

MASSACHUSETTS STATE ELEVATOR 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 load weighing prohibited in elevators?**
 - A. When using freight elevators
 - B. With all passenger elevators
 - C. When the elevator is in maintenance mode
 - D. During high traffic hours
- 2. How many elevators will run on auxiliary power during fireman's service?**
 - A. Only 1 elevator
 - B. At least 1 elevator per bank
 - C. All elevators in the bank
 - D. At least 2 elevators per bank
- 3. What is the maximum number of door openings permitted in an elevator?**
 - A. 1 entrance
 - B. 2 entrances
 - C. 3 entrances
 - D. 4 entrances
- 4. What is the maximum speed for an instantaneous type of elevator safety device?**
 - A. 100 feet per minute
 - B. 110 feet per minute
 - C. 125 feet per minute
 - D. 150 feet per minute
- 5. What should be the condition of oil buffers when installed?**
 - A. Partially compressed
 - B. Fully compressed
 - C. Fully extended
 - D. Neither compressed nor extended
- 6. What happens to the elevator when it is set to recall mode?**
 - A. The elevator goes to the loading dock
 - B. The elevator returns to a specific floor based on programmed settings
 - C. The elevator shuts down completely
 - D. The elevator can only be operated manually

- 7. In elevator safety standards, what should not depend on springs for the opening of contacts?**
- A. Emergency stop switches
 - B. Load switches
 - C. Service elevators
 - D. Inspection switches
- 8. What is the minimum length of a babitted socket?**
- A. 6 times the nominal diameter of the rope
 - B. 4 times the nominal diameter of the rope
 - C. 4.5 times the nominal diameter of the rope
 - D. Not less than 4.75 times the nominal diameter of the rope
- 9. Which feature is critical for safely operating elevators in emergencies?**
- A. Weight capacity limits
 - B. Fire service key access
 - C. Speed control mechanisms
 - D. Automatic floor stopping
- 10. What size and color should the lettering for "Do not use this elevator" on a fire sign be?**
- A. 1/8" in red
 - B. 1/8" in black
 - C. 3/16" in red
 - D. 3/16" in black

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When is load weighing prohibited in elevators?

- A. When using freight elevators
- B. With all passenger elevators**
- C. When the elevator is in maintenance mode
- D. During high traffic hours

Load weighing is prohibited in passenger elevators because these elevators are specifically designed to transport people safely and efficiently. The primary concern with weighing loads in passenger elevators is the potential danger it poses to the occupants. Overloading can lead to serious safety risks, including equipment malfunction, which could jeopardize the lives of those inside, as well as creating a possible shutdown of the elevator. In contrast, freight elevators are built to handle loads and are regularly used for transporting goods, materials, and other heavy items, so load weighing is permissible in those contexts. Similarly, when an elevator is in maintenance mode, it is essential for technicians to ensure safety and functionality while servicing the elevator, and weighing loads would not be part of that routine. High traffic hours generally relate to the volume of people using the elevator, but they do not specifically dictate whether load weighing is allowed. The focus on passenger elevators being prohibited from load weighing ensures the well-being of individuals utilizing those elevators.

2. How many elevators will run on auxiliary power during fireman's service?

- A. Only 1 elevator
- B. At least 1 elevator per bank**
- C. All elevators in the bank
- D. At least 2 elevators per bank

The correct answer is that at least 1 elevator per bank will run on auxiliary power during fireman's service. This is in accordance with safety regulations aimed at ensuring that in the event of a fire or emergency, there are designated elevators that can be utilized for emergency services without putting the occupants at risk. Fireman's service is specifically designed to provide a safe means of transport for firefighters and emergency personnel in high-rise buildings during a fire incident or similar emergencies. Having at least one elevator operational under auxiliary power ensures that there is a reliable means of access for emergency responders to reach affected floors while minimizing the risk to those still in the building. Other options suggest either fewer elevators or more than the required number per bank, which can lead to confusion and potentially compromise fire safety protocols. By ensuring that at least one elevator per bank is operational, the systems remain manageable and effective during emergencies, aligning with the outlined safety measures in the Massachusetts State Elevator Code.

3. What is the maximum number of door openings permitted in an elevator?

- A. 1 entrance
- B. 2 entrances**
- C. 3 entrances
- D. 4 entrances

The maximum number of door openings permitted in an elevator is important for ensuring safety and operational efficiency. Allowing two entrances provides flexibility for passenger access while maintaining a practical design. This configuration can enhance passenger flow, making it easier for people to enter and exit the elevator from different points. In considering other options, a single entrance may limit accessibility and usability, particularly in buildings with multiple floors or high traffic areas. While having three or four door openings might seem beneficial for access, it complicates the elevator's design, increasing potential problems with door mechanisms, safety features, and overall reliability. Thus, the standard of allowing two entrances strikes a balance between accessibility and the operational integrity of the elevator system.

4. What is the maximum speed for an instantaneous type of elevator safety device?

- A. 100 feet per minute
- B. 110 feet per minute
- C. 125 feet per minute**
- D. 150 feet per minute

The maximum speed for an instantaneous type of elevator safety device is established at 125 feet per minute. This regulation is in place to ensure the safety and reliability of elevator systems during operation. Instantaneous safety devices are designed to respond quickly to prevent accidents, and the specified speed limit helps guarantee that these devices can effectively engage before an elevator could reach potentially dangerous speeds. At speeds above this threshold, the performance and functioning of the safety device may not be reliable, which could potentially lead to hazardous situations. Therefore, the regulation set at 125 feet per minute represents a balance between operational efficiency and safety for passengers and equipment.

5. What should be the condition of oil buffers when installed?

- A. Partially compressed
- B. Fully compressed**
- C. Fully extended
- D. Neither compressed nor extended

The condition of oil buffers when installed should be fully compressed. This requirement ensures that the buffer is adequately prepared to absorb the energy of the elevator car in the event of a drop. A fully compressed oil buffer allows for optimal functioning and performance, as it is positioned in a way that enables it to rapidly extend and absorb kinetic energy effectively during operation. Being fully compressed means that the buffer is in its designed resting state, ready to respond to any sudden movement from the elevator car. This is crucial for the safety and reliability of the elevator system, as it minimizes the potential for damage during emergency situations. In contrast, if the oil buffers are partially compressed, fully extended, or neither, they may not perform adequately. Partial compression could lead to reduced capacity, while fully extended buffers would not be able to absorb the necessary energy during a sudden stop. Hence, it is essential for oil buffers to be fully compressed to ensure they can function safely and effectively when the elevator operates.

6. What happens to the elevator when it is set to recall mode?

- A. The elevator goes to the loading dock
- B. The elevator returns to a specific floor based on programmed settings**
- C. The elevator shuts down completely
- D. The elevator can only be operated manually

When an elevator is set to recall mode, it is programmed to return to a specific floor, such as a designated landing for emergencies or maintenance. This floor is typically predetermined and is often the main entry level or a supervised area to ensure safety during non-operational hours or emergency situations. The recall function is essential for facilitating the safe and efficient management of elevator traffic, especially in commercial buildings where control over elevator placement can enhance safety protocols. The other scenarios outlined do not accurately represent the function of recall mode. For instance, sending the elevator to the loading dock is not a standard function associated with recall mode, as it focuses on returning to an assigned floor instead. Additionally, shutting down completely or requiring manual operation are not intrinsic to recall mode, which is designed for automated return rather than complete cessation of function.

7. In elevator safety standards, what should not depend on springs for the opening of contacts?

A. Emergency stop switches

B. Load switches

C. Service elevators

D. Inspection switches

In elevator safety standards, emergency stop switches should not depend on springs for the opening of contacts because they are critical for ensuring immediate safety during emergencies. The design of these switches is meant to provide a fail-safe mechanism that can instantly disconnect power to the elevator when activated. If the functioning of an emergency stop switch relied on springs, there would be a risk that the spring mechanism could fail, potentially leaving the elevator in operation when it should not be. Spring-dependent mechanisms can exhibit wear over time, leading to potential failures in emergency scenarios. Therefore, emergency stop switches must utilize positive action mechanisms or other reliable methods that ensure they engage reliably and quickly upon activation, regardless of any mechanical wear or external factors. This reliability is crucial in maintaining the safety of passengers in potentially life-threatening situations. In contrast, while other types of switches like load switches and inspection switches have their safety protocols, they do not carry the same immediate life-and-death implications and are allowed different types of mechanisms that may include spring-dependent designs.

8. What is the minimum length of a babitted socket?

A. 6 times the nominal diameter of the rope

B. 4 times the nominal diameter of the rope

C. 4.5 times the nominal diameter of the rope

D. Not less than 4.75 times the nominal diameter of the rope

The minimum length of a babitted socket is crucial for ensuring the proper functioning and safety of elevators that utilize wire ropes. The requirement for the babitted socket to be not less than 4.75 times the nominal diameter of the rope is based on engineering principles that emphasize the importance of sufficient anchorage and load distribution. A longer socket length provides a better grip on the rope, reducing the risk of slippage and enhancing the overall security of the system. This requirement is designed to ensure that the socket can effectively accommodate the forces experienced by the rope during operation, including tension and dynamic loads. A length greater than or equal to 4.75 times the diameter allows for adequate surface area for the babbitt material to properly adhere and bond with the wire rope. In terms of safety standards, having a minimum length of 4.75 times ensures that there is a consistent and reliable performance over time, helping to prevent premature wear and potential failure that could arise from inadequate socket lengths.

9. Which feature is critical for safely operating elevators in emergencies?

- A. Weight capacity limits
- B. Fire service key access**
- C. Speed control mechanisms
- D. Automatic floor stopping

The feature that is critical for safely operating elevators in emergencies is fire service key access. This access allows firefighters and emergency personnel to take control of the elevator in the event of a fire or other emergency. During such situations, elevators can pose significant risks, including malfunctioning due to smoke or fire conditions. With fire service access, first responders can override the normal operation of the elevator, ensuring that it is used safely and strategically to assist individuals, especially those who may be trapped inside. This control can prevent elevators from moving to floors where fires may be present, reducing the risk of injury or entrapment. The other features, while important for overall elevator safety and efficiency, do not directly address the operational controls that are essential in emergency scenarios. For instance, weight capacity limits ensure the elevator does not exceed safe operational loads, speed control mechanisms manage the rates at which elevators ascend and descend, and automatic floor stopping ensures that the elevator halts appropriately at designated floors. However, none of these features provide the specific control necessary for emergency operations as effectively as fire service key access.

10. What size and color should the lettering for "Do not use this elevator" on a fire sign be?

- A. 1/8" in red
- B. 1/8" in black**
- C. 3/16" in red
- D. 3/16" in black

The recommended size and color for the lettering on the "Do not use this elevator" fire sign is 3/16" in red. This specification is designed to ensure that the sign is highly visible and easily readable in emergency situations. Using a larger size like 3/16" enhances legibility from a distance, making it more effective in alerting individuals about the elevator's status. The red color is universally recognized as a warning and signifies danger, which is appropriate for the context of the sign, notifying people that they should not use the elevator during a fire or emergency. In contrast, smaller lettering or different colors could compromise visibility and clarity, undermining the sign's purpose in a critical moment.

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://mastatelevator.examzify.com>

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

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