

DPS Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Examination (LEOCE) 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. In a jury trial, who determines the verdict?**
 - A. Jury**
 - B. Judge**
 - C. Bailiff**
 - D. Clerk**

- 2. Which amendment guarantees freedom of speech?**
 - A. First**
 - B. Second**
 - C. Fifth**
 - D. Eighth**

- 3. In a jury trial, what is the role of the jury?**
 - A. To interpret the law**
 - B. To enforce penalties**
 - C. To be impartial, triers of fact in a jury trial**
 - D. To prosecute cases**

- 4. Evidence should be stored in what kind of container?**
 - A. Plastic**
 - B. Paper**
 - C. Metal**
 - D. Glass**

- 5. Which case requires informing suspects of rights during custodial interrogation?**
 - A. Katz v. United States**
 - B. Terry v. Ohio**
 - C. Miranda v. Arizona**
 - D. Mapp v. Ohio**

- 6. Who may legally possess a deadly weapon in a vehicle near a school, according to policy?**
 - A. A person under 19 years old**
 - B. A person 19 years old or older**
 - C. Only with a special permit**
 - D. Never allowed in any vehicle**

- 7. What is the principal skill emphasized for community safety and effective policing in the material?**
- A. Physical fitness**
 - B. Communication**
 - C. Investigative techniques**
 - D. Weapon handling**
- 8. Which item is listed as a pedophile indicator?**
- A. Multiple victims**
 - B. Child porn**
 - C. Web design**
 - D. Substance abuse**
- 9. What is the primary role of the prosecutor in the criminal process?**
- A. Seek Justice**
 - B. Ensure Conviction at All Costs**
 - C. Protect the Rights of the Accused Exclusively**
 - D. Decide Sentences**
- 10. Which document is listed as a medical card?**
- A. Medical card**
 - B. Physical exam certificate**
 - C. Brady v. Mayland**
 - D. Voting registration**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In a jury trial, who determines the verdict?

- A. Jury**
- B. Judge**
- C. Bailiff**
- D. Clerk**

In a jury trial, the verdict is determined by the jurors. They hear the evidence, apply the judge's legal instructions, and deliberate privately to decide guilt or liability. The judge's role is to preside, rule on evidentiary and legal issues, and guide the jury on how to apply the law; the bailiff keeps order, and the clerk handles records and administrative tasks. If the jurors can't agree, a hung jury may result and a mistrial can be declared, potentially leading to a new trial.

2. Which amendment guarantees freedom of speech?

- A. First**
- B. Second**
- C. Fifth**
- D. Eighth**

Freedom of expression is protected by the First Amendment, which is part of the Bill of Rights added to the Constitution. It says Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, and it also supports related freedoms like press, assembly, and petition. This makes it the foundational protection that lets people express ideas, criticize government, and share information without fear of government punishment. The protection extends to individuals against government action, and through the Fourteenth Amendment it applies to state and local governments too. While the right is broad, there are well-established limits for things like incitement to imminent lawless action, true threats, defamation, obscenity, and certain types of regulated commercial speech. The other listed amendments protect different rights and do not guarantee freedom of speech.

3. In a jury trial, what is the role of the jury?

- A. To interpret the law**
- B. To enforce penalties**
- C. To be impartial, triers of fact in a jury trial**
- D. To prosecute cases**

The jury's job is to be impartial fact-finders in a jury trial. They listen to testimony, review exhibits, and weigh the credibility of witnesses to decide what actually happened. They determine the facts and, based on the judge's legal instructions and the standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt, render a verdict of guilty or not guilty. They do not interpret the law, enforce penalties, or prosecute; those roles belong to the judge and the prosecutor, respectively. The key idea is that the jury decides the facts and verdict, while the judge handles the legal rules.

4. Evidence should be stored in what kind of container?

- A. Plastic
- B. Paper**
- C. Metal
- D. Glass

Storing evidence in breathable containers helps preserve its integrity by allowing moisture to escape and reducing the risk of mold and microbial growth. Paper containers are particularly suited for wet or biological evidence because air can circulate, which helps dry the material and protect DNA, moisture-sensitive items, and overall quality. Plastic can trap moisture and promote degradation, while metal or glass are heavy, prone to breakage, and not as practical for routine handling and sealing. So, among these options, paper provides the best balance for preserving most types of evidence and maintaining its admissibility.

