

NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE SCHOOL (NSARS) MODULE 1 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://nsarsmodule1.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. According to the CGADD to the NSS, which SAR statutory authority may the CG Rescue provide clothing, food, or medications to survivors?**
 - A. 14 U.S.C. 521
 - B. 14 U.S.C. 102
 - C. 14 U.S.C. 701
 - D. 14 U.S.C. 801
- 2. You are on watch at Sector Virginia and receive a report of a ferry with 43 passengers on fire in Norfolk, Virginia, on the Elizabeth River. Which agency is responsible?**
 - A. U.S. Navy
 - B. U.S. Coast Guard
 - C. Federal Aviation Administration
 - D. National Park Service
- 3. In field triage, once life-threatening conditions are identified, what is the next primary step?**
 - A. Evacuate all patients immediately
 - B. Call for air support
 - C. Prioritize treatment and decide on evacuation versus stabilization
 - D. Reassess the weather
- 4. Which system is used to open and document SAR cases?**
 - A. MISLE
 - B. MARINE INCIDENT LOG
 - C. SAR TRACKER
 - D. COAST GUARD DATA
- 5. In the AIPOC framework, which stage comes immediately after Planning?**
 - A. Awareness
 - B. Initial Actions
 - C. Planning
 - D. Operations

- 6. What is risk assessment in SAR and what should it address?**
- A. A subjective guess of difficulty
 - B. A structured process to identify hazards, evaluate their risk, and implement mitigations to protect responders and the mission
 - C. A mental checklist for team morale
 - D. A legal requirement with no impact on operations
- 7. Which timing guideline is specifically stated for opening MISLE cases after initial notification?**
- A. 5 Min
 - B. 15 Min
 - C. 30 Min
 - D. 60 Min
- 8. Who is responsible for establishing and managing SAR Resources within their SRR?**
- A. SAR Coordinator
 - B. OSC
 - C. SAR Mission Coordinator
 - D. ACTSUS
- 9. Which unit is a rescue coordination center responsible for both aeronautical and maritime search and rescue incidents?**
- A. Joint Rescue Coordination Center
 - B. Rescue Coordination Center
 - C. RCC
 - D. First RCC
- 10. Choose the SAR Stage when the reported missing vessel has been located and survivors have been debriefed to confirm no additional missing persons.**
- A. Conclusion
 - B. Awareness
 - C. Planning
 - D. Operations

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. According to the CGADD to the NSS, which SAR statutory authority may the CG Rescue provide clothing, food, or medications to survivors?

A. 14 U.S.C. 521

B. 14 U.S.C. 102

C. 14 U.S.C. 701

D. 14 U.S.C. 801

This question focuses on which statutory provision specifically authorizes the Coast Guard Rescue to provide immediate relief to survivors during a SAR operation. The direct authority to furnish survival necessities—like clothing, food, or medications—to survivors is found in the provision coded as 14 U.S.C. 521. This statute is the explicit allowance that enables responders to supply basic needs on scene, helping to stabilize survivors while the rescue is completed or care is arranged. The other cited sections cover different aspects of Coast Guard operations and powers and do not explicitly authorize the on-scene provision of survival items to survivors. Thus, they do not fit the scenario described in the question as clearly as the 14 U.S.C. 521 authority does.

2. You are on watch at Sector Virginia and receive a report of a ferry with 43 passengers on fire in Norfolk, Virginia, on the Elizabeth River. Which agency is responsible?

A. U.S. Navy

B. U.S. Coast Guard

C. Federal Aviation Administration

D. National Park Service

Maritime safety and rescue in U.S. waters is led by the U.S. Coast Guard. Sector Virginia is a Coast Guard unit responsible for the Hampton Roads area, including the Elizabeth River. When a ferry is on fire with passengers aboard, the Coast Guard takes the lead to coordinate rescue, fire suppression, and safety in the waterway, working with local fire departments, police, and harbor authorities and deploying boats and air assets as needed. The Navy would only be involved in military operations or if requested for a specific mission, the FAA handles aviation matters, and the National Park Service only takes the lead if the incident is inside a national park area. So the responsible agency in this scenario is the U.S. Coast Guard.

3. In field triage, once life-threatening conditions are identified, what is the next primary step?

A. Evacuate all patients immediately

B. Call for air support

C. Prioritize treatment and decide on evacuation versus stabilization

D. Reassess the weather

Once life-threatening conditions are identified, the next step is to prioritize treatment and decide on evacuation versus stabilization. This means quickly determining who needs immediate on-site life-saving interventions and whether each patient should be stabilized before transport or evacuated right away for definitive care. This approach ensures scarce resources are used to save as many lives as possible. On-site actions focus on critical steps like securing the airway, controlling bleeding, supporting breathing, and maintaining circulation, with a quick reassessment to guide transport decisions. Evacuating everyone immediately isn't feasible, and transport logistics like air support or weather are important but do not override the need to address the most urgent patient needs first.

4. Which system is used to open and document SAR cases?

- A. MISLE**
- B. MARINE INCIDENT LOG
- C. SAR TRACKER
- D. COAST GUARD DATA

MISLE is the Coast Guard's centralized system for opening and documenting SAR cases. It provides standardized fields to capture all essential details—incident type, location, time, resources deployed, personnel, vessels or aircraft involved, actions taken, outcomes, casualty status, and final disposition. This creates a complete, official record that can be queried later for after-action reviews, performance reporting, and regulatory compliance, and it ensures consistency across units and missions. Other options, like informal logs or less formal tracking tools, don't serve as the official, standardized repository for SAR case documentation, so they don't provide the same reliability and interoperability as MISLE.

5. In the AIPOC framework, which stage comes immediately after Planning?

- A. Awareness
- B. Initial Actions
- C. Planning
- D. Operations**

In the AIPOC sequence, planning outlines the approach, allocates resources, sets objectives, and assigns tasks. Immediately after that, operations is where the plan is put into action: teams are deployed, actions are taken on the ground, equipment is used, information is gathered, and you adjust in real time as the situation evolves. This order ensures that responses are deliberate and coordinated rather than improvised. Awareness comes first as the incident is recognized, and initial actions precede planning by addressing immediate stabilization; they are not the step that follows planning.

6. What is risk assessment in SAR and what should it address?

- A. A subjective guess of difficulty
- B. A structured process to identify hazards, evaluate their risk, and implement mitigations to protect responders and the mission**
- C. A mental checklist for team morale
- D. A legal requirement with no impact on operations

Risk assessment in SAR is a structured process that helps the team anticipate hazards, judge how risky they are, and apply controls to protect responders and the mission. It starts by identifying all potential dangers across the operation—terrain, weather, water conditions, night conditions, equipment failures, responder fatigue, communication gaps, and mission constraints. Then each hazard is evaluated in terms of how likely it is to cause harm and how severe that harm could be, often using a risk matrix to categorize levels like low, moderate, high, or extreme. Based on that assessment, mitigations are chosen to reduce risk—adjusting tactics, delaying or changing the plan, adding resources or protective equipment, performing extra equipment checks, improving communications, assigning a safety officer, or developing contingency plans. After mitigating, you reassess the residual risk to decide if the operation can proceed safely, needs modification, or must be halted. This evaluation is ongoing and dynamic; changing weather, terrain, or equipment status requires rechecking risk and adapting the plan. This approach isn't a guess, a morale checklist, or merely a legal form. It directly informs decisions to keep responders safe and to improve the likelihood of mission success.

7. Which timing guideline is specifically stated for opening MISLE cases after initial notification?

- A. 5 Min
- B. 15 Min**
- C. 30 Min
- D. 60 Min

Opening MISLE cases promptly after initial notification is essential to start the incident record with timely, accurate information and to assign investigative resources quickly. The standard guideline is to open the MISLE case within fifteen minutes of receiving initial notification. This quick entry helps capture who, what, where, and when facts while they're fresh, supports proper triage and assignment, and reduces the risk of data loss or memory gaps. Five minutes is typically too tight for gathering enough initial details; thirty or sixty minutes can delay crucial documentation and hinder timely response and follow-up. Fifteen minutes strikes a balance, enabling prompt action without sacrificing accuracy.

8. Who is responsible for establishing and managing SAR Resources within their SRR?

- A. SAR Coordinator**
- B. OSC
- C. SAR Mission Coordinator
- D. ACTSUS

The person who establishes and manages SAR resources within their SRR is the SAR Coordinator. This role holds the authority to identify, mobilize, and allocate all resources across the region, ensuring there is adequate coverage, readiness of assets (aircraft, ships, ground teams), and real-time coordination with participating agencies. The SAR Coordinator sets the overall search strategy, assigns tasks to units, maintains liaison with other authorities, and adjusts plans as the situation evolves to maintain an effective regional response. The on-scene commander handles tactical decisions at the incident site, focusing on how to deploy assets and conduct the search on the ground or at sea, but does not oversee resource establishment for the entire SRR. The SAR Mission Coordinator specializes in directing a specific mission or part of a mission, coordinating planning and execution within that scope rather than managing regional resources. ACTSUS is not a standard role responsible for regional resource management in most NSARS frameworks.

9. Which unit is a rescue coordination center responsible for both aeronautical and maritime search and rescue incidents?

- A. Joint Rescue Coordination Center**
- B. Rescue Coordination Center
- C. RCC
- D. First RCC

The unit that coordinates both air and sea search and rescue is the Joint Rescue Coordination Center. This center is designed to bring together air assets (aircraft, helicopters) and sea assets (coast guards, ships) under one coordinated operation, ensuring unified planning, efficient resource deployment, and clear communication from the initial alert through to rescue and handover to local authorities. The word "joint" signals that the center handles both domains in a single, integrated response, which is essential for effective SAR when incidents involve both aviation and maritime elements. Other terms imply a center focused on a single domain or use non-standard naming, so they don't inherently indicate cross-domain coordination.

10. Choose the SAR Stage when the reported missing vessel has been located and survivors have been debriefed to confirm no additional missing persons.

A. Conclusion

B. Awareness

C. Planning

D. Operations

Understanding the stages of a SAR mission, once the missing vessel is located and survivors have been debriefed to confirm no additional missing persons, the team shifts to closing out the incident. This final phase focuses on verifying all persons are accounted for, compiling and reviewing the incident documentation, demobilizing resources, and formally concluding the operation. The earlier stages—awareness involve recognizing the incident, planning develops the search strategy, and operations covers the actual search and rescue work. Since the immediate active searching is complete and accountability has been confirmed, the appropriate stage is the conclusion.

SAMPLE

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://nsarsmodule1.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE