

MISSISSIPPI NASCLA & RESIDENTIAL 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. What is the recommended system to use when the site consists of problematic soil or it's wet?**
 - A. Sheet Pile
 - B. Slurry Walls
 - C. Bearing Pile
 - D. Wood Pile
- 2. During the Construction Progress phase, what is an example of a required document?**
 - A. Progress Payment Requests
 - B. Design Specifications
 - C. Material Orders
 - D. Safety Plans
- 3. Which of the following is an example of a Project Close-out phase document?**
 - A. Certificate of Substantial Completion
 - B. Punch Lists
 - C. Consent of Surety
 - D. All of the above
- 4. What are the methods used to support earth walls during an excavation?**
 - A. Steel beams, Concrete blocks, Soil anchors
 - B. Slurry walls, Interlocking steel sheet piling, Steel soldier piles
 - C. Wood planks, Chain link fencing, Reinforced concrete
 - D. Earth berms, Rock bolts, Gravel fill
- 5. What type of bond ensures the contractor will carry out the contract at the bid price?**
 - A. Bid
 - B. Performance
 - C. Labor and Material Payment
 - D. Bid and Performance

- 6. Which type of soil generally exhibits better cohesion compared to sandy soil?**
- A. Clay
 - B. Gravel
 - C. Silt
 - D. Loam
- 7. What does a Schedule of Value document in a construction project?**
- A. Design specifications
 - B. Costs and payment progress
 - C. Safety regulations
 - D. Labor hours used
- 8. What is the primary purpose of using sheathing in concrete construction?**
- A. Support temporary structures
 - B. Hold concrete in place until it sets
 - C. Facilitate easier cleanup
 - D. Reduce material costs
- 9. Which type of joint helps manage cracking in concrete slabs due to shrinkage?**
- A. Control Joint
 - B. Expansion Joint
 - C. Tapered / Beveled Joint
 - D. Butt Joint
- 10. Which is NOT a method for delivering options on a construction project?**
- A. Design Build
 - B. Traditional System
 - C. Construction Management
 - D. Integrated Planning

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the recommended system to use when the site consists of problematic soil or it's wet?

- A. Sheet Pile
- B. Slurry Walls**
- C. Bearing Pile
- D. Wood Pile

Using slurry walls is highly recommended for sites that consist of problematic soil or are wet due to their effectiveness in providing stability in challenging ground conditions. Slurry walls act as a barrier that can prevent water infiltration and soil movement, thereby creating a more stable construction environment. This is particularly advantageous in situations where the soil may not provide adequate support for traditional foundation methods or where conditions might lead to erosion or other issues. Moreover, the construction process for slurry walls allows for the excavation and placement of a reinforced concrete wall while simultaneously controlling groundwater, making them ideal for wet conditions. They can also be designed to various depths and configurations to suit specific site requirements, further enhancing their effectiveness in problematic soils. While other options such as sheet piles, bearing piles, and wood piles may have their own applications, they may not provide the same level of stability and waterproofing needed in conditions characterized by wet or unstable soil.

2. During the Construction Progress phase, what is an example of a required document?

- A. Progress Payment Requests**
- B. Design Specifications
- C. Material Orders
- D. Safety Plans

During the Construction Progress phase, Progress Payment Requests are a required document because they serve as formal requests from the contractor to the owner or client for payment for work completed to date. This documentation is essential for tracking the financial aspects of the project, ensuring that the contractor is compensated for labor and materials provided. These requests typically include details such as the amount of work completed, any previously made payments, and the current payment amount being requested, thus facilitating financial management and cash flow throughout the project. While Design Specifications, Material Orders, and Safety Plans are important documents in their respective contexts, they do not specifically relate to the financial aspects of construction progress in the same way that Progress Payment Requests do. Design Specifications outline the project requirements and quality standards, Material Orders detail the materials needed for the job, and Safety Plans ensure compliance with safety regulations. However, none of these directly involve the process of requesting payment for progress made in construction.

3. Which of the following is an example of a Project Close-out phase document?

- A. Certificate of Substantial Completion
- B. Punch Lists
- C. Consent of Surety
- D. All of the above**

The Project Close-out phase is critical in construction management, as it involves formal completion processes and documentation that signifies the project's transition from active work to finishing activities. Each of the documents listed plays a significant role in this phase. The Certificate of Substantial Completion is a key document that indicates a significant milestone has been reached. It typically confirms that the project has reached a stage where the owner can occupy or utilize the work for its intended purpose, even if minor work remains. Punch Lists are another essential element of project close-out. They contain a list of tasks or items that need to be completed or corrected before final project acceptance. This document ensures that all remaining work is addressed, which is crucial for satisfying both contractor and owner expectations. The Consent of Surety is also a document that is relevant during project close-out. It serves as confirmation from the surety company that the contractor has fulfilled the obligations of the contract and that the surety company is aware of the project's conditions at close-out. This ensures that financial guarantees associated with the project are upheld. Since all three documents are integral to the Project Close-out phase, the answer encompasses the fact that they are collectively involved in concluding the project properly and ensuring that all contractual obligations have been met. Each of

4. What are the methods used to support earth walls during an excavation?

- A. Steel beams, Concrete blocks, Soil anchors
- B. Slurry walls, Interlocking steel sheet piling, Steel soldier piles**
- C. Wood planks, Chain link fencing, Reinforced concrete
- D. Earth berms, Rock bolts, Gravel fill

The correct answer highlights essential methods commonly utilized for supporting earth walls during excavation, which are crucial in preventing collapse and ensuring safety during construction. Slurry walls, interlocking steel sheet piling, and steel soldier piles are all techniques that provide strong structural support. Slurry walls are created by excavating a trench and filling it with a mixture of water and clay or other materials. This creates a barrier that stabilizes the soil and reduces water infiltration during excavation, helping to prevent erosion and collapse. Interlocking steel sheet piling consists of long, vertical steel sheets that are driven into the ground and interlocked with one another, forming a continuous wall. This method is effective in creating a stable barrier against soil movement and is often used in areas with loose or saturated soil. Steel soldier piles are vertical structural elements that are driven into the ground and typically used in conjunction with a lagging system to retain earth. By providing lateral support, soldier piles are instrumental in maintaining the integrity of the excavation site. Other options presented do not align sufficiently with standard practices in excavation support. For instance, the use of wood planks and chain link fencing may not provide the necessary strength and stability needed for earth walls, and methods like gravel fill might not directly support earth walls during excavation but

5. What type of bond ensures the contractor will carry out the contract at the bid price?

- A. Bid**
- B. Performance
- C. Labor and Material Payment
- D. Bid and Performance

The correct choice is the bond that ensures the contractor will carry out the contract at the bid price. A bid bond is a type of surety bond that a contractor submits along with their bid to guarantee that they will enter into the contract at the bid price if awarded the contract. It provides financial assurance to the project owner that the contractor is serious about their proposal and will not back out after winning the bid. If the contractor fails to follow through, the bond can protect the owner from financial loss, as the amount can be used to cover the difference if the owner has to re-bid the project or find another contractor at a higher price. The other types of bonds, while important in the contracting process, serve different purposes. For example, performance bonds guarantee that the contractor will complete the work according to the contract's terms and conditions, while labor and material payment bonds ensure that obligations to subcontractors and suppliers are met. The bid bond focuses specifically on the contractor's commitment regarding the bid itself.

6. Which type of soil generally exhibits better cohesion compared to sandy soil?

- A. Clay**
- B. Gravel
- C. Silt
- D. Loam

Clay is the type of soil that generally exhibits better cohesion compared to sandy soil. This is due to the small particle size and plate-like structure of clay particles, which allows them to stick together more effectively. The fine particles create a high surface area-to-volume ratio, resulting in stronger interactions between particles through cohesive forces, such as electrostatic attraction and adhesion. In contrast, sandy soil consists of larger particles that do not adhere to one another as readily, leading to lower cohesion and greater drainage capabilities. While other soil types like silt or loam may have some cohesive properties, they do not match the extent of cohesion that clay possesses, mainly because silt has smaller particles than sand but does not have the same level of attraction between particles as clay, and loam is a mix that balances properties of sand, silt, and clay but is not exclusively cohesive like clay.

7. What does a Schedule of Value document in a construction project?

- A. Design specifications
- B. Costs and payment progress**
- C. Safety regulations
- D. Labor hours used

A Schedule of Values is a crucial document in construction management that outlines the various components of a project along with their corresponding costs. It serves as a detailed breakdown of the total contract price, allowing for effective tracking of costs and project progress. The key function of the Schedule of Values is to provide a clear framework for payments to contractors based on the actual work completed. As work on the project progresses, the Schedule of Values helps in allocating payment based on completed tasks or milestones, ensuring that contractors receive payment proportionate to the value of work done. This systematic approach helps maintain financial management and ensures that the project stays within budget. While design specifications, safety regulations, and labor hours are important aspects of a construction project, they do not capture the comprehensive financial overview that a Schedule of Values provides. This makes it an essential tool for project managers to monitor financial health and manage cash flow throughout the lifecycle of the project.

8. What is the primary purpose of using sheathing in concrete construction?

- A. Support temporary structures
- B. Hold concrete in place until it sets**
- C. Facilitate easier cleanup
- D. Reduce material costs

The primary purpose of using sheathing in concrete construction is to hold concrete in place until it sets. When concrete is poured, it is in a fluid state and requires support to maintain its shape and structure while it cures. Sheathing provides the necessary formwork that defines the desired shape of the concrete and prevents it from leaking or spilling out before it hardens. This ensures that the concrete can gain its strength and integrity as intended. In addition to maintaining shape, sheathing also helps to prevent any premature exposure to environmental elements that might affect the curing process. Therefore, it plays a crucial role in the successful completion of concrete projects by ensuring the concrete remains contained and properly shaped during the critical initial setting and curing phases.

9. Which type of joint helps manage cracking in concrete slabs due to shrinkage?

- A. Control Joint
- B. Expansion Joint
- C. Tapered / Beveled Joint**
- D. Butt Joint

The correct answer is a control joint. Control joints are specifically designed in concrete slabs to manage cracking that occurs as a result of shrinkage. When concrete is poured and begins to cure, it can experience a reduction in volume as moisture evaporates, leading to tension that may cause cracks. Control joints are introduced at predetermined locations to create weak points in the slab where cracks can occur rhythmically, rather than in random places. This strategic placement helps to control where cracks form, allowing for a more aesthetically pleasing surface and preventing unintended damage. Expansion joints are utilized to accommodate the expansion and contraction of materials due to temperature changes, rather than managing shrinkage cracks. Tapered or beveled joints are not typically used in managing cracking; they are often related to the finishing techniques or aesthetics of concrete edges. Butt joints are simply where two pieces of concrete meet but do not offer any specific benefits for managing shrinkage or cracking.

10. Which is NOT a method for delivering options on a construction project?

- A. Design Build
- B. Traditional System
- C. Construction Management
- D. Integrated Planning**

The method identified as not being a conventional delivery option for construction projects is Integrated Planning. In the context of construction project delivery, the main recognized methods are Design Build, Traditional System, and Construction Management. Design Build is a streamlined approach where both design and construction services are contracted by a single entity, fostering better communication and collaboration. The Traditional System, often referred to as Design-Bid-Build, separates the design and construction phases, requiring multiple contracts and often leading to a longer project timeline. Construction Management involves a professional construction manager hired by the owner to oversee the project, ensuring that the design is executed effectively and within budget. Integrated Planning, while it might involve collaboration and coordination efforts similar to other methods, is not formally recognized as a standard delivery method in the construction industry. It does not encompass the contractual frameworks that define the other methods listed. As such, Integrated Planning does not fit within the established categories of project delivery options used in the construction sector.

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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.

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

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