

# Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Signals 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. What is the benefit of using exaggerated gestures while signaling?**
  - A. They showcase the officer's confidence**
  - B. They enhance attention from motorists**
  - C. They reduce the need for verbal commands**
  - D. They make signals look more official**
  
- 2. Signal 90 alerts officers regarding which incident?**
  - A. Wrong way driver**
  - B. Emergency Banner struck on Radio**
  - C. Drug courier alert**
  - D. Wants/warrants check**
  
- 3. What does Signal 27 refer to?**
  - A. Secure post**
  - B. Improper procedure**
  - C. Contact home**
  - D. Relay in person**
  
- 4. What can be the consequence of violating 4511.19 ORC?**
  - A. Fines and license suspension**
  - B. Mandatory court appearances**
  - C. Community service requirements**
  - D. Vehicle impoundment**
  
- 5. Which signal represents a situation where a person is eating?**
  - A. Signal 38**
  - B. Signal 31**
  - C. Signal 30**
  - D. Signal 36**

**6. What does the acronym CVC stand for in the context of Ohio State Highway Patrol signals?**

- A. Commercial Vehicle Contact**
- B. Comprehensive Vehicle Control**
- C. Central Vehicle Communications**
- D. Certified Vehicle Compliance**

**7. Which signal represents a non-injury traffic crash?**

- A. Signal 31**
- B. Signal 30**
- C. Signal 31A**
- D. Signal 32**

**8. Which signal shows an inspector is present at a post?**

- A. Signal 46**
- B. Signal 42**
- C. Signal 44**
- D. Signal 40**

**9. How do hand signals enhance safety at unmarked intersections?**

- A. They reduce congestion**
- B. They provide clear direction**
- C. They attract police attention**
- D. They eliminate the need for signage**

**10. What should an officer do if inclement weather inhibits signaling effectiveness?**

- A. Postpone activities until conditions improve**
- B. Use additional visual aids and enhance bodily movements to attract attention**
- C. Ignore the weather conditions and continue as normal**
- D. Use verbal instructions only**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What is the benefit of using exaggerated gestures while signaling?

- A. They showcase the officer's confidence
- B. They enhance attention from motorists**
- C. They reduce the need for verbal commands
- D. They make signals look more official

Using exaggerated gestures while signaling primarily serves to enhance attention from motorists. In high-traffic situations, where distractions abound and visibility can be compromised, the clarity and prominence of a gesture are crucial. By making signals more pronounced, officers can increase the likelihood of being noticed by drivers, ensuring that their directions are observed and followed promptly. This heightened visibility benefits overall road safety by reducing confusion, preventing accidents, and facilitating smoother traffic flow. Other aspects, such as showcasing confidence or diminishing the need for verbal commands, may occur as secondary effects of using exaggerated gestures, but the core purpose is essentially about drawing motorists' attention to the officer's signals. This recognition helps facilitate effective communication, especially in circumstances where quick reactions from drivers are essential for maintaining safety.

## 2. Signal 90 alerts officers regarding which incident?

- A. Wrong way driver
- B. Emergency Banner struck on Radio**
- C. Drug courier alert
- D. Wants/warrants check

The correct answer indicates that Signal 90 alerts officers about an Emergency Banner struck on the radio. This signal is utilized by law enforcement agencies to communicate critical public safety information or emergencies that may require immediate attention or action from patrol officers. When an Emergency Banner appears, it usually signifies an urgent situation such as missing persons, significant incidents, or other alerts that need widespread awareness among officers on duty. This rapid communication method allows officers to respond appropriately and ensures that they are informed of situations that could escalate or affect community safety. It's an essential part of maintaining situational awareness and coordinating responses across multiple jurisdictions if necessary.

### 3. What does Signal 27 refer to?

- A. Secure post
- B. Improper procedure**
- C. Contact home
- D. Relay in person

Signal 27 refers specifically to "improper procedure." This signal is used by law enforcement, including the Ohio State Highway Patrol, to indicate that a situation or action does not adhere to the proper protocols or guidelines established for handling specific circumstances. Understanding this signal is crucial for officers as it helps maintain accountability and adherence to established procedures, ensuring safety and efficacy in law enforcement operations. Miscommunication or incorrect handling of situations can lead to serious consequences, which is why recognizing "improper procedure" through Signal 27 is essential for maintaining order and effective policing. The other signals pertain to different scenarios—securing a post or contacting home involves more logistical or operational tasks, while relaying information in person pertains to communication requirements, all of which are distinct from flagging a procedural error.

### 4. What can be the consequence of violating 4511.19 ORC?

- A. Fines and license suspension**
- B. Mandatory court appearances
- C. Community service requirements
- D. Vehicle impoundment

The violation of 4511.19 ORC, which pertains to operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, can indeed lead to fines and license suspension. This is a significant aspect of the law as it aims to deter individuals from engaging in dangerous driving behaviors that impair their ability to operate a vehicle safely. Fines are imposed as a financial penalty for the offense, reflecting the seriousness with which the law views impaired driving. Additionally, license suspension is a crucial consequence, as it directly impacts an individual's ability to drive legally, thus reinforcing the message about the dangers and responsibilities associated with driving under the influence. This combination of financial and operational penalties is designed to promote public safety and encourage compliance with traffic laws. While the other consequences listed may be applicable in specific cases or under certain circumstances, fines and license suspension are explicitly aligned with the severity of a violation under 4511.19 ORC.

**5. Which signal represents a situation where a person is eating?**

- A. Signal 38**
- B. Signal 31**
- C. Signal 30**
- D. Signal 36**

The signal that represents a situation where a person is eating is Signal 38. This designation is specifically assigned to indicate an individual engaged in the act of eating, which is important for law enforcement communications, as it allows officers and other personnel to quickly understand the context of the situation. Recognizing these signals aids in efficient and effective communication, especially when responding to various scenarios. Understanding what each signal means is critical for maintaining clarity and ensuring that all personnel are on the same page regarding the status and activities of individuals they may be monitoring.

**6. What does the acronym CVC stand for in the context of Ohio State Highway Patrol signals?**

- A. Commercial Vehicle Contact**
- B. Comprehensive Vehicle Control**
- C. Central Vehicle Communications**
- D. Certified Vehicle Compliance**

In the context of Ohio State Highway Patrol signals, the acronym CVC stands for Commercial Vehicle Contact. This term refers to the interaction and communication protocols that law enforcement, particularly the highway patrol, follow when dealing with commercial vehicles. The focus on commercial vehicles is significant due to their size, weight, and the specific regulations that govern their operation on highways. Properly managing contacts with commercial vehicles is crucial for ensuring road safety and regulatory compliance. Understanding this term and its implications helps law enforcement officers effectively monitor and enforce traffic laws related to commercial transportation, contributing to overall highway safety.

**7. Which signal represents a non-injury traffic crash?**

- A. Signal 31**
- B. Signal 30**
- C. Signal 31A**
- D. Signal 32**

Signal 31 is specifically designated by the Ohio State Highway Patrol to indicate a non-injury traffic crash. This signal helps law enforcement officers effectively and efficiently communicate the nature of the incident to dispatch and other responding units, ensuring that they are aware that there are no injuries involved. Understanding the appropriate use of this signal is important because it allows first responders to prioritize resources and respond to higher severity incidents if needed, rather than allocating unnecessary resources to a situation where injuries are not a factor. The clarity of communication helps maintain safety on the roads and supports better management of traffic incidents.

**8. Which signal shows an inspector is present at a post?**

- A. Signal 46**
- B. Signal 42**
- C. Signal 44**
- D. Signal 40**

Signal 46 is specifically designated to indicate that an inspector is present at a post. This signal is critical in maintaining communication among staff and ensures that all personnel are aware of the inspector's presence. This can be particularly important for compliance and oversight tasks, as it alerts officers and other staff members that they may be subject to inspection and should conduct their duties accordingly.

Understanding the specific signals used by the highway patrol is essential for effective communication and operational efficiency. Identifying the presence of an inspector helps in maintaining standards and accountability within the patrol's operations.

**9. How do hand signals enhance safety at unmarked intersections?**

- A. They reduce congestion**
- B. They provide clear direction**
- C. They attract police attention**
- D. They eliminate the need for signage**

Hand signals enhance safety at unmarked intersections primarily by providing clear direction to both motorists and pedestrians. At intersections where traffic signs or signals are absent, hand signals serve as a vital communication tool that conveys the intentions of drivers and cyclists. This clarity helps to reduce uncertainty about who has the right-of-way and what actions other road users may take, thereby minimizing the risk of accidents. When drivers and cyclists use hand signals to indicate turns or stops, they foster a more predictable traffic environment, which is essential for maintaining safety in areas lacking formal traffic control devices. While the other options discuss aspects of road safety, they do not capture the primary function of hand signals at unmarked intersections as effectively as the provision of clear direction does.

**10. What should an officer do if inclement weather inhibits signaling effectiveness?**

- A. Postpone activities until conditions improve**
- B. Use additional visual aids and enhance bodily movements to attract attention**
- C. Ignore the weather conditions and continue as normal**
- D. Use verbal instructions only**

When inclement weather reduces the effectiveness of signaling, utilizing additional visual aids and enhancing bodily movements to attract attention is essential. In such situations, relying solely on standard signals may not effectively communicate the officer's intentions to motorists. Adding visual aids, such as light sticks or flares, can increase visibility. Furthermore, using exaggerated body movements helps draw attention in adverse conditions where visibility might be compromised. This approach ensures that safety is prioritized for both the officer and the public by making communication clear despite environmental challenges. Effective signaling is crucial for maintaining order and safety on the road, and adapting to the situation demonstrates a commitment to these principles. Options focused on postponing activities or using verbal instructions alone may not address the immediate need for clear communication in the moment. Ignoring the weather altogether poses significant risks, as it can lead to misunderstandings or hazardous situations. Thus, actively adapting signaling methods becomes the most responsible course of action.

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# 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://oshpsignals.examzify.com>**

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

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