. Persons under the age of 21**
- B. Convicted felons**
- C. Non-U.S citizens**
- D. All of the above**

**9. Is it mandatory to report lost or stolen firearms in DC?**

- A. Yes**
- B. No**
- C. Only if the firearm is registered**
- D. Only for stolen firearms**

**10. What type of firearms are illegal to possess in DC?**

- A. Semi-automatic rifles**
- B. Handguns registered after 1976**
- C. Sawed-off shotguns**
- D. All firearms**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What kind of background check is required for firearm registration in DC?

- A. Criminal and mental health**
- B. Credit report**
- C. Employment history**
- D. No background check is required**

In DC, a criminal and mental health background check is required for firearm registration. This is because the District of Columbia has strict laws and regulations surrounding gun ownership and possession. A credit report and employment history are not relevant for firearm registration, as they do not provide information about an individual's criminal or mental health history. It is important for background checks to be conducted in order to ensure the safety and security of all individuals in the community. The incorrect options may seem plausible, but they are not directly related to the purpose of a firearm background check.

## 2. What is required to legally transport a firearm through DC?

- A. The firearm must be unloaded and locked**
- B. A valid DC firearm registration**
- C. A permit from the DC police**
- D. An open carry permit**

To legally transport a firearm through DC, several requirements must be met. Some options may seem reasonable, but are not necessary. For instance, choice B, a valid DC firearm registration, is not necessary if the firearm in question is not owned by someone who lives in DC. Similarly, choice C, a permit from the DC police, is not necessary if the firearm is being transported through DC without any stops. Lastly, choice D, an open carry permit, would only be applicable if the individual plans to openly carry the firearm while in DC, which may not be allowed in certain areas. Therefore, the only necessary requirement is choice A, which is that the firearm must be unloaded and locked while being transported through DC. This is to ensure the safety and security of the person transporting the firearm, as well as those around them.

## 3. Is open carry of firearms legal in DC?

- A. Yes, in all places**
- B. Yes, but in limited places**
- C. No**
- D. Only for law enforcement**

Open carry of firearms is not legal in Washington D.C. It is important to understand the laws and regulations in the District of Columbia, as they may vary from state laws. In D.C., individuals are not permitted to openly carry firearms in public places. This is in contrast to some other states where open carry may be allowed with certain restrictions. It is important for gun owners to be aware of and comply with the specific laws and regulations regarding firearms in their jurisdiction.

#### 4. What is required to legally transport a firearm through DC?

- A. The firearm must be unloaded and locked**
- B. The firearm must be visible at all times**
- C. The firearm must be loaded but not in reach**
- D. No special requirements**

To legally transport a firearm through DC, the firearm must be unloaded and locked. This is an essential safety measure to prevent any accidental discharge or unauthorized access to the weapon during transportation. Keeping the firearm unloaded and locked ensures that it is secure and not easily accessible while being transported. Therefore, option A is the correct choice. Options B and C are incorrect because they do not align with proper firearm safety practices. Having the firearm visible at all times or loaded but not in reach can pose serious safety risks and is not in compliance with the transportation regulations in DC. Option D is also incorrect as there are indeed specific requirements for transporting a firearm through DC, such as keeping it unloaded and locked, as mentioned in option A.

#### 5. Before registering a firearm in DC, what must an applicant complete?

- A. Background check**
- B. Firearm safety training course**
- C. Mental health evaluation**
- D. All of the above**

Before registering a firearm in DC, an applicant must complete all of the above options, which includes a background check, firearm safety training course, and mental health evaluation. A background check is necessary to ensure the applicant does not have a criminal record that would disqualify them from owning a firearm. A firearm safety training course is necessary to ensure the applicant knows how to safely handle, store, and use a firearm. A mental health evaluation is necessary to ensure the applicant does not have any mental health issues that would make them a danger to themselves or others when in possession of a firearm. Therefore, all of the above options must be completed for an applicant to register a firearm in DC.

#### 6. Is a safety training course required to register a firearm in DC?

- A. No, it is not required**
- B. Yes, for handguns only**
- C. Yes, for all types of firearms**
- D. Yes, but only for residents under 25**

In Washington, DC, a safety training course is required in order to register all types of firearms. This training ensures that individuals are knowledgeable about safe handling and operation of firearms, promoting responsible gun ownership within the community. Therefore, option C is the correct answer.

**7. Are high capacity magazines (more than 10 rounds) legal in D.C.?**

- A. Yes, in all cases**
- B. No, in all cases**
- C. Yes, but only for law enforcement**
- D. Yes, with special permits**

High capacity magazines (more than 10 rounds) are generally not legal in Washington D.C. This restriction is in place to help improve public safety by limiting the number of rounds a firearm can hold, thereby potentially reducing the impact of mass shootings or violent incidents. It is important for individuals to be aware of and comply with these regulations to avoid legal consequences.

**8. Who is prohibited from registering a firearm in Washington D.C.?**

- A. Persons under the age of 21**
- B. Convicted felons**
- C. Non-U.S citizens**
- D. All of the above**

In Washington D.C., individuals who are prohibited from registering a firearm include persons under the age of 21, convicted felons, and non-U.S. citizens. Therefore, the correct answer is D, "All of the above." Option A, persons under the age of 21, are generally not allowed to register firearms in D.C. as they are considered juveniles in the eyes of the law. Option B, convicted felons, are prohibited from registering firearms due to their criminal records which legally prevent them from owning or possessing firearms. Option C, non-U.S. citizens, are also restricted from registering firearms due to their non-citizenship status which raises potential concerns about their eligibility to possess firearms in the U.S. Ultimately, the answer choice D accurately reflects the various categories of individuals who are ineligible to register firearms in Washington D.C.

**9. Is it mandatory to report lost or stolen firearms in DC?**

- A. Yes**
- B. No**
- C. Only if the firearm is registered**
- D. Only for stolen firearms**

Yes, it is mandatory to report lost or stolen firearms in DC. This requirement is in place to help prevent these firearms from being used in crimes. Reporting lost or stolen firearms is essential for public safety and ensuring that firearms are not misused or unlawfully transferred.

**10. What type of firearms are illegal to possess in DC?**

- A. Semi-automatic rifles**
- B. Handguns registered after 1976**
- C. Sawed-off shotguns**
- D. All firearms**

In Washington D.C., it is illegal to possess sawed-off shotguns. This restriction is in place to regulate the ownership of firearms that have been altered to be more easily concealed or to enhance their combat effectiveness. Sawed-off shotguns have a barrel length shorter than 18 inches or an overall length less than 26 inches, making them particularly dangerous in close-quarter situations. Possessing such firearms is strictly prohibited under D.C. gun laws to maintain public safety. Regarding the other options: - Semi-automatic rifles are not illegal to possess in D.C., but they are subject to specific regulations. - Handguns registered after 1976 are not automatically illegal; however, there are regulations in place for registering handguns in D.C. after this time. - The statement "All firearms" is too broad as not all types of firearms are illegal in D.C.

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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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://dcfirearms.examzify.com>**

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

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