

ICC General Requirements Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. Which of the following is NOT a role of the registered design professional (RDP)?**
 - A. Conducting structural observations**
 - B. Hiring the contractor**
 - C. Approving special inspectors**
 - D. Consulting on project compliance**
- 2. What is required to approve a building material not listed in the International Building Code?**
 - A. Architectural review**
 - B. Technical evaluation**
 - C. Peer review**
 - D. Public consultation**
- 3. What are the IBC's requirements for emergency egress?**
 - A. Buildings must include luxury features**
 - B. Buildings must provide safe escape routes for occupants in emergency situations**
 - C. Buildings must have at least one main entrance**
 - D. Buildings must have elevators installed**
- 4. Who is the first individual notified by the special inspector in the event of a non-conforming item?**
 - A. The building official**
 - B. The registered design professional**
 - C. The contractor**
 - D. The client**
- 5. Which of the following best describes "temporary structures" according to ICC?**
 - A. Built to last indefinitely**
 - B. Used for special events only**
 - C. Subject to different regulations than permanent ones**
 - D. Always located outdoors**

- 6. What does the special inspection agreement indicate?**
- A. The owner or registered design professional hired an approved special inspection agency**
 - B. There will be routine inspections by city officials**
 - C. Only major deviations will be inspected**
 - D. This agreement is optional for all projects**
- 7. Which professionals are often involved alongside the special inspector during a special inspection process?**
- A. The property owners**
 - B. The local government officials**
 - C. The design professionals**
 - D. The project team members**
- 8. What does "site plan" detail as required by the ICC?**
- A. The landscape design of the property**
 - B. The layout of the site including building location, access points, and utility connections**
 - C. The color scheme of the buildings**
 - D. The marketing plan for the site development**
- 9. What is the function of "construction type" classification?**
- A. To determine the size of construction teams needed**
 - B. It determines the fire-resistance requirements and allowable height of structures**
 - C. To classify buildings based on their architectural style**
 - D. To evaluate the ecological impact of the building**
- 10. What kind of items do special inspectors look for during their inspections?**
- A. Only major construction faults**
 - B. Defective materials and poor workmanship**
 - C. Minor aesthetic issues**
 - D. General compliance with building codes**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Which of the following is NOT a role of the registered design professional (RDP)?

- A. Conducting structural observations**
- B. Hiring the contractor**
- C. Approving special inspectors**
- D. Consulting on project compliance**

The role of the registered design professional (RDP) encompasses various responsibilities related to the design and oversight of construction projects. Hiring the contractor typically falls under the purview of the project owner or developer rather than the RDP. The RDP is generally focused on ensuring that the design adheres to relevant codes, standards, and regulations, as well as overseeing the implementation of the design during construction. Conducting structural observations is a key duty of the RDP, providing assurance that the construction aligns with the design intent and meets the necessary structural integrity requirements. Approving special inspectors is also a critical responsibility as it ensures that necessary inspections are performed by qualified individuals to maintain compliance with construction standards. Additionally, consulting on project compliance pertains to the RDP's role in ensuring that all aspects of the project meet established codes and regulations during various phases of development. In summary, while the RDP is involved in oversight and compliance regarding the design and construction processes, the actual hiring of the contractor is an activity typically outside their designated responsibilities.

2. What is required to approve a building material not listed in the International Building Code?

- A. Architectural review**
- B. Technical evaluation**
- C. Peer review**
- D. Public consultation**

To approve a building material that is not listed in the International Building Code, a technical evaluation is required. This process involves a thorough assessment of the material's properties, performance, and compliance with safety standards, as specified by relevant codes and regulations. A technical evaluation allows for an objective examination by experts in the field who analyze various factors, such as strength, durability, and potential risks associated with the material's use in construction. This ensures that any new or unconventional materials meet the necessary requirements to be safely used in building projects. The other options, such as architectural review, peer review, and public consultation, may play roles in the broader context of a building project but do not specifically fulfill the requirement needed for the approval of a non-listed building material. Architectural reviews focus more on design aspects, whereas peer reviews involve the examination of work by others in the same field. Public consultation involves gathering input from the community but does not directly address the technical standards necessary for material approval.

3. What are the IBC's requirements for emergency egress?

- A. Buildings must include luxury features
- B. Buildings must provide safe escape routes for occupants in emergency situations**
- C. Buildings must have at least one main entrance
- D. Buildings must have elevators installed

The requirement for buildings to provide safe escape routes for occupants in emergency situations is fundamental to ensuring the health and safety of individuals who occupy the space. The International Building Code (IBC) outlines clear guidelines for egress to facilitate a quick and safe evacuation in emergencies such as fires, earthquakes, or other life-threatening scenarios. Safe escape routes must be designed to be accessible and clearly marked, ensuring that all occupants, regardless of mobility, can exit the building efficiently. This includes having appropriate exit doors, pathways, and signage that guide people to safety. The focus is on protecting lives by minimizing hazards during emergencies, which is why this requirement is a critical component of the IBC. The other options do not directly address the critical concern of occupant safety in emergency situations, making them less relevant to the core requirements of egress as specified by the IBC.

4. Who is the first individual notified by the special inspector in the event of a non-conforming item?

- A. The building official
- B. The registered design professional
- C. The contractor**
- D. The client

In the context of construction and inspections, the special inspector plays a crucial role in ensuring that work complies with the relevant codes and standards. When a non-conforming item is identified, the protocol generally requires that the first notification is made to the contractor responsible for the work. This is because the contractor needs to be immediately informed of any issues that may affect the integrity of the construction or the compliance with the design specifications. The contractor is in the best position to address the non-conformance, implement corrective measures, and communicate further with other parties if necessary. This approach also supports the contractor's ability to manage the quality of work on-site effectively. While the building official, registered design professional, or client may ultimately need to be informed regarding the non-conformance, it is essential that the contractor receives the initial notification so they can rectify the issue promptly. This helps maintain project timelines and quality controls.

5. Which of the following best describes "temporary structures" according to ICC?

- A. Built to last indefinitely**
- B. Used for special events only**
- C. Subject to different regulations than permanent ones**
- D. Always located outdoors**

The correct description of "temporary structures" according to the ICC is that they are subject to different regulations than permanent structures. This distinction is important because temporary structures, such as tents, stages, and similar facilities, may have different safety, design, and inspection requirements compared to permanent buildings. Given their transient nature and potential use in various scenarios, regulators often tailor requirements to ensure safety while accommodating the unique aspects of temporary construction. While some temporary structures may be used for special events, this does not encompass all cases, as they can also serve other purposes, such as construction projects or temporary housing. Additionally, the idea that temporary structures are always located outdoors is inaccurate because, in certain contexts, they can be placed indoors as well. Lastly, unlike permanent structures, which are built to last indefinitely, temporary structures are intended for limited durations, reinforcing the necessity for specific regulations that address their unique characteristics and uses.

6. What does the special inspection agreement indicate?

- A. The owner or registered design professional hired an approved special inspection agency**
- B. There will be routine inspections by city officials**
- C. Only major deviations will be inspected**
- D. This agreement is optional for all projects**

The special inspection agreement serves to outline that the owner or registered design professional has secured the services of a qualified and approved special inspection agency. This ensures that the construction work complies with the relevant codes and standards throughout the project. A properly executed agreement facilitates coordination between all parties and establishes the agency's responsibilities, including what aspects of the work require special inspection. This agreement is crucial in setting the framework for ensuring construction quality and safety, as it specifies who is responsible for conducting inspections and emphasizes the commitment to adhering to compliance standards. The other choices do not accurately depict the purpose of the special inspection agreement. Routine inspections by city officials are generally part of the standard inspection process and do not reflect the uniqueness of a special inspection agreement. The notion that only major deviations would be inspected misrepresents the role of the special inspection, which also includes monitoring work that adheres to the approved plans. Lastly, suggesting that the agreement is optional for all projects overlooks the fact that specific projects, especially those involving complex building systems, often require such agreements to ensure code compliance and safety.

7. Which professionals are often involved alongside the special inspector during a special inspection process?

- A. The property owners**
- B. The local government officials**
- C. The design professionals**
- D. The project team members**

During a special inspection process, design professionals play a pivotal role alongside the special inspector. These professionals, which may include architects and engineers, are crucial because they possess an in-depth understanding of the project's design intent, structural requirements, and compliance with relevant codes and standards. Their collaboration ensures that the construction adheres to the specified designs and methods intended to achieve safety, functionality, and performance as planned. By working closely with the special inspector, design professionals help clarify any design-related questions that may arise during inspections, facilitating resolutions to discrepancies between the design documents and the actual construction practices being observed. This interaction not only reinforces the integrity of the construction process but also ensures that the completed project meets the intended design requirements and safety standards. In contrast, although property owners, local government officials, and project team members could have roles within the broader construction process, their engagement on a day-to-day basis during special inspections is less direct compared to that of design professionals. These parties may influence or oversee certain aspects of the project but do not provide the same level of technical input related to compliance and design fidelity as design professionals do.

8. What does "site plan" detail as required by the ICC?

- A. The landscape design of the property**
- B. The layout of the site including building location, access points, and utility connections**
- C. The color scheme of the buildings**
- D. The marketing plan for the site development**

A site plan is a crucial document that provides a detailed layout of a property. It illustrates the location of buildings, access points such as driveways and pathways, and connections to utilities like water, electricity, and sewage. This comprehensive view is essential for planning and regulatory purposes, as it ensures compliance with zoning laws, assesses the impact on the environment, and facilitates the movement of people and service vehicles around the site. The importance of specifying the layout and connections helps in determining how the site will function in relation to adjoining properties and public infrastructure, ensuring that all necessary services are effectively integrated into the development. A successful site plan will not only guide construction practices but also contribute to the overall safety and accessibility of the development for future users.

9. What is the function of "construction type" classification?

- A. To determine the size of construction teams needed
- B. It determines the fire-resistance requirements and allowable height of structures**
- C. To classify buildings based on their architectural style
- D. To evaluate the ecological impact of the building

The function of "construction type" classification is crucial for establishing specific regulatory requirements that affect the design, safety, and function of a building. This classification directly relates to fire-resistance requirements, which are vital for ensuring the safety of the structure and its occupants in case of a fire. Different construction types are assigned varying levels of fire-resistance ratings based on materials used and structural elements, thus guiding builders and designers in implementing safety practices effectively. Moreover, construction type classification is essential in determining the allowable height and area of structures. Different types can dictate maximum height limits, ensuring they comply with safety codes and regulations. This is particularly relevant in urban planning and building codes, which aim to prevent hazards related to fire and structural collapse. While other options touch on various aspects of construction, they do not capture the primary purpose of construction type classification in safety and regulatory frameworks. Thus, the classification primarily serves to inform about fire safety and structural limitations, making it the key reason for its significance in building design and construction practices.

10. What kind of items do special inspectors look for during their inspections?

- A. Only major construction faults
- B. Defective materials and poor workmanship**
- C. Minor aesthetic issues
- D. General compliance with building codes

Special inspectors focus on identifying defective materials and poor workmanship during their inspections because these factors significantly impact the safety and integrity of a construction project. Their role is to support the primary inspector by monitoring specific aspects of construction to ensure that they adhere to the predetermined quality standards and specifications outlined in the project documentation. Inspectors assess not just major issues, but also subtle defects that may compromise the building's overall quality and functionality. Detecting these defects early in the process allows for timely corrections and can prevent major problems down the line. While compliance with building codes and general construction standards is essential, the specialized nature of the work performed by special inspectors places a heavier emphasis on the quality of materials and the workmanship involved in construction. Thus, the focus on identifying defective materials and poor craftsmanship reflects the proactive approach necessary in construction inspections to uphold safety standards.