5. Which case requires informing suspects of rights during custodial interrogation?

- A. Katz v. United States
- B. Terry v. Ohio
- C. Miranda v. Arizona**
- D. Mapp v. Ohio

Informing suspects of rights before custodial interrogation is a safeguard tied to protecting the Fifth Amendment against self-incrimination and the Sixth Amendment right to counsel. The case that established this requirement is *Miranda v. Arizona*, where the Supreme Court ruled that statements made during custodial questioning are admissible only after the suspect has been clearly informed of their rights and has either knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waived them or obtained counsel. If the warnings aren't given or the waiver isn't valid, the statements are typically excluded from evidence. The other cases address different issues: *Katz* deals with privacy expectations under the Fourth Amendment, *Terry* with stops and frisks based on reasonable suspicion, and *Mapp* with the exclusionary rule and searches. So *Miranda v. Arizona* is the one that specifically requires informing suspects of rights during custodial interrogation.

6. Who may legally possess a deadly weapon in a vehicle near a school, according to policy?

- A. A person under 19 years old
- B. A person 19 years old or older**
- C. Only with a special permit
- D. Never allowed in any vehicle

The policy uses an age-based rule to determine legality. Only individuals who are 19 years old or older may legally possess a deadly weapon in a vehicle near a school. This safeguards against allowing minors to carry dangerous weapons in sensitive areas. The other options don't fit because underage individuals are restricted by the policy, a blanket permit exception isn't stated, and the policy does not forbid all adults from possession in a vehicle near a school.

7. What is the principal skill emphasized for community safety and effective policing in the material?

- A. Physical fitness**
- B. Communication**
- C. Investigative techniques**
- D. Weapon handling**

Effective policing in community settings hinges on communication. Clear, respectful, and adaptive dialogue with the public builds trust, clarifies expectations, and enables officers to de-escalate tense situations, obtain accurate information, and coordinate with community members and partners. When officers communicate well, they can resolve issues without force, encourage voluntary cooperation, and identify underlying problems that lead to crime or disorder, which is the cornerstone of community safety. While physical fitness supports an officer's ability to perform when needed, investigative techniques help uncover facts after an incident, and weapon handling is a critical safety and control skill, none of these address everyday interactions as directly as communication does.

8. Which item is listed as a pedophile indicator?

- A. Multiple victims**
- B. Child porn**
- C. Web design**
- D. Substance abuse**

The main idea is recognizing signals that someone may pose a risk to children based on their behavior or materials. The item involving child pornography is listed as a pedophile indicator because possessing or distributing sexual materials involving minors directly shows sexual interest in children and illegal activity. This combination makes it a strong, concrete red flag for investigators; it not only points to risk but also provides tangible evidence that can guide intervention and protection efforts. The other options don't fit as direct indicators of pedophilia: multiple victims can suggest predatory behavior in general but isn't specific to sexual interest in children; web design is unrelated to this type of indicator; substance abuse is a general risk factor that can appear with many types of offending but isn't a specific indicator of pedophilia.

9. What is the primary role of the prosecutor in the criminal process?

A. Seek Justice

B. Ensure Conviction at All Costs

C. Protect the Rights of the Accused Exclusively

D. Decide Sentences

The prosecutor's primary role is to seek justice in the criminal process. This means pursuing charges and presenting evidence only when there is a legitimate basis, while protecting the rights of the accused, victims, and the public, and staying truthful about what the evidence shows. Seek justice includes ethical duties like disclosing exculpatory evidence and, if new information undermines the case, moving to dismiss or drop charges. It isn't about winning at all costs; it's about upholding due process and the integrity of the system. Sentencing decisions belong to the judge, though prosecutors may negotiate pleas that affect sentences, and protecting the rights of the accused is not exclusive to the defense but balanced with public safety. If evidence suggests innocence or insufficient proof, the prosecutor should refrain from pursuing a conviction.

10. Which document is listed as a medical card?

A. Medical card

B. Physical exam certificate

C. Brady v. Mayland

D. Voting registration

Understanding labeling and terminology is key here. A medical card is a document specifically titled to convey medical information or status. Among the options, only the item whose name is exactly "Medical card" is the medical card itself because it directly matches the category described in the question. The physical exam certificate is a different document used to certify fitness, not a medical card. Brady v. Mayland is a legal case, not a document about medical information. Voting registration relates to political participation and is unrelated to medical cards. So the item whose label matches the category is the correct choice.

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://dpsleoce.examzify.com>

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

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