

MORTUARY SCIENCE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. If someone willfully removes or destroys a flag holder or memorial flag, what type of crime is this considered?**
 - A. Misdemeanor
 - B. Felony
 - C. Violation
 - D. Infraction
- 2. What is a key factor in the definition of competence in mortuary science practice?**
 - A. The degree of experience
 - B. The number of licenses held
 - C. The total years of practice
 - D. The level of customer interaction
- 3. How much written notice must be given to cancel a prepaid contract?**
 - A. 15 days
 - B. 30 days
 - C. 45 days
 - D. 60 days
- 4. According to the Estates and Protected Individuals Code, which claims against an estate are given first preference?**
 - A. Medical Expenses
 - B. Property Taxes
 - C. Funeral and Burial Expenses
 - D. Outstanding Debts
- 5. A mortuary science licensee who embalms a body without authorization may have their license _____.**
 - A. Revoked
 - B. Terminated
 - C. Suspended
 - D. Under review

- 6. Which of the following describes embalming?**
- A. The physical burial of a deceased individual
 - B. The preservation of the deceased using chemical substances
 - C. The arrangement of a funeral service
 - D. The process of cremation of a human body
- 7. The DHS payout for unclaimed remains includes how much for the Funeral Home?**
- A. \$255
 - B. \$555
 - C. \$145
 - D. \$340
- 8. Which of the following is NOT a component of military honors?**
- A. Folding and presentation of the flag
 - B. Playing of Taps
 - C. Salute by the honor guard
 - D. Designation of a military chaplain
- 9. A license must wait _____ after mailing a notice of disposition of unclaimed cremated remains.**
- A. 15 days
 - B. 30 days
 - C. 45 days
 - D. 60 days
- 10. Who issues a disinterment/reinterment permit if the next of kin gives consent?**
- A. State Health Administrator
 - B. Local Health Administrator
 - C. Office of Vital Records
 - D. County Clerk

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. If someone willfully removes or destroys a flag holder or memorial flag, what type of crime is this considered?

A. Misdemeanor

B. Felony

C. Violation

D. Infraction

The act of willfully removing or destroying a flag holder or memorial flag is typically classified as a misdemeanor. Misdemeanors are generally regarded as less severe than felonies, yet they still carry legal consequences, such as fines or imprisonment, which reflect the societal value placed on maintaining respect for national symbols and memorials. This classification often stems from the intent behind the act; a willful act demonstrates a disregard for property that holds symbolic meaning, warranting legal action, but not to the extent of a felony, which involves more serious offenses. In contrast, violations and infractions usually refer to less serious breaches of law that may involve minor penalties or fines without the possibility of jail time, and thus do not appropriately address the severity of willfully damaging a recognized symbol of remembrance. Felonies are typically reserved for much more serious offenses, which does not align with the nature of this act. Therefore, the classification as a misdemeanor appropriately reflects the intent and implications of the action.

2. What is a key factor in the definition of competence in mortuary science practice?

A. The degree of experience

B. The number of licenses held

C. The total years of practice

D. The level of customer interaction

In mortuary science practice, competence is fundamentally linked to the degree of experience a professional has obtained. This encompasses both the practical skills developed over time and the ability to handle the various and often complex situations that arise in the field. Experience brings with it a breadth of knowledge that is crucial when dealing with the diverse needs of grieving families, managing logistics, ensuring ethical practices, and upholding regulatory requirements. While the other options have some relevance, they do not encapsulate the essence of competence as effectively. Holding multiple licenses may indicate a broader scope of qualifications but does not inherently denote proficiency in practice. The total years of practice could suggest experience, but without the context of how that experience has been applied, it doesn't necessarily reflect competence. Additionally, customer interaction is important for success in mortuary science, yet competence is more deeply rooted in the professional's overall ability to perform their roles effectively under varying circumstances. Therefore, the degree of experience stands out as the key factor in defining competence in this field.

3. How much written notice must be given to cancel a prepaid contract?

- A. 15 days
- B. 30 days**
- C. 45 days
- D. 60 days

The requirement for a specific notice period to cancel a prepaid contract is typically established by state laws and regulations governing consumer protection. In this context, a notice period of 30 days is commonly mandated for consumers who wish to cancel such contracts. This 30-day timeframe allows individuals adequate time to reconsider their decision and ensures that service providers can manage their operations without causing significant disruption. The rationale behind this duration is to strike a balance between the rights of the consumer and the operational considerations of service providers, giving enough time for both parties to make necessary arrangements should a cancellation occur. Understanding the importance of such regulations can help professionals in the mortuary science field manage client expectations and maintain compliance with legal standards.

4. According to the Estates and Protected Individuals Code, which claims against an estate are given first preference?

- A. Medical Expenses
- B. Property Taxes
- C. Funeral and Burial Expenses**
- D. Outstanding Debts

The correct answer, which identifies funeral and burial expenses as having first preference according to the Estates and Protected Individuals Code, is rooted in the recognition of the essential nature of these costs. When an individual passes away, the handling of their remains and the proper ceremonies surrounding their death are of paramount importance to family and community welfare. This prioritization reflects societal values that place significant weight on respectful treatment of the deceased and the need to provide closure for the grieving family. The Estates and Protected Individuals Code facilitates this priority by ensuring that funeral and burial expenses are addressed before other claims, allowing families to manage the immediate logistical and emotional aspects of a loved one's passing without the stress of financial insecurity from other debts impacting the estate. By statute, this preference acknowledges the necessity of these expenditures in the context of honoring the deceased, thereby positioning them ahead of other claims like medical expenses, property taxes, and outstanding debts that may have been incurred during the individual's lifetime.

5. A mortuary science licensee who embalms a body without authorization may have their license _____.

- A. Revoked
- B. Terminated
- C. Suspended**
- D. Under review

When a mortuary science licensee embalms a body without proper authorization, it typically results in disciplinary actions due to the violation of legal and ethical standards governing the practice. While various outcomes could be possible, suspension is a common response in such cases. Suspension serves as a temporary measure that allows the licensing board to investigate the incident thoroughly and determine whether further actions, such as revocation, are necessary based on the findings. During suspension, the licensee is not allowed to practice until the conclusion of the investigation and possible reinstatement, depending on the resolution. This approach provides a balance between protecting public health and safety while also giving the licensee the opportunity to rectify their standing once the investigation is completed. Other options, such as revocation or termination, suggest a more permanent consequence, which may not be the immediate response to an unauthorized act without a full investigation into the facts and circumstances involved. Hence, suspension reflects a typical process in disciplinary actions within the mortuary science field when a violation occurs.

6. Which of the following describes embalming?

- A. The physical burial of a deceased individual
- B. The preservation of the deceased using chemical substances**
- C. The arrangement of a funeral service
- D. The process of cremation of a human body

Embalming is specifically defined as the preservation of the deceased using chemical substances. This process typically involves the injection of various fluids that can prevent decomposition, enhance the appearance of the body, and temporarily delay the natural decay process after death. Formaldehyde, for example, is a common chemical used in embalming to achieve these goals. Understanding the purpose and method of embalming is critical in the practice of mortuary science, as it directly relates to how the deceased is prepared for viewing and funeral services. The other options do not accurately define embalming; they refer to different practices or processes related to handling the deceased. Physical burial involves interring the body in the ground, arranging a funeral service pertains to planning the events surrounding a funeral, and cremation is the process of reducing the body to ash. Each of these processes serves distinct purposes within mortuary science but does not encompass the definition of embalming itself.

7. The DHS payout for unclaimed remains includes how much for the Funeral Home?

- A. \$255
- B. \$555**
- C. \$145
- D. \$340

The correct payout amount from the Department of Human Services (DHS) for unclaimed remains is \$555 as it reflects the established policy for compensating funeral homes when they provide services for unclaimed bodies. The fund is designed to support the basic costs associated with the disposition of unclaimed remains, ensuring that every deceased individual receives a respectful and dignified burial or cremation, regardless of their financial situation or the absence of identifiable relatives. Understanding this payout is essential for mortuary science professionals, as it informs them about the resources available to assist with the costs incurred for such cases. The amount covers not only the direct expenses of handling the remains but also integrates broader aspects of mortuary care, such as transportation and preparation for burial or cremation.

8. Which of the following is NOT a component of military honors?

- A. Folding and presentation of the flag
- B. Playing of Taps
- C. Salute by the honor guard**
- D. Designation of a military chaplain

The designation of a military chaplain is not traditionally considered a component of military honors provided at a funeral. Military honors typically include specific actions performed to pay respects to a deceased service member, such as folding and presenting the flag, playing Taps, and a salute by the honor guard. The folding and presentation of the flag is a significant ritual that symbolizes the nation's gratitude for the service and sacrifices of the fallen. Playing Taps is another respectful tribute, a bugle call played at military funerals, which conveys a sense of finality and honors the deceased's life and service. The salute by the honor guard serves as a formal acknowledgment of the individual's service, representing the military's respect. In contrast, while a military chaplain may be present to conduct religious services and provide spiritual support, their presence and role do not constitute a formal component of the honors rendered at the funeral ceremony itself.

9. A license must wait _____ after mailing a notice of disposition of unclaimed cremated remains.

- A. 15 days
- B. 30 days**
- C. 45 days
- D. 60 days

The requirement for a license to wait 30 days after mailing a notice of disposition before proceeding with the disposition of unclaimed cremated remains is established to provide adequate time for potential claimants or relatives to come forward. This waiting period serves to respect the rights of individuals who may wish to claim the remains, ensuring that proper notice is given and that families have sufficient opportunity to respond. In many jurisdictions, the 30-day period is designed to accommodate the administrative processes often involved in post-death arrangements, allowing for gaps in communication or delays in family response. It balances the need for funeral establishments to manage their operations responsibly while ensuring that the wishes of the deceased and their families are honored. This timeframe helps to formalize the process and is a common practice within the funeral service industry, helping to maintain ethical standards and legal compliance regarding the disposition of unclaimed remains.

10. Who issues a disinterment/reinterment permit if the next of kin gives consent?

- A. State Health Administrator
- B. Local Health Administrator**
- C. Office of Vital Records
- D. County Clerk

The local health administrator is typically responsible for issuing a disinterment/reinterment permit when consent is provided by the next of kin. This is due to their role in managing public health regulations and ensuring compliance with state laws regarding the reinterment of human remains. Local health administrators are well-positioned to assess the necessary documentation and verify that all legal and health-related guidelines are adhered to when a burial site is disturbed. The procedural context often requires that local entities take charge of such permits due to their proximity to the specific community, enabling them to better handle local regulations and concerns surrounding disinterment. Their authority ensures that family wishes are respected while maintaining compliance with health codes intended to protect public health and the dignity of the deceased. In contrast, other entities like the state health administrator might oversee broader regulations at the state level, but they typically do not handle individual permits. The Office of Vital Records generally deals with documentation related to births and deaths, rather than disinterment permits, and the county clerk's responsibilities usually revolve around maintaining public records rather than health-related issues. Thus, the local health administrator is the appropriate authority in this scenario.

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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