

MPRE Rules Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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. Under Rule 5.4, which is an allowed exception to sharing legal fees with a nonlawyer?
 - A. After the lawyer's death, to the lawyer's estate or to one or more specified persons.
 - B. Purchase of the practice retirement plan.
 - C. Court-awarded legal fees with a nonprofit organization that employed the lawyer in the matter.
 - D. All of the above.

2. Under Rule 7.3, written solicitations are prohibited if the prospective client has stated what?
 - A. A desire to be solicited by the lawyer.
 - B. A desire not to be solicited by the lawyer.
 - C. A preference for email communication.
 - D. A preference for in-person meetings.

3. Under Rule 1.6, when may a lawyer disclose confidential information without client consent?
 - A. To prevent reasonably certain death or substantial bodily harm.
 - B. To disclose to a third party for advice on a different matter.
 - C. To gain an advantage in a separate dispute without consent.
 - D. To reveal to the media to pressure the client.

4. Under Rule 4.2, a lawyer shall not communicate about the subject of representation with a person who is represented in the matter unless
 - A. The client consents in writing.
 - B. Consent of the other lawyer or a court order is obtained.
 - C. The person is unrepresented.
 - D. The communication concerns only administrative matters.

5. Under current government service rules, private employment is restricted except for roles of judicial clerk or adjudicative officer. Which statement about the private employment exception is correct?
- A. It does not apply to any private employment
 - B. It applies only to judicial clerks
 - C. It applies only to adjudicative officers
 - D. It applies to both judicial clerks and adjudicative officers
6. Trial Publicity: Under Rule 3.6, which topic may a lawyer publicly state about a case?
- A. Scheduling or result of any step in litigation.
 - B. The confidential strategy of the defense.
 - C. The private communications with the client.
 - D. The personal evaluation of the jury pool.
7. Under Rule 1.8, which practice is allowed to provide financial assistance to a client in litigation?
- A. Advancing court costs with repayment contingent on outcome.
 - B. Providing funds for living expenses during trial irrespective of outcome.
 - C. Lending money for unrelated personal expenses.
 - D. Gifting to influence the opponent.
8. Under Rule 7.2, when may a lawyer refer clients to another lawyer or a nonlawyer professional in a reciprocal referral arrangement?
- A. The agreement is exclusive and the client is not informed.
 - B. The agreement is not exclusive and the client is informed of the existence and nature of the agreement.
 - C. The client is paid a fee for referrals.
 - D. The client is excluded from decisions about referrals.

9. Under Rule 1.10, when may a firm represent a client adverse to a former associate without violating conflicts of interest?
- A. If the matter is adequately screened and appropriate procedures are followed, including written notice and compliance.
 - B. If the former associate consents personally.
 - C. If the matter is unrelated and the client is unaware of the former associate.
 - D. If the entire firm ignores the conflict.
10. Under Rule 7.2, which advertising practice is permissible?
- A. Paying the reasonable costs of advertisements or communications permitted by this Rule.
 - B. Paying a referral fee to any recipient regardless of rules.
 - C. Paying for a law practice in violation of Rule 1.17.
 - D. Paying for client settlements.

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Under Rule 5.4, which is an allowed exception to sharing legal fees with a nonlawyer?
- A. After the lawyer's death, to the lawyer's estate or to one or more specified persons.
 - B. Purchase of the practice retirement plan.
 - C. Court-awarded legal fees with a nonprofit organization that employed the lawyer in the matter.
 - D. All of the above.

Rule 5.4 limits sharing legal fees with nonlawyers, but it provides a few specific exceptions to that prohibition. First, after the lawyer's death, the remaining fees may be paid to the lawyer's estate or to specified persons. Second, there is allowance for arrangements tied to the purchase of a law practice or to a legitimate retirement plan, which can involve a nonlawyer receiving a share as part of that structured plan or sale. Third, court-awarded legal fees may be allocated to a nonprofit organization that employed the lawyer in the matter. Because each of these situations is an approved exception, all of the above scenarios are permitted, making that option the correct choice.

2. Under Rule 7.3, written solicitations are prohibited if the prospective client has stated what?
- A. A desire to be solicited by the lawyer.
 - B. A desire not to be solicited by the lawyer.
 - C. A preference for email communication.
 - D. A preference for in-person meetings.

The concept being tested is that lawyers must respect a prospective client's expressed preferences about contact under Rule 7.3. Written solicitations are generally allowed, but not when the recipient has explicitly stated a desire not to be solicited by that lawyer. So if a prospective client says they do not want to be solicited, sending a written communication trying to obtain legal employment would violate the rule. This protects individuals from unwanted recruitment and coercive outreach. The other conditions—someone wanting to be solicited or preferences about email versus in-person contact—do not by themselves create a prohibition; the protective trigger is the explicit opt-out.

3. Under Rule 1.6, when may a lawyer disclose confidential information without client consent?

- A. To prevent reasonably certain death or substantial bodily harm.
- B. To disclose to a third party for advice on a different matter.
- C. To gain an advantage in a separate dispute without consent.
- D. To reveal to the media to pressure the client.

When a lawyer talks about confidentiality, the rules are strict, but there is a narrow carve-out: you may disclose confidential information without the client's consent if doing so is necessary to prevent reasonably certain death or substantial bodily harm. That means the lawyer can reveal only what is necessary to avert that harm, and the risk must be clearly significant and imminent. That is why this option is the best answer. It matches the explicit permission in Rule 1.6 for disclosures aimed at preventing death or serious injury, a purpose that justifies breaching confidentiality to protect a life or health interest. Disclosing to a third party for advice on a different matter would generally not be allowed, because the information is meant to stay confidential to protect the client's interests in that matter. Disclosing to gain an advantage in a separate dispute or revealing to the media to pressure the client aren't permitted either under Rule 1.6, since they don't serve the narrowly defined purpose of preventing imminent harm and would undermine the confidentiality duty.

4. Under Rule 4.2, a lawyer shall not communicate about the subject of representation with a person who is represented in the matter unless

- A. The client consents in writing.
- B. Consent of the other lawyer or a court order is obtained.
- C. The person is unrepresented.
- D. The communication concerns only administrative matters.

Rule 4.2 prohibits a lawyer from communicating about the subject of the representation with a person known to be represented by another lawyer, unless the other lawyer consents or a court orders the communication. This protects the relationship between the represented person and their own counsel and prevents bypassing or pressuring the other side's lawyer. The correct answer captures the only valid permission to override that prohibition: consent of the other lawyer or a court order. A client's written consent does not suffice, because the rule is about communicating with the represented person, not about the client's authorization. If the person were unrepresented, there would be no restriction. There isn't a general exception for administrative matters—the restriction applies to the subject of the representation itself, regardless of whether the discussion is substantive or administrative.

5. Under current government service rules, private employment is restricted except for roles of judicial clerk or adjudicative officer. Which statement about the private employment exception is correct?
- A. It does not apply to any private employment
 - B. It applies only to judicial clerks
 - C. It applies only to adjudicative officers
 - D. It applies to both judicial clerks and adjudicative officers

Outside employment is generally limited for government workers to prevent conflicts of interest, but there is a specific allowance for certain positions. The exception covers both judicial clerks and adjudicative officers, recognizing that their duties are less likely to involve policy-making or decisions that could be influenced by private work. Because these two roles are seen as less susceptible to conflicts or improper influence, they qualify for the private employment exception, provided they meet any applicable restrictions (such as not handling matters before the court or agency or using official position for private gain). Therefore, the exception applies to both roles, making that option the best choice.

6. Trial Publicity: Under Rule 3.6, which topic may a lawyer publicly state about a case?
- A. Scheduling or result of any step in litigation.
 - B. The confidential strategy of the defense.
 - C. The private communications with the client.
 - D. The personal evaluation of the jury pool.

Rule 3.6 allows a lawyer to publicly discuss straightforward, non-substantive updates about the case's progression. Specifically, you may state the scheduling of hearings or events and the results of any step in the litigation because these are factual, procedural details that do not reveal trial strategy or confidential communications. They help inform the public without prejudicing the proceedings, as long as the statements stay within that procedural scope. Statements about confidential defense strategy would reveal tactics and are not permitted. Private attorney-client communications are protected and cannot be disclosed. A personal evaluation of the jury pool could prejudice the case by signaling bias or influencing potential jurors, which is also not allowed.

7. Under Rule 1.8, which practice is allowed to provide financial assistance to a client in litigation?

- A. Advancing court costs with repayment contingent on outcome.
- B. Providing funds for living expenses during trial irrespective of outcome.
- C. Lending money for unrelated personal expenses.
- D. Gifting to influence the opponent.

Rule 1.8 restricts financial help to a client in a way that keeps the focus on litigation costs, not personal needs or influence. The only permissible form here is advancing court costs and other litigation expenses, with the repayment tied to the case's outcome. This arrangement supports the client's ability to pursue the matter without imposing personal financial burdens, while avoiding creating improper influence—because the support is limited to costs and the repayment depends on how the case turns out. Funding living expenses during the trial, or lending money for unrelated personal costs, or gifting to sway the opponent, go beyond what the rule allows and would constitute improper financial assistance. There is also a separate provision that allows paying court costs on behalf of an indigent client, but that, too, is limited to costs and not personal financial support.

8. Under Rule 7.2, when may a lawyer refer clients to another lawyer or a nonlawyer professional in a reciprocal referral arrangement?

- A. The agreement is exclusive and the client is not informed.
- B. The agreement is not exclusive and the client is informed of the existence and nature of the agreement.
- C. The client is paid a fee for referrals.
- D. The client is excluded from decisions about referrals.

Reciprocal referral arrangements are allowed under Rule 7.2 only if the arrangement is not exclusive and the client is informed about its existence and nature. The not-exclusive requirement protects the client's freedom to choose and prevents the referral network from unduly constraining the client's options. Disclosure about the arrangement—what it is, who's involved, and how it might influence the referral—gives the client the information needed to decide whether to proceed and to assess any potential bias or benefit to the lawyer. Why the other scenarios don't fit: an exclusive arrangement with no notice would unfairly limit the client's choices and could pressure the client into using a particular path; paying a fee for referrals suggests an improper incentive that could compromise the lawyer's independent judgment or the client's best interests; and excluding the client from decisions about referrals removes essential informed consent.

9. Under Rule 1.10, when may a firm represent a client adverse to a former associate without violating conflicts of interest?
- A. If the matter is adequately screened and appropriate procedures are followed, including written notice and compliance.
 - B. If the former associate consents personally.
 - C. If the matter is unrelated and the client is unaware of the former associate.
 - D. If the entire firm ignores the conflict.

The main concept is that a firm can take on representation adverse to a former client of a lawyer who joined the firm only if proper safeguards are in place to prevent imputed conflicts. Rule 1.10 allows this when the former disqualified lawyer is timely screened from participation in the new matter, does not receive any part of the fee for that matter, and the firm provides written notice to the former client so they may take action if needed. The screening must be effectively maintained, and information about the former client's matter must not be shared with the team handling the new matter. Consent from the former associate isn't the controlling factor; the protection comes from the firm's screening and the procedures implemented, not from the individual's personal approval. This is why simply relying on the former associate's consent would not, by itself, justify the representation. Also, the other options aren't appropriate: proceeding without notice or ignoring the conflict would violate the rules, and awareness or consent of the former client is not the required mechanism to lift the disqualification.

10. Under Rule 7.2, which advertising practice is permissible?
- A. Paying the reasonable costs of advertisements or communications permitted by this Rule.
 - B. Paying a referral fee to any recipient regardless of rules.
 - C. Paying for a law practice in violation of Rule 1.17.
 - D. Paying for client settlements.

Under Rule 7.2, lawyers may advertise their services and may cover the reasonable costs of those advertisements or communications. The important point is that paying for the creation and dissemination of permissible advertisements is allowed, as long as the content is truthful and not misleading. This keeps advertising possible without giving anything extra to influence who hires the lawyer. The other options go beyond what is permitted: paying a referral fee to anyone for sending business is prohibited because it treats a referral as value given for employment. Paying for a law practice violates Rule 1.17, which bars acquiring a practice for value. Paying for client settlements would be improper because it involves buying settlement outcomes or compensating clients to influence their decisions.

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://mprerules.examzify.com>

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

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