

NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE 1 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://ncbuildingcode1.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	16

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. What type of material is not typically allowed for exterior walls in fire-resistance-rated constructions?**
 - A. Concrete blocks
 - B. Wood siding
 - C. Brick veneer
 - D. Steel paneling
- 2. Under North Carolina Building Code, what defines a "high-rise building"?**
 - A. A building that is more than 50 feet in height
 - B. A building that is more than 75 feet in height
 - C. A building that is more than 100 feet in height
 - D. A building that is three or more stories
- 3. Agricultural facilities are classified into which structural risk category?**
 - A. I
 - B. II
 - C. III
 - D. IV
- 4. What is the minimum ceiling height required in habitable spaces according to the North Carolina Building Code?**
 - A. 7 feet 6 inches
 - B. 8 feet
 - C. 9 feet
 - D. 7 feet
- 5. The tolerance between the largest and smallest riser height or tread depth in any flight of stairs shall not exceed how many inches?**
 - A. 1/2
 - B. 3/8
 - C. 1/4
 - D. 1/8

- 6. When might a contractor need to justify the use of alternative materials?**
- A. When the materials are locally sourced
 - B. If the materials have a lower cost
 - C. When they do not match traditional construction methods
 - D. If those materials are not prescribed in the code
- 7. What standards must be met when installing electrical systems in new buildings?**
- A. International Electrical Standard (IES)
 - B. National Electrical Code (NEC) standards conformance
 - C. Local Building Authority standards
 - D. Occupational Safety Standards (OSS)
- 8. What is the height restriction for air traffic control towers of Type IIB construction?**
- A. 75 feet
 - B. 85 feet
 - C. 90 feet
 - D. 100 feet
- 9. What is required for gypsum board fire-resistive construction?**
- A. Proper type and thickness as specified for the specific occupancy classification
 - B. Installation by a licensed contractor only
 - C. Use of only fire-rated materials
 - D. No specific requirements if rated insulation is used
- 10. For assembly seating areas with a capacity of 101-300, the minimum number of wheelchair spaces required is ____.**
- A. 2
 - B. 3
 - C. 4
 - D. 5

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What type of material is not typically allowed for exterior walls in fire-resistance-rated constructions?

- A. Concrete blocks
- B. Wood siding**
- C. Brick veneer
- D. Steel paneling

Wood siding is not typically allowed for exterior walls in fire-resistance-rated constructions due to its combustible nature. Fire-resistance-rated construction aims to provide a barrier against the spread of fire, and materials used in these applications must possess certain non-combustible properties. In contrast, concrete blocks, brick veneer, and steel paneling all have inherent fire-resistant qualities. Concrete and brick are inorganic materials that do not ignite and are gapped to slow fire spread. Steel, though it can lose structural integrity at high temperatures, is considered non-combustible and is utilized in ways that mitigate fire risks. Therefore, in fire-resistance-rated assemblies, wood siding fails to meet the necessary criteria to ensure adequate protection against fire hazards.

2. Under North Carolina Building Code, what defines a “high-rise building”?

- A. A building that is more than 50 feet in height
- B. A building that is more than 75 feet in height**
- C. A building that is more than 100 feet in height
- D. A building that is three or more stories

A high-rise building in the context of the North Carolina Building Code is defined as a structure that exceeds 75 feet in height. This classification is important for several reasons, including fire safety considerations, evacuation protocols, and structural requirements. High-rise buildings often require more stringent safety measures due to their height, which impacts factors such as fire service access, egress routes, and building material standards. Buildings that are defined simply by their number of stories, such as those that have three or more stories, do not necessarily fall into the high-rise category unless they also exceed the height threshold. Likewise, defining high rises at 50 feet or 100 feet would not align with the specific legislative framework or safety considerations that are in place in North Carolina's building code. Thus, setting the definition at 75 feet provides a clear standard that aligns with national codes and safety practices in architectural design and construction.

3. Agricultural facilities are classified into which structural risk category?

- A. I**
- B. II
- C. III
- D. IV

The classification of agricultural facilities falls under Risk Category I, which is designated for structures that are considered to pose a lower risk to human life in the event of failure. This includes buildings where the potential consequences of a structural failure are minimized, such as agricultural buildings that typically house animals, equipment, or crops rather than significant human occupancy. Risk Category I acknowledges that these facilities do not usually have a high number of occupants and are not designed for critical functions that would warrant a higher risk classification. There are fewer people present in these facilities at any given time, and the consequences of structural failure are significantly lower compared to categories that include structures used for assembly, residential buildings, or essential facilities. In contrast, other risk categories (II, III, and IV) cover different types of buildings with increasing risks associated with occupancy or function, such as public assembly areas, hospitals, and emergency shelters. Therefore, the classification for agricultural facilities as Risk Category I aligns with their nature and typical usage, reinforcing the idea that they are not at high risk in terms of life safety.

4. What is the minimum ceiling height required in habitable spaces according to the North Carolina Building Code?

- A. 7 feet 6 inches
- B. 8 feet**
- C. 9 feet
- D. 7 feet

In the North Carolina Building Code, the minimum ceiling height required in habitable spaces is specified as 8 feet. This standard helps ensure adequate headroom and a sense of spaciousness in living areas, which contributes to the overall comfort and functionality of these spaces. A ceiling height of 8 feet allows for efficient air circulation and lighting, making the environment more pleasant for occupants. While lower ceiling heights may be permissible in certain non-habitable spaces or specific design scenarios, habitable spaces such as living rooms, bedrooms, and kitchens must adhere to the 8-foot requirement to promote safety, accessibility, and livability. This height requirement is also in line with many other building codes across the United States, reinforcing the importance of maintaining consistent standards for residential construction. Thus, the option indicating 8 feet as the minimum ceiling height is the correct choice in alignment with the code regulations.

5. The tolerance between the largest and smallest riser height or tread depth in any flight of stairs shall not exceed how many inches?

- A. 1/2
- B. 3/8**
- C. 1/4
- D. 1/8

The correct answer indicates that the tolerance between the largest and smallest riser height or tread depth in any flight of stairs must not exceed 3/8 inches. This requirement is established to ensure safety and accessibility in stair design. Uneven riser heights or tread depths can create tripping hazards, particularly for individuals who may have mobility issues or are less steady on their feet. By maintaining a tolerance of only 3/8 inches, the building code promotes a more consistent and predictable walking surface, which is crucial in preventing accidents. This standard helps to create a uniform experience for users, making stairs safer and more navigable. Other options suggest different tolerances, which could allow for greater discrepancies in riser heights or tread depths. Allowing a larger tolerance could lead to increased risks of tripping and falling, as small variations become more pronounced, especially in situations with poor visibility or when individuals are carrying objects. Thus, the selection of 3/8 inches aligns best with safety principles in stair design as outlined in the building code.

6. When might a contractor need to justify the use of alternative materials?

- A. When the materials are locally sourced
- B. If the materials have a lower cost
- C. When they do not match traditional construction methods
- D. If those materials are not prescribed in the code**

A contractor may need to justify the use of alternative materials primarily when those materials are not prescribed in the building code. The North Carolina Building Code, like many building codes, sets specific standards and requirements for materials to ensure safety, structural integrity, and durability. When a contractor opts to use materials that are not outlined in the code, it is essential to provide justification for their selection to demonstrate that the alternative will perform equally well or better than the prescribed materials. This justification is crucial for the approval process and helps ensure that the construction meets the established safety standards and building performance criteria. It also aids in obtaining necessary permits and safeguarding against potential liability issues related to building safety. By clearly substantiating the choice of alternative materials, the contractor can reassure regulatory authorities that the building will be safe and compliant with the necessary building regulations.

7. What standards must be met when installing electrical systems in new buildings?

- A. International Electrical Standard (IES)
- B. National Electrical Code (NEC) standards conformance**
- C. Local Building Authority standards
- D. Occupational Safety Standards (OSS)

The installation of electrical systems in new buildings must comply with the National Electrical Code (NEC) standards. The NEC provides a comprehensive set of guidelines designed to ensure safety, performance, and reliability in electrical installations. Compliance with NEC standards helps in preventing electrical hazards such as fires, shocks, and other dangers associated with faulty electrical work. The NEC covers a broad range of topics, including proper wiring methods, service equipment, circuit protection, and grounding requirements. Following these standards ensures that electrical systems are installed correctly and contribute to the overall safety of the building and its occupants. Additionally, in many jurisdictions, compliance with NEC standards is required by law, making it a critical aspect of any electrical installation. While local building authorities may adopt the NEC as part of their regulations, they may also have additional requirements that must be met; hence they do not replace the foundational NEC standards. Other options like the International Electrical Standard and Occupational Safety Standards may have relevance, but they are not specifically tailored for the installation of electrical systems in new buildings in the way that the NEC is.

8. What is the height restriction for air traffic control towers of Type IIB construction?

- A. 75 feet
- B. 85 feet**
- C. 90 feet
- D. 100 feet

The height restriction for air traffic control towers of Type IIB construction is set at 85 feet. This specific standard is based on the building code regulations that govern the construction and design of structures to ensure safety and functionality, particularly for essential facilities such as air traffic control towers. Type IIB construction is defined by non-combustible materials and allows for certain height limitations in relation to their use and structural integrity. Air traffic control towers must maintain a height that balances visibility, safety, and operational needs, with the established limit of 85 feet being a crucial factor. This height ensures that controllers have an unobstructed view of the surrounding airspace while also adhering to code requirements designed to mitigate risks associated with construction and operational hazards. Thus, the 85-foot limitation serves as a critical guideline to maintain safety standards in such essential structures.

9. What is required for gypsum board fire-resistive construction?

- A. Proper type and thickness as specified for the specific occupancy classification
- B. Installation by a licensed contractor only
- C. Use of only fire-rated materials
- D. No specific requirements if rated insulation is used

Gypsum board fire-resistive construction is a critical aspect of building safety and compliance with fire codes. The correct choice emphasizes the importance of selecting the proper type and thickness of gypsum board, as these specifications are closely aligned with the occupancy classification of the building. Different types of buildings have varying fire safety needs based on their use, occupancy density, and potential fire hazards. The building code outlines specific requirements regarding the thickness and type of gypsum board to ensure that fire-resistive barriers can effectively contain a fire and minimize its spread. For instance, certain assemblies may require thicker boards or specific types that have been tested and rated for fire resistance. Following these specifications helps ensure that the construction will perform as intended during a fire event, providing the necessary protection for occupants and the structure. Other choices may address related considerations but do not capture the whole picture. For example, while licensed contractors may be required for certain types of work, the fundamental requirement is related to the material specifications for safety reasons. Similarly, the use of fire-rated materials and insulation may play a role in overall fire safety strategy, but the specific requirements for gypsum board are critical in defining fire-resistive construction. The absence of specific requirements around rated insulation does not negate the need for proper gypsum

10. For assembly seating areas with a capacity of 101-300, the minimum number of wheelchair spaces required is ____.

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 4
- D. 5

The minimum number of wheelchair spaces required for assembly seating areas with a capacity of 101-300 is four. This requirement is set forth in the North Carolina Building Code to ensure accessibility and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. For assembly areas, the code specifies that for seating arrangements that accommodate a certain number of occupants, an adequate number of wheelchair spaces must be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate fully in the activities. Specifically, for seating capacities ranging from 101 to 300, the provision of four wheelchair spaces ensures that a significant portion of the audience can be seated comfortably and safely. This regulation supports inclusive design in public venues, allowing all individuals, regardless of mobility challenges, to access and use these spaces effectively. Understanding these requirements is critical for architects, developers, and builders when designing public assembly spaces and ensuring they meet legal standards for accessibility.

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://ncbuildingcode1.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE