

NEW YORK WATCH, GUARD, OR PATROL AGENCY (WGP) LICENSE PRACTICE TEST (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. Which document is most likely to be found in an employee's personnel file?**
 - A. Social Security Card
 - B. I-9 Form
 - C. Birth Certificate
 - D. Health Insurance Document

- 2. If you are lawfully restraining someone and they are actively resisting, what can you do?**
 - A. Use Compliance Control Techniques
 - B. Use Excessive Force
 - C. Release the Person Immediately
 - D. Call for Backup

- 3. What is the definition of murder in the 2nd degree?**
 - A. In the heat of passion
 - B. Attempting to commit robbery and causes the death of another
 - C. Accidental killing without intent
 - D. Killing in self-defense

- 4. What does 'holder' mean in the Security Guard Act?**
 - A. An individual who has submitted a job application
 - B. Any entity providing security services
 - C. An individual with an issued registration card
 - D. An organization that employs multiple security guards

- 5. What is the primary purpose of requiring a license for WGP agencies?**
 - A. To standardize the hiring process
 - B. To ensure compliance with state laws
 - C. To control operational costs
 - D. To limit competition among agencies

- 6. Can a WGP agency hire a person with a felony conviction as a security guard?**
- A. Yes, they can hire anyone
 - B. No, it is prohibited
 - C. Only if the felony is at least five years old
 - D. It depends on the nature of the felony
- 7. What is the maximum penalty for a Class A misdemeanor?**
- A. Up to 30 days in jail
 - B. Up to 1 year in jail
 - C. Up to 3 years in prison
 - D. Fines only
- 8. What security lighting is known to have a blue hue?**
- A. LED lights
 - B. Fluorescent lights
 - C. Mercury Vapor Lamps
 - D. High-pressure Sodium lights
- 9. What should a security guard prioritize when encountering a suspicious situation?**
- A. Immediate confrontation
 - B. Assessment and observation
 - C. Calling for additional personnel
 - D. Leaving the scene
- 10. Who has the authority to reprimand, suspend, or revoke a WGP license?**
- A. The Secretary of State
 - B. The Local Government
 - C. The Attorney General
 - D. The Licensing Board

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which document is most likely to be found in an employee's personnel file?

- A. Social Security Card
- B. I-9 Form**
- C. Birth Certificate
- D. Health Insurance Document

The I-9 Form is most likely to be found in an employee's personnel file because it serves a critical role in verifying an employee's eligibility to work in the United States. This form is mandated by federal law and must be completed by all employees, providing essential information about their identity and employment authorization. The I-9 requires documentation to prove both identity and work eligibility, which the employee must present at the time of hiring. This is why it is a standard document retained in personnel files for compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act. In contrast, although documents like a Social Security Card, Birth Certificate, and Health Insurance Documents may be relevant for various employment purposes, they do not hold the same regulatory requirement for inclusion in personnel files as the I-9 Form does. The I-9's legal importance ensures that it is consistently maintained in personnel records, reflecting the employer's commitment to compliance and proper hiring practices.

2. If you are lawfully restraining someone and they are actively resisting, what can you do?

- A. Use Compliance Control Techniques**
- B. Use Excessive Force
- C. Release the Person Immediately
- D. Call for Backup

Using Compliance Control Techniques is appropriate in situations where an individual is lawfully restrained but is actively resisting. These techniques are designed to establish control over a non-compliant individual while minimizing the risk of injury to both the officer and the individual being restrained. Compliance Control Techniques may include methods that are generally recognized as reasonable and necessary to ensure safety, such as joint locks or physical holds, that allow the officer to maintain control without inflicting unnecessary harm. In the context of this situation, using excessive force would not only be inappropriate but could also result in legal consequences for the officer. Releasing the individual immediately could lead to further resistance or escape, which compromises both the safety of the officer and the integrity of the law enforcement process. Calling for backup may be necessary in some situations, but it does not address the immediate need to control the individual who is resisting. Thus, applying Compliance Control Techniques is the most effective and responsible approach in this scenario.

3. What is the definition of murder in the 2nd degree?

- A. In the heat of passion
- B. Attempting to commit robbery and causes the death of another**
- C. Accidental killing without intent
- D. Killing in self-defense

The definition of second-degree murder primarily involves the unlawful killing of another person with intent but without premeditation. In this context, the option referring to "attempting to commit robbery and causes the death of another" aligns with one of the primary circumstances under which second-degree murder can be charged. This is known as the felony murder rule, where an individual can be charged with murder if a death occurs during the commission of a dangerous felony, even if the death was not the principal aim of the act. The phrase "attempting to commit robbery" highlights that during the commission of this crime, if someone dies, the offender can face second-degree murder charges due to the inherent risks associated with such felonious behavior, regardless of intent to kill. Thus, this option correctly encapsulates the legal understanding of second-degree murder in New York law. Understanding this helps clarify that other options—such as killings in the heat of passion, accidental killings without intent, and killings in self-defense—do not fit the legal criteria for second-degree murder as these pertain to different legal definitions such as manslaughter or justifiable homicide.

4. What does 'holder' mean in the Security Guard Act?

- A. An individual who has submitted a job application
- B. Any entity providing security services
- C. An individual with an issued registration card**
- D. An organization that employs multiple security guards

In the context of the Security Guard Act, the term 'holder' specifically refers to an individual with an issued registration card. This registration card is a formal recognition of the individual's qualifications and permission to operate as a security guard within the legal framework established by the act. The registration serves as a credential that demonstrates compliance with background checks, training requirements, and any other criteria specified by regulatory authorities. This definition is critical as it differentiates a licensed security guard from others in the field, such as applicants or organizations, ensuring that only those who meet the established standards are permitted to perform security duties. Therefore, the understanding of 'holder' as someone with an issued registration card is essential for anyone navigating the laws and regulations governing security personnel.

