

# OREGON COSMETOLOGY STATE LAWS AND RULES PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR  
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://orcosmetologystatelawsrules.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. What does the term "agency" refer to in Oregon's cosmetology laws?**
  - A. The Oregon Department of Revenue
  - B. The Oregon Health Licensing Agency
  - C. The Oregon Board of Education
  - D. The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission
- 2. What is the maximum concentration of unbuffered alpha-hydroxy acids that estheticians are allowed to use?**
  - A. 10 percent
  - B. 15 percent
  - C. 20 percent
  - D. 30 percent
- 3. What is required for items that come in direct contact with the client's skin but do not require disinfecting?**
  - A. They must be washed immediately
  - B. They must be cleaned
  - C. They can be reused
  - D. They must be stored for later use
- 4. Where should chemicals used for client services be mixed?**
  - A. In an area with poor ventilation
  - B. In a dispensing area with adequate ventilation
  - C. Near open flames
  - D. Outside of the salon
- 5. What should be done with used wax in a paraffin bath?**
  - A. Stored for reuse
  - B. Discarded immediately
  - C. Laid out to air-dry
  - D. Mixed with fresh wax

- 6. Which activity is NOT part of the definition of "hair design"?**
- A. Shaving the beard
  - B. Coloring the hair
  - C. Providing medical treatments for hair
  - D. Conditioning hair
- 7. What is the minimum distance required between containers of reactive chemicals?**
- A. 6 inches
  - B. 12 inches
  - C. 24 inches
  - D. 18 inches
- 8. What is the proper action for protective gloves after each client?**
- A. Washed and reused
  - B. Stored in a clean container
  - C. Disposed of
  - D. Disinfected for future use
- 9. Where must soiled towels be stored?**
- A. In a visible area
  - B. In closable containers
  - C. In open bins
  - D. On the floor
- 10. How long is a temporary authorization valid for military spouses or domestic partners?**
- A. One month
  - B. Two months
  - C. Three months
  - D. Six months

## **Answers**

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

## **Explanations**

SAMPLE

### 1. What does the term "agency" refer to in Oregon's cosmetology laws?

- A. The Oregon Department of Revenue
- B. The Oregon Health Licensing Agency**
- C. The Oregon Board of Education
- D. The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission

*In the context of Oregon's cosmetology laws, the term "agency" specifically refers to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency. This agency is responsible for the regulation and licensing of various health-related professions, including cosmetology. It oversees the enforcement of state laws regarding cosmetology practice, ensuring that professionals meet the required standards and that the public is protected from unqualified practitioners. The Oregon Health Licensing Agency plays a critical role in maintaining the integrity of the cosmetology field by implementing health and safety regulations, which are essential for both practitioners and clients. This agency provides necessary oversight, supports the development of regulations, and manages licensing processes to ensure compliance with state laws. The other entities listed do not have jurisdiction over cosmetology practice in Oregon. The Oregon Department of Revenue primarily manages tax-related activities, the Oregon Board of Education focuses on educational standards and policies, and the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission deals with environmental regulations. Therefore, they do not pertain to the regulations governing cosmetologists and their practices within the state.*

### 2. What is the maximum concentration of unbuffered alpha-hydroxy acids that estheticians are allowed to use?

- A. 10 percent
- B. 15 percent**
- C. 20 percent
- D. 30 percent

*Estheticians in Oregon are permitted to use unbuffered alpha-hydroxy acids (AHAs) at a maximum concentration of 15 percent. This regulation ensures the safety of clients while allowing estheticians to utilize effective chemical exfoliation techniques. Alpha-hydroxy acids are commonly used in skincare treatments due to their ability to enhance skin texture and promote exfoliation. By limiting the concentration to 15 percent, the law helps prevent adverse reactions that can occur with higher concentrations. This standard reflects the balance between achieving desired cosmetic results and maintaining safety and appropriateness in skin care practices.*

### 3. What is required for items that come in direct contact with the client's skin but do not require disinfecting?

- A. They must be washed immediately
- B. They must be cleaned**
- C. They can be reused
- D. They must be stored for later use

*For items that come into direct contact with a client's skin but do not require disinfecting, the requirement is that they must be cleaned. Cleaning refers to the removal of dirt, debris, and organic matter from the surfaces of tools and equipment. This is an essential practice to ensure safety and hygiene in a cosmetology setting, even if the items do not require the more stringent process of disinfection. Proper cleaning helps prevent the spread of bacteria and other pathogens, contributing to a safe environment for both clients and practitioners. It is important to follow these protocols, as maintaining cleanliness is a basic yet crucial aspect of professional health standards in cosmetology. This understanding is vital for ensuring client safety and adhering to state regulations regarding health and sanitation.*

#### 4. Where should chemicals used for client services be mixed?

- A. In an area with poor ventilation
- B. In a dispensing area with adequate ventilation**
- C. Near open flames
- D. Outside of the salon

Chemicals used for client services should be mixed in a dispensing area with adequate ventilation. This approach is crucial for ensuring the safety of both the cosmetologist and the clients. Adequate ventilation helps to reduce the concentration of potentially harmful fumes that can be emitted from certain chemicals, which might cause respiratory issues or other health concerns when inhaled. Setting up mixing stations in areas that are well-ventilated helps to disperse any vapors or odors, making the environment safer. It also allows for better air quality, reducing the risk of chemical reactions that can occur in poorly ventilated spaces. Mixing chemicals in areas with poor ventilation can lead to the accumulation of toxic fumes, posing significant health risks. Similarly, mixing chemicals near open flames represents a fire hazard, as many chemicals are flammable or reactive. While mixing outside of the salon might seem to be a safe approach in some cases, it may not be practical or convenient for working stylists, and could expose the products to elements that affect their efficacy. Thus, the most appropriate and safe option is to mix chemicals in a dedicated dispensing area that has proper ventilation.

#### 5. What should be done with used wax in a paraffin bath?

- A. Stored for reuse
- B. Discarded immediately**
- C. Laid out to air-dry
- D. Mixed with fresh wax

Used wax in a paraffin bath should be discarded immediately due to sanitation and hygiene concerns. After a treatment, the wax has been in direct contact with the skin, which can lead to contamination. It is crucial to maintain a clean and safe environment in any cosmetology practice, especially when dealing with skin treatments that may lead to infections or adverse reactions. Reusing wax not only increases the risk of transmitting bacteria or other pathogens but also diminishes the quality of the product. The fresh wax ensures that the client receives the best possible treatment, free from contaminants. Proper sanitation practices are essential to adhere to state regulations and maintain the health and safety of both clients and practitioners.

#### 6. Which activity is NOT part of the definition of "hair design"?

- A. Shaving the beard
- B. Coloring the hair
- C. Providing medical treatments for hair**
- D. Conditioning hair

The correct answer identifies "providing medical treatments for hair" as not fitting within the scope of "hair design." Hair design primarily focuses on the aesthetic and styling aspects of hair, which include cutting, coloring, and conditioning to enhance a client's appearance. These activities involve creativity and skill in manipulating hair to achieve various looks, which aligns with the definition of hair design. On the other hand, providing medical treatments for hair typically involves addressing health issues related to hair and scalp, such as treating conditions like alopecia or scalp infections, which falls outside the realm of cosmetology and into the domain of medical practice. This distinction is crucial because cosmetologists are not licensed to perform medical treatments and should not engage in activities that involve diagnosing or treating medical conditions. This is why the other activities like shaving the beard, coloring hair, and conditioning hair are all explicitly recognized as part of hair design, focusing on appearance rather than medical interventions.

**7. What is the minimum distance required between containers of reactive chemicals?**

- A. 6 inches
- B. 12 inches**
- C. 24 inches
- D. 18 inches

*The requirement of maintaining a minimum distance of 12 inches between containers of reactive chemicals is essential for safety reasons. This distance helps to prevent accidental reactions that can occur if the containers were to come into close proximity to one another. Reactive chemicals can produce hazardous conditions, including fires, explosions, or the release of toxic fumes when mixed or when subjected to certain environmental conditions, such as heat or movement. By ensuring that there is a buffer of 12 inches between these containers, the risk of these dangerous situations is significantly minimized. It also allows for better ventilation and accessibility in a workspace, reducing the likelihood of spills and enabling a quicker response should an emergency arise. This regulation is in place to protect both the individuals handling the chemicals and the overall safety of the working environment, which is a critical aspect of cosmetic practices and other industries that handle such materials.*

**8. What is the proper action for protective gloves after each client?**

- A. Washed and reused
- B. Stored in a clean container
- C. Disposed of**
- D. Disinfected for future use

*The proper action for protective gloves after each client is to dispose of them. This is crucial for maintaining hygiene and preventing cross-contamination between clients. Disposable gloves are designed for single-use, which means they are meant to provide a barrier between the skin and any potentially harmful substances during a service. After completing the service, gloves should be carefully removed and discarded in a designated waste container to ensure that any pathogens or contaminants collected during the procedure are not transferred to the next client or to other surfaces. The emphasis on using gloves only once is also supported by health regulations and practices within the cosmetology field, which prioritize client safety and public health. This practice not only protects the clients but also helps to safeguard the cosmetologist from exposure to chemical agents or biological materials.*

**9. Where must soiled towels be stored?**

- A. In a visible area
- B. In closable containers**
- C. In open bins
- D. On the floor

*Soiled towels must be stored in closable containers to ensure proper sanitation and hygiene within a cosmetology setting. This practice minimizes the risk of cross-contamination and prevents the spread of bacteria and other pathogens. By using closable containers, it also helps in managing odor and maintaining a clean environment for both clients and staff. Proper handling and storage of soiled linens are crucial as they can harbor germs and contribute to infection if not managed correctly. Therefore, the regulations typically emphasize the importance of using covered or closable storage to mitigate health risks in salons and other beauty establishments. Using visible areas, open bins, or placing items on the floor does not provide the necessary protective measures against contamination, making these options unsuitable for the safe storage of soiled towels.*

**10. How long is a temporary authorization valid for military spouses or domestic partners?**

- A. One month
- B. Two months
- C. Three months**
- D. Six months

*A temporary authorization for military spouses or domestic partners is valid for three months. This regulation reflects the recognition of the unique challenges that military families face, including frequent relocations and the need for expedited licensing processes. The three-month validity period allows military spouses and domestic partners sufficient time to establish themselves in a new location and complete the necessary steps to obtain full licensing in their respective cosmetology field. This provision is designed to support the smooth transition of licensed professionals in the field while ensuring they maintain high standards of safety and service. Such temporary authorizations are crucial for helping these individuals continue their careers without significant interruptions while their primary licensing is being finalized.*

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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).

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

<https://orcosmetologystatelawsrules.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE