

MARYLAND GUN LAWS & FIREARMS SAFETY PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://marylandfirearms.examzify.com>



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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 is required to transfer a handgun or assault weapon in Maryland?**
 - A. Background check through the FBI
 - B. Approval from local police department
 - C. A transfer application approved by the Maryland State Police
 - D. No special requirements
- 2. How long does a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit holder have to notify the state police of a change in address?**
 - A. 24 hours
 - B. 30 days
 - C. 7 days
 - D. Immediately
- 3. What does a Maryland Handgun Qualification License (HQL) allow an individual to do?**
 - A. Openly carry a handgun
 - B. Purchase, rent, or receive a handgun
 - C. Carry a concealed handgun without a permit
 - D. Serve as a substitute for a Wear and Carry Permit
- 4. Is a background check required for all firearm sales in Maryland, including private sales?**
 - A. Yes, for all firearms
 - B. No, only for regulated firearms
 - C. No, background checks are not required
 - D. Yes, but exceptions exist for family transfers
- 5. Which of the following individuals is prohibited from possessing a firearm in Maryland?**
 - A. A person convicted of a violent crime
 - B. A person under the age of 21
 - C. A non-resident of Maryland
 - D. A person without a Firearms Safety Training Course Certificate

- 6. For a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit, the applicant must demonstrate what?**
- A. A good reason for carrying a handgun
 - B. Proficiency with all types of handguns
 - C. Membership in a gun club
 - D. That they are over the age of 30
- 7. What type of firearms are banned for possession in Maryland?**
- A. All semi-automatic rifles
 - B. Specially regulated firearms without proper licensing
 - C. Assault weapons as defined by Maryland law
 - D. All firearms manufactured before 1985
- 8. Under Maryland law, where is it illegal to carry or transport a loaded handgun?**
- A. In your vehicle
 - B. On your person
 - C. Near a school or government building
 - D. All of the above
- 9. What is required to transport a handgun in Maryland?**
- A. The handgun must be unloaded and in a locked container
 - B. An open carry permit
 - C. A concealed carry permit
 - D. No special requirements
- 10. What is the minimum age to apply for a Handgun Qualification License in Maryland?**
- A. 18 years old
 - B. 21 years old
 - C. 25 years old
 - D. 30 years old

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is required to transfer a handgun or assault weapon in Maryland?

- A. Background check through the FBI
- B. Approval from local police department
- C. A transfer application approved by the Maryland State Police**
- D. No special requirements

The requirement to have a transfer application approved by the Maryland State Police is essential for the transfer of handguns or assault weapons in Maryland. This process is put in place to ensure that background checks are appropriately conducted and to confirm that the transfer complies with state laws, which are designed to promote responsible gun ownership and safety. The state's laws mandate that all transfers of regulated firearms must go through this approval process to ensure that the individual purchasing or receiving the firearm is not prohibited from owning one. This stipulation contributes to enhanced public safety by minimizing the risks associated with firearms possession. While background checks are indeed part of the process, they are conducted through the Maryland State Police, not through the FBI directly for this type of transfer. Similarly, while local police may be involved in some aspects of firearm regulation, they do not have the authority to approve the transfer of regulated firearms, which further emphasizes the importance of the Maryland State Police in this context. Therefore, the necessary and correct measure for transferring a handgun or assault weapon in the state centers around the approval by the Maryland State Police.

2. How long does a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit holder have to notify the state police of a change in address?

- A. 24 hours
- B. 30 days**
- C. 7 days
- D. Immediately

A Maryland Wear and Carry Permit holder is required to notify the state police of any change in their address within 30 days. This timeline ensures that the authorities can keep accurate and up-to-date records of permit holders, which is essential for public safety and effective law enforcement. The 30-day requirement allows permit holders a reasonable amount of time to manage their personal affairs while ensuring that their information remains current in the state's databases. Compliance with this rule is important for maintaining the validity of the permit and avoiding potential legal penalties.

3. What does a Maryland Handgun Qualification License (HQL) allow an individual to do?

- A. Openly carry a handgun
- B. Purchase, rent, or receive a handgun**
- C. Carry a concealed handgun without a permit
- D. Serve as a substitute for a Wear and Carry Permit

The Maryland Handgun Qualification License (HQL) is specifically designed to regulate the purchasing and transfer of handguns. Obtaining an HQL permits an individual to purchase, rent, or receive a handgun legally within the state of Maryland. This licensing requirement aims to enhance public safety and ensure that individuals seeking to acquire handguns meet certain eligibility criteria, which may include background checks and safety training. The other options do not accurately reflect the purpose or scope of the HQL. For example, openly carrying a handgun, carrying a concealed handgun, or using the HQL as a substitute for a Wear and Carry Permit are governed by different laws and regulations in Maryland. Each of these activities requires separate licensing or permits, reflecting the state's comprehensive approach to firearm regulation.

4. Is a background check required for all firearm sales in Maryland, including private sales?

- A. Yes, for all firearms**
- B. No, only for regulated firearms
- C. No, background checks are not required
- D. Yes, but exceptions exist for family transfers

The correct answer is that a background check is required for all firearm sales in Maryland, including private sales. Maryland has enacted laws that mandate background checks for the purchase of both regulated firearms and non-regulated firearms. This comprehensive approach aims to ensure that individuals who are prohibited by law from possessing firearms do not acquire them, regardless of the sale's nature—whether through a licensed dealer or a private transaction. Although there are some exceptions for specific circumstances—such as transfers between family members—these do not apply to the broader requirement that all firearm sales undergo a background check process. Therefore, it reinforces the importance of universal background checks in promoting public safety and responsible firearm ownership.

5. Which of the following individuals is prohibited from possessing a firearm in Maryland?

- A. A person convicted of a violent crime**
- B. A person under the age of 21
- C. A non-resident of Maryland
- D. A person without a Firearms Safety Training Course Certificate

Convicted individuals of violent crimes are prohibited from possessing firearms in Maryland because they pose a potential danger to themselves or others. This decision is made to ensure public safety and prevent further violence. The other options are incorrect because being under the age of 21, being a non-resident of Maryland, or not having a Firearms Safety Training Course Certificate do not necessarily indicate a potential danger and therefore do not prohibit an individual from possessing a firearm.

6. For a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit, the applicant must demonstrate what?

- A. A good reason for carrying a handgun**
- B. Proficiency with all types of handguns
- C. Membership in a gun club
- D. That they are over the age of 30

To obtain a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit, an applicant must indeed demonstrate a good reason for carrying a handgun. This requirement is central to Maryland's permitting process, as the state emphasizes the need for individuals to provide justification for why they require a firearm for personal protection or other legitimate purposes. The assessment of a "good reason" is subjective but typically involves showing a specific need based on circumstances such as threats to personal safety, a history of violent crime in an area, or other relevant factors that necessitate carrying a handgun for self-defense. This approach reflects Maryland's goal of ensuring responsible gun ownership and minimizing potential risks associated with carrying a concealed firearm in public spaces. Other options do not align with the criteria for obtaining a Wear and Carry Permit in Maryland. While proficiency is important for safe firearm handling, the law specifically focuses on the justification for needing to carry a handgun, rather than requiring proficiency with all types of handguns. Membership in a gun club and age restrictions also do not play a role in meeting the criteria for this particular permit.

7. What type of firearms are banned for possession in Maryland?

- A. All semi-automatic rifles
- B. Specially regulated firearms without proper licensing
- C. Assault weapons as defined by Maryland law**
- D. All firearms manufactured before 1985

The correct answer is that assault weapons, as defined by Maryland law, are banned for possession in the state. Maryland has specific legislation that identifies certain firearms as assault weapons based on characteristics such as the type of action, magazine capacity, and features like barrel shrouds or folding stocks. This law is aimed at restricting access to firearms that are deemed to have a higher potential for misuse in violent incidents. Other choices do not align with the laws as comprehensively. For instance, not all semi-automatic rifles are banned; rather, certain models that meet the definition of an assault weapon are regulated. Additionally, while specially regulated firearms do require proper licensing, this does not constitute an outright ban on possession—proper licensing allows for ownership under specific conditions. Lastly, the age of a firearm, such as those manufactured before 1985, does not inherently result in a ban unless it also meets the criteria for being classified as an assault weapon or is otherwise restricted by law.

8. Under Maryland law, where is it illegal to carry or transport a loaded handgun?

- A. In your vehicle
- B. On your person
- C. Near a school or government building
- D. All of the above**

In Maryland, carrying or transporting a loaded handgun is subject to strict regulations to promote public safety. It is illegal to carry a loaded handgun in a vehicle or on your person without a specific license, and there are additional restrictions regarding proximity to schools and government buildings. The law is designed to ensure that firearms are not easily accessible in sensitive areas, where the potential for danger is higher. This reflects the state's commitment to controlling firearm access in environments that may pose risks to public safety. Therefore, all the stated scenarios — in your vehicle, on your person, and near schools or government buildings — fall under locations where it is illegal to carry or transport a loaded handgun.

9. What is required to transport a handgun in Maryland?

- A. The handgun must be unloaded and in a locked container**
- B. An open carry permit
- C. A concealed carry permit
- D. No special requirements

To transport a handgun in Maryland, it is required that the firearm is unloaded and stored in a locked container. This regulation is in place to ensure safety during transportation and to minimize the risk of accidents. When firearms are transported in this manner, there is less chance of unauthorized access, particularly by children or individuals who should not have access to firearms. Options involving permits, such as open carry or concealed carry permits, do not apply to the act of transporting a handgun securely. Maryland generally has more stringent requirements regarding the carrying of handguns in public, but these do not alter the necessary precautions taken while transporting a handgun from one location to another. Moreover, stating that no special requirements exist would be misleading, as adhering to proper storage and transportation laws is crucial for lawful ownership and use of firearms.

10. What is the minimum age to apply for a Handgun Qualification License in Maryland?

- A. 18 years old
- B. 21 years old
- C. 25 years old
- D. 30 years old

In Maryland, the minimum age to apply for a Handgun Qualification License is indeed 21 years old. This age requirement aligns with federal regulations that set a standard for the purchase of handguns, reflecting the state's focus on responsible ownership and the understanding that individuals at this age are generally considered more mature and capable of handling firearms safely. This law is designed to help ensure that individuals who possess a handgun have met certain legal and safety training standards, which contributes to overall public safety. You might find that ages 18, 25, and 30 do not align with the legal framework governing firearms licensing in Maryland, as they either do not meet the current requirements or exceed the established age limit for such permits.

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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://marylandfirearms.examzify.com>

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

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