

MORTUARY SCIENCE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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 purpose of an access aisle in relation to parking spaces?**
 - A. For aesthetic appeal
 - B. To facilitate vehicle maneuverability
 - C. To ensure emergency access
 - D. To provide additional parking options

- 2. If a commission greater than 5% of the contract price is charged, what percentage of the remaining balance should be paid to the person entitled?**
 - A. 50%
 - B. 75%
 - C. 100%
 - D. 10%

- 3. How much of cemetery funds should be held in escrow?**
 - A. 40%
 - B. 60%
 - C. 80%
 - D. 100%

- 4. What type of infraction is a city or municipality subject to if they do not comply with the Markers for Veterans Graves Act?**
 - A. Civil infraction
 - B. Criminal infraction
 - C. Felony
 - D. Administrative violation

- 5. What authority does a person holding a mortuary science license have?**
 - A. Direct funeral services only
 - B. Conduct cremations solely
 - C. Disinfect and preserve deceased bodies
 - D. Only arrange for memorial services

- 6. If a body is to be transported via common carrier, what must the family purchase?**
- A. An urn
 - B. A sound shipping container
 - C. A special casket
 - D. A transportation permit
- 7. What is the maximum fine for the misdemeanor of removing a body from a place of death without authorization?**
- A. \$250
 - B. \$500
 - C. \$750
 - D. \$1000
- 8. To which service is a catafalque most closely related?**
- A. Burial services
 - B. Cremation services
 - C. Memorial services
 - D. Visitation services
- 9. A funeral director is required to document the death certificate filing within what time limit?**
- A. 24 hours
 - B. 48 hours
 - C. 72 hours
 - D. 5 days
- 10. What percentage of preneed funds must be held in escrow?**
- A. 50%
 - B. 75%
 - C. 100%
 - D. 80%

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the purpose of an access aisle in relation to parking spaces?

- A. For aesthetic appeal
- B. To facilitate vehicle maneuverability**
- C. To ensure emergency access
- D. To provide additional parking options

The purpose of an access aisle in relation to parking spaces is primarily to facilitate vehicle maneuverability. An access aisle is typically situated next to parking spaces, especially in areas designated for individuals with disabilities. It allows for easier entry and exit from vehicles, ensuring that drivers and passengers can navigate their vehicles safely and conveniently. This access is crucial because it provides the necessary space for opening car doors without the risk of hitting adjacent vehicles. Additionally, it enhances overall traffic flow in parking lots, allowing vehicles to move in and out of parking spots with less difficulty and potential obstruction. By ensuring that vehicles can maneuver properly without undue strain or hazard, access aisles play a vital role in maintaining order and safety in parking facilities.

2. If a commission greater than 5% of the contract price is charged, what percentage of the remaining balance should be paid to the person entitled?

- A. 50%
- B. 75%
- C. 100%**
- D. 10%

When a commission greater than 5% of the contract price is charged, the full remaining balance should be paid to the person entitled. This is rooted in the ethical standards and business practices within the mortuary field and ensures that the individual entitled to payment receives their fair compensation without any deductions due to excessive commissions. In a scenario where a higher commission is taken, it is crucial that the parties involved adhere to agreements that reflect fairness and transparency, particularly regarding financial dealings. By stipulating that 100% of the remaining balance is to be paid, it guarantees that the entitled party is fully reimbursed for their service or contribution, reinforcing ethical business practices within the industry. This principle of full payment aligns with maintaining trust and integrity in professional relationships, especially in sensitive fields such as mortuary science, where satisfactory service and clear transactions are paramount.

3. How much of cemetery funds should be held in escrow?

- A. 40%
- B. 60%
- C. 80%**
- D. 100%

The correct response indicates that 80% of cemetery funds should be held in escrow. This practice is rooted in regulatory and fiduciary standards designed to protect the interests of the consumers and ensure that funds are available for future maintenance and operational expenses of the cemetery. By holding a significant portion of the funds in escrow, cemeteries can guarantee that these financial resources will be allocated appropriately for perpetual care, which is essential for maintaining the cemetery grounds and services long after the initial sale of burial plots or services. This requirement ultimately serves to instill consumer confidence, assuring them that their investment will be preserved for its intended purpose. Furthermore, the specifics of these regulations can vary by state or governing body, but the overarching principle is to safeguard funds against mismanagement and to provide a level of security for those who have entrusted their financial resources to cemetery operations. Understanding the importance of such escrow requirements is crucial for professionals in the field of mortuary science and cemetery management.

4. What type of infraction is a city or municipality subject to if they do not comply with the Markers for Veterans Graves Act?

- A. Civil infraction**
- B. Criminal infraction
- C. Felony
- D. Administrative violation

If a city or municipality does not comply with the Markers for Veterans Graves Act, it is subject to a civil infraction. This type of infraction typically involves violations that are not criminal in nature and do not carry the same level of penalties as criminal offenses. In the context of this act, a civil infraction can result in fines or other penalties aimed at enforcing compliance rather than pursuing criminal charges. Civil infractions are generally characterized by less severe consequences compared to criminal violations; they are designed to address issues that require regulation and compliance without the need for criminal prosecution. This ensures that municipalities adhere to the law while allowing for a framework that encourages correction over punitive measures. In contrast, criminal infractions or felonies would involve more serious breaches of law, requiring intent or recklessness and resulting in harsher penalties such as imprisonment. Administrative violations may refer to infractions occurring within a specific regulatory framework, but in this case, the focus on civil infraction is more appropriate given the nature of the act.

5. What authority does a person holding a mortuary science license have?

- A. Direct funeral services only
- B. Conduct cremations solely
- C. Disinfect and preserve deceased bodies**
- D. Only arrange for memorial services

A person holding a mortuary science license possesses the authority to disinfect and preserve deceased bodies, which is a critical aspect of their professional responsibilities. This task involves employing various techniques to ensure that the remains are treated with respect and maintain their integrity for viewing or burial. Preservation methods may include embalming, which is a process designed to delay decomposition, and ensuring that hygiene is maintained throughout the funeral process. In mortuary science, professionals are trained to handle deceased bodies in a manner that is sensitive to both the needs of the deceased and their families. This includes not only the technical aspects of preserving the body but also the ethical and legal implications of their care. The role requires a thorough understanding of human anatomy, microbiology, and applicable regulations concerning the treatment of human remains. The other options, while relevant to aspects of mortuary practice, do not encompass the full scope of authority provided by the mortuary science license. The focus of the license is not limited to specific services like directing funerals, conducting cremations, or arranging memorial services, but rather encompasses the broader responsibilities of caring for and preparing the deceased.

6. If a body is to be transported via common carrier, what must the family purchase?

- A. An urn
- B. A sound shipping container**
- C. A special casket
- D. A transportation permit

When transporting a body via common carrier, it is essential to use a sound shipping container, which is specifically designed for this purpose. Such containers are constructed to ensure the safety and integrity of the deceased during transit, providing the necessary protection against physical damage and environmental factors. They are often compliant with regulations set forth by shipping carriers, which may include specific requirements regarding materials, thickness, and sealing to prevent any potential issues during transportation. The other choices, while relevant to the process of handling remains, do not directly address the requirement for ensuring safe and compliant transportation. An urn is typically used for cremated remains and does not apply when the full body is transported. A special casket may be used for burial or viewing, but it is not necessarily mandated by the common carrier for transport purposes. A transportation permit, while important for legal and regulatory compliance, is more about authorized transfer rather than the physical shipping process itself. Therefore, the purchase of a sound shipping container is the critical requirement in this scenario.

7. What is the maximum fine for the misdemeanor of removing a body from a place of death without authorization?

- A. \$250
- B. \$500**
- C. \$750
- D. \$1000

The maximum fine for the misdemeanor of removing a body from a place of death without authorization is indeed \$500. This amount reflects the legal standards that aim to maintain respect and proper handling of deceased individuals. Under various state laws, unauthorized removal of a body is taken seriously due to the inherent dignity owed to the deceased and the rights of the family. Beyond the monetary penalty, this fine underscores the legal obligation to follow proper protocols and obtain necessary permissions, as this action can disrupt legal and procedural requirements surrounding death investigations, autopsies, or burial proceedings. The emphasis on maintaining regulatory compliance in the mortuary field serves not only to uphold professional ethics but also to protect the rights of the deceased and their families.

8. To which service is a catafalque most closely related?

- A. Burial services
- B. Cremation services
- C. Memorial services**
- D. Visitation services

A catafalque is a raised platform or framework that is used to display the body of a deceased person, particularly during memorial services or funerals. It serves as a prominent focal point, allowing attendees to pay their respects while observing the deceased. The use of a catafalque is particularly associated with memorial services, where the emphasis is on honoring and celebrating the life of the person who has passed away, rather than on traditional burial practices. The design and significance of a catafalque can vary, but it typically reflects the solemnity and respect of the occasion. It may be adorned with flowers, candles, or other items that symbolize the deceased's life and values. This arrangement helps to create a sacred space that fosters reflection and remembrance during the memorial service. In contrast, burial services focus on the physical act of interring the body, cremation services involve the disposal of the body through fire, and visitation services are more about inviting family and friends to come and express their condolences, often whereas the body may or may not be displayed. Therefore, the catafalque is most closely related to memorial services, where its presence enhances the commemorative aspect of honoring the deceased.

9. A funeral director is required to document the death certificate filing within what time limit?

- A. 24 hours
- B. 48 hours
- C. 72 hours**
- D. 5 days

In many jurisdictions, funeral directors are required to file the death certificate within 72 hours following a death. This timeframe is crucial because it ensures that necessary legal documentation is completed promptly, allowing for the registration of the death with the appropriate authorities. Timely filing helps prevent complications in subsequent processes such as the planning of the funeral services, obtaining burial permits, or handling the deceased's estate matters. The time limit of 72 hours strikes a balance between the immediate needs of the bereaved family and the formal requirements of the state or local government. While regulations can vary slightly from one location to another, the 72-hour standard is a common guideline that many professionals in the field adhere to in order to maintain compliance and assist families efficiently during their time of loss.

10. What percentage of preneed funds must be held in escrow?

- A. 50%
- B. 75%
- C. 100%**
- D. 80%

The requirement for preneed funds to be held in escrow is established to ensure that the funds are properly safeguarded for future use. Holding 100% of preneed funds in escrow is critical because it guarantees that the entire amount paid by the consumer is available specifically for the funeral services that have been prearranged. This regulation protects consumers by ensuring that their financial investment is secure and will be accessible when the time comes for the services they have selected. This approach also instills trust in the preneed arrangement process, as it ensures accountability and transparency from the service providers handling these funds. While various states may have different laws regarding escrowing, a 100% requirement is a strong protective measure, affirming that all the consumer's money is reserved specifically for their designated funeral arrangements without any portion being used for other purposes.

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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://mortuaryscience.examzify.com>

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

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