5. What is the primary purpose of requiring a license for WGP agencies?

- A. To standardize the hiring process
- B. To ensure compliance with state laws**
- C. To control operational costs
- D. To limit competition among agencies

The primary purpose of requiring a license for Watch, Guard, or Patrol (WGP) agencies is to ensure compliance with state laws. Licensing helps establish a framework that dictates the legal and operational standards that agencies must follow, encompassing aspects such as employee qualifications, training requirements, and ethical practices. This regulatory oversight is crucial for maintaining public safety and trust in security services, as it holds agencies accountable to both state regulations and the expectations of the communities they serve. In the context of this question, options like standardizing the hiring process or controlling operational costs may be secondary outcomes of licensing, but they do not encapsulate the primary intent. Licensing is not primarily about limiting competition; rather, it aims to ensure that all operating agencies maintain a baseline of quality and legality in their services, which ultimately benefits the public and the industry as a whole.

6. Can a WGP agency hire a person with a felony conviction as a security guard?

- A. Yes, they can hire anyone
- B. No, it is prohibited**
- C. Only if the felony is at least five years old
- D. It depends on the nature of the felony

In New York, the law surrounding the hiring of security personnel, particularly in relation to felony convictions, is quite strict. A WGP agency is not permitted to hire individuals with felony convictions. This prohibition serves to maintain the integrity and trust necessary in the security industry, as those tasked with safeguarding others must be held to the highest standards of discretion and responsibility. The rationale behind this rule is that individuals with felony convictions may pose a risk to clients and the community due to their past actions. Security guards often have access to sensitive areas and security information, requiring a high level of trust and reliability. Therefore, hiring individuals with felony convictions is deemed inappropriate and is strictly regulated to ensure the safety and security of the public. The other choices do not accurately reflect the legal landscape regarding employment for security personnel. While there may be nuances in hiring practices and considerations regarding the nature or age of a felony conviction in other contexts, the overarching regulation for WGP agencies is that hiring individuals with felonies is not allowed without exception.

7. What is the maximum penalty for a Class A misdemeanor?

- A. Up to 30 days in jail
- B. Up to 1 year in jail**
- C. Up to 3 years in prison
- D. Fines only

The maximum penalty for a Class A misdemeanor is indeed up to 1 year in jail. This classification under New York law indicates that offenses categorized as Class A misdemeanors are more severe than lower-level misdemeanors, which typically carry shorter jail sentences. This means if an individual is convicted of a Class A misdemeanor, they could face incarceration for a period that does not exceed one year, reflecting the seriousness of these offenses. In contrast, other potential penalties outlined in the incorrect options do not align with the legal framework for Class A misdemeanors. For instance, a jail term of 30 days or fines only suggests a less serious category of misdemeanor or violation. The option of up to 3 years in prison erroneously implies that it falls within the realm of felony offenses, which carry longer potential sentences than any criminal misdemeanor. Understanding these classifications helps clarify the legal consequences associated with various types of criminal behavior.

8. What security lighting is known to have a blue hue?

- A. LED lights
- B. Fluorescent lights
- C. Mercury Vapor Lamps**
- D. High-pressure Sodium lights

Mercury Vapor Lamps are known for emitting a distinctive blue hue, which makes them identifiable among other types of lighting. This blue tint results from the specific spectral output of the mercury vapor, which produces light that is rich in the blue and green spectrum. This characteristic makes them suitable for various outdoor and industrial applications, including security lighting, as the blue light can enhance visibility and create a stark contrast in environments that may otherwise be poorly lit. While other lighting options have their own advantages, such as energy efficiency in LEDs or the warm light from high-pressure sodium lights, they do not produce the same kind of blue hue that is characteristic of mercury vapor lamps. This makes Mercury Vapor Lamps uniquely recognized for their specific color temperature and usage in enhancing security visibility.

9. What should a security guard prioritize when encountering a suspicious situation?

- A. Immediate confrontation
- B. Assessment and observation**
- C. Calling for additional personnel
- D. Leaving the scene

In any security situation, particularly when encountering something suspicious, the priority should be on assessment and observation. This approach allows the security guard to gather vital information about the situation without escalating it unnecessarily. By carefully observing, the guard can determine the nature of the suspicious activity, identify potential threats, and evaluate the environment before taking any actions. Prioritizing assessment helps ensure that the guard makes informed decisions based on facts rather than assumptions. For instance, observing the situation might reveal that the suspicious behavior is simply someone engaging in a benign activity that could easily be misinterpreted. Taking time to assess also allows for the possibility of determining whether additional support is needed or if the situation can be addressed through communication. This method not only enhances the guard's situational awareness but also contributes to overall safety, both for the guard and for others in the vicinity.

10. Who has the authority to reprimand, suspend, or revoke a WGP license?

- A. The Secretary of State**
- B. The Local Government
- C. The Attorney General
- D. The Licensing Board

The authority to reprimand, suspend, or revoke a WGP license is held by the Secretary of State. This official is responsible for overseeing the licensing and regulation of various occupations, which includes the watch, guard, or patrol agencies. The Secretary of State's office has the power to enforce compliance with the laws and regulations governing these licensees, ensuring that they meet the necessary standards for operation. The other options may have roles in the governance of laws and regulations, but they do not have the specific authority over the licensing of watch, guard, or patrol agencies. The local government may impose regulations and ordinances, while the Attorney General is involved in legal matters but does not directly oversee licensing. The Licensing Board might play a role in the application or renewal processes but ultimately the Secretary of State is the one with the final say on disciplinary actions related to licensing.

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://nywgp.examzify.com>

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

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