

PROSPECT BUDGET TRAINING 254 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 item is used to analyze obligations and expenditures?**
 - A. The civil works 2101 Report
 - B. Obligation/Expenditure Targets
 - C. Unliquidated Obligations
 - D. Budgetary Forecasts
- 2. Which appropriation title corresponds to symbol 021Y2020?**
 - A. Military Construction, Army
 - B. Operation and Maintenance, Army
 - C. Construction (Civil Works)
 - D. Operation and Maintenance (Civil Works)
- 3. A statement about the PRIP Revolving Fund replenishment is correct: Depreciation charged on fixed assets; All of the above; etc**
 - A. Depreciation charged on fixed assets
 - B. All of the above
 - C. Charges for plant increment
 - D. Additional appropriations from Congress
- 4. Which of the following best describes the role of G&A in S&A charges?**
 - A. An overhead distribution
 - B. A direct material cost
 - C. A project contingency
 - D. A site safety expense
- 5. The Army Plan (TAP) is produced as a result of which PPBES phase?**
 - A. Planning phase
 - B. Execution phase
 - C. Assessment phase
 - D. Deployment phase
- 6. In budgeting for prospecting, opportunity cost is:**
 - A. The direct cost of the chosen option
 - B. The value of the next best alternative foregone
 - C. The tax impact of the budget
 - D. The depreciation of assets

7. PBAC's role is described as which of the following?

- A. Make recommendations to the Commander
- B. Approve all expenditures
- C. Conduct internal audits
- D. Coordinate with the Treasury

8. Construction appropriation (96X3122) finances which activities?

- A. Real property land acquisition for military projects
- B. Construction of civil works projects
- C. Operations & Maintenance of facilities
- D. Equipment procurement

9. What is talent ROI in a prospect budget context?

- A. The return on investment in people; measured by metrics like revenue per FTE or incremental profit per HR cost.
- B. A method to calculate budget for advertising channels
- C. A measure of property ROI
- D. The total compensation cost for payroll

10. Which of the following is NOT a stated funding source for Work for Others?

- A. Federal agencies
- B. Private entities
- C. International organizations and foreign governments
- D. States and local governments

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which item is used to analyze obligations and expenditures?

- A. The civil works 2101 Report**
- B. Obligation/Expenditure Targets
- C. Unliquidated Obligations
- D. Budgetary Forecasts

The key idea is that a detailed financial report tracks what has actually been obligated and spent, so you can see the real flow of funds and how it compares to what was planned. In civil works contexts, the 2101 Report brings together obligation and expenditure data across the relevant appropriations and projects, showing obligations incurred, amounts liquidated, and what remains unobligated. This lets budget and financial managers analyze spending patterns, monitor progress, identify variances from the budget, and assess whether funds are being used within authorized limits. It provides a clear, actionable view of both commitments and outlays, which is exactly what you need to analyze obligations and expenditures. Obligation/expenditure targets, by contrast, are planning benchmarks for future spending rather than a tool for analyzing current or past outlays. Unliquidated obligations indicate commitments that haven't yet been liquidated, which is part of the picture but not the complete analysis tool. Budgetary forecasts are forward-looking projections of needs and funding rather than a detailed accounting of obligations and expenditures that have already occurred.

2. Which appropriation title corresponds to symbol 021Y2020?

- A. Military Construction, Army
- B. Operation and Maintenance, Army**
- C. Construction (Civil Works)
- D. Operation and Maintenance (Civil Works)

Appropriation symbols group funding by purpose and the agency involved. The sequence 021Y2020 is designated for the Army's operating budget, which is the Operation and Maintenance, Army category. This funding covers the day-to-day expenses that keep Army units ready and sites functioning—things like facilities upkeep, supplies, and ongoing activities necessary for daily operations. It isn't the construction-focused funding that builds or improves facilities (that would be Military Construction, Army) or civil works projects managed under Civil Works (which have their own Construction or O&M for Civil Works). So 021Y2020 aligns with Operation and Maintenance, Army, making it the best match.

3. A statement about the PRIP Revolving Fund replenishment is correct: Depreciation charged on fixed assets; All of the above; etc

- A. Depreciation charged on fixed assets
- B. All of the above**
- C. Charges for plant increment
- D. Additional appropriations from Congress

Revolving fund replenishment comes from multiple funding streams that keep the fund able to replace and expand assets. Depreciation charged on fixed assets represents the ongoing recovery of asset costs as they wear out, providing funds to replenish the fund. Charges for plant increment cover the costs of adding capacity or improvements to the plant, allowing the fund to rebuild its asset base after expansion. When internal sources aren't enough, additional appropriations from Congress can provide the necessary funds to replenish or grow the fund. Because each of these mechanisms can contribute to replenishment, the statement that all of the above applies is the best answer.

4. Which of the following best describes the role of G&A in S&A charges?

A. An overhead distribution

B. A direct material cost

C. A project contingency

D. A site safety expense

G&A costs are indirect expenses that support the entire organization rather than a single project. In budgeting, Selling and Administrative charges include overhead that must be spread across projects to reflect shared services. This overhead distribution accounts for corporate functions such as executive leadership, accounting, HR, IT, and facilities. Since these costs benefit multiple projects, they aren't tied to a particular material or activity, so they're allocated as an overhead distribution within S&A charges. Direct material costs are tangible materials used for the project. A project contingency is a separate reserve for uncertain costs. A site safety expense is a project-specific spending item that directly relates to on-site safety.

5. The Army Plan (TAP) is produced as a result of which PPBES phase?

A. Planning phase

B. Execution phase

C. Assessment phase

D. Deployment phase

The main idea here is that planning sets up how resources will be used. The Army Plan (TAP) is a planning document that lays out the Army's strategy, goals, force structure, and modernization priorities for the near term and beyond. It provides the foundation for decisions about what programs and resources are needed, which then feed into the Programming and Budgeting steps. Because TAP is about defining needs and guiding future action, it belongs to the Planning phase. As for the other phases, the Execution phase uses the approved budgets to actually fund and run programs, the Assessment phase reviews results and adjusts plans, and Deployment isn't the phase where the TAP is produced.

6. In budgeting for prospecting, opportunity cost is:

A. The direct cost of the chosen option

B. The value of the next best alternative foregone

C. The tax impact of the budget

D. The depreciation of assets

In budgeting for prospecting, opportunity cost is the value of the next best alternative foregone when you allocate resources to a specific prospecting activity. It isn't the amount you actually spend—that's the direct cost. It's what you give up in potential benefits by choosing one option over the alternative that would have used the same funds, such as different marketing channels, hiring more sales support, or other growth initiatives. The idea is to compare the potential gain from the best alternative you didn't choose and treat that foregone value as the true cost of the chosen path. The other items listed don't fit because taxes and depreciation are separate financial considerations, and the direct cost is the outlay itself, not the foregone value.

7. PBAC's role is described as which of the following?

A. Make recommendations to the Commander

B. Approve all expenditures

C. Conduct internal audits

D. Coordinate with the Treasury

PBAC's job is to review budget requests and program proposals and formulate recommendations for the Commander. By examining how proposed spending aligns with priorities, available resources, risks, and expected outcomes, PBAC helps leadership understand the tradeoffs and what options exist. The authority to approve expenditures rests with the Commander or the designated finance process, not PBAC. Internal audits are handled by an audit function, not by PBAC, and while PBAC may touch on fiscal considerations that involve Treasury, its primary purpose is to advise decision-makers, not to execute or authorize funding.

8. Construction appropriation (96X3122) finances which activities?

A. Real property land acquisition for military projects

B. Construction of civil works projects

C. Operations & Maintenance of facilities

D. Equipment procurement

Construction appropriation finances the actual construction work on civil works projects—building new facilities, undertaking major renovations, and upgrading infrastructure through contracted construction activities. This funding is meant to bring projects from plan to completion, covering the labor, materials, and contracts required for construction. It does not cover land acquisition, ongoing operations and maintenance, or procurement of equipment, which are funded by other types of appropriations. So the best fit is the construction of civil works projects.

9. What is talent ROI in a prospect budget context?

A. The return on investment in people; measured by metrics like revenue per FTE or incremental profit per HR cost.

B. A method to calculate budget for advertising channels

C. A measure of property ROI

D. The total compensation cost for payroll

Talent ROI is about measuring the value that investing in people brings to the business, not just the cost of those people. In a prospect budget context, it looks at how HR investments—hiring, onboarding, training, development, and retention—translate into measurable returns like more revenue per employee or higher incremental profit per HR cost. This helps justify talent spend by showing how people contribute to growth and efficiency, rather than simply tallying payroll expenses. It's different from budgeting for advertising, which is a marketing expense, or from property ROI, which concerns real estate assets, and it isn't just the total compensation cost itself, which is an expense rather than a measure of generated value.

10. Which of the following is NOT a stated funding source for Work for Others?

A. Federal agencies

B. Private entities

C. International organizations and foreign governments

D. States and local governments

The concept tested is who typically funds Work for Others. Work for Others is about performing work for external, non-federal clients on a cost-recovery basis. The funding sources you'd expect are private entities, international organizations and foreign governments, and states and local governments—these represent external customers outside the federal funding umbrella. Federal agencies, on the other hand, usually fund work through internal programs or inter-agency arrangements rather than as a Work for Others client. So federal agencies are not a stated funding source for Work for Others, making that choice the best answer.

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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.

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

<https://prospectbudgettraining254.examzify.com>

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

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