

# PTBC (Physical Therapy Board of California) California Law Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## **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.**

## **7. Use Other Tools**

**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!**

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## **Questions**

- 1. What should PTA indicate in the patient record?**
  - A. Date & nature of service provided**
  - B. Color of the patient's shirt**
  - C. Patient's favorite meal**
  - D. List of unrelated care services**
- 2. Which of the following is an acceptable pathway for obtaining continuing competency hours?**
  - A. Attending a PT conference or Board meeting**
  - B. Going to non-accredited online webinars**
  - C. Reading PT related books**
  - D. Watching related videos online**
- 3. What does an EMG report NOT provide?**
  - A. Diagnostic interpretations**
  - B. EMG data collection**
  - C. Medical diagnosis**
  - D. Data presentation and summarization**
- 4. What is the cost for EMG exam/certification?**
  - A. \$200.00**
  - B. \$500.00**
  - C. \$100.00**
  - D. \$400.00**
- 5. The CBPT may issue a citation, impose discipline, suspend or revoke a license, or impose probationary conditions on a license due to:**
  - A. Practicing beyond the scope of a practice**
  - B. Failure to follow infection control guidelines**
  - C. Committing sexual harassment/abuse**
  - D. All of the above**



- 6. How can a PT provide the Notice to Consumers (Form NTC 12-01)?**
- A. By emailing it to the patient**
  - B. Posting prominently or giving a copy to the patient**
  - C. Only by handing it directly to the patient**
  - D. Mailing it to the patient's residence**
- 7. How long after the original notice must an applicant pass the NPTE before the license application is denied?**
- A. Within 6 months**
  - B. Within 1 year**
  - C. Within 18 months**
  - D. Within 2 years**
- 8. How much is the application fee for PT foreign graduates?**
- A. \$125.00**
  - B. \$200.00**
  - C. \$100.00**
  - D. \$400.00**
- 9. What must a PTA do before treating a patient?**
- A. Sign a consent form**
  - B. Notify the PT of record**
  - C. Undergo an examination**
  - D. Document the plan of care communicated verbally/in writing**
- 10. What is the range of the administrative fine for violators of the Physical Therapy Practice Act?**
- A. Between \$100 and \$2500**
  - B. Between \$500 and \$2500**
  - C. Between \$100 and \$5000**
  - D. Between \$500 and \$5000**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What should PTA indicate in the patient record?**

**A. Date & nature of service provided**

**B. Color of the patient's shirt**

**C. Patient's favorite meal**

**D. List of unrelated care services**

PTA should indicate the date and nature of service provided in the patient record because this information is essential for tracking the patient's medical history and understanding their current health status. Options B and C are incorrect because they do not pertain to the patient's medical care and are not relevant for medical record-keeping. Option D is also incorrect because it is asking for a list of unrelated care services, which would not be helpful in understanding the patient's condition. By documenting the date and nature of service provided, PTA can ensure accuracy and continuity of care for the patient.

**2. Which of the following is an acceptable pathway for obtaining continuing competency hours?**

**A. Attending a PT conference or Board meeting**

**B. Going to non-accredited online webinars**

**C. Reading PT related books**

**D. Watching related videos online**

One possible explanation could be that attending a PT conference or Board meeting allows for in-person interaction, active learning, and networking with other professionals. This can stimulate discussions and provide opportunities for collaborating with others in the field, which may lead to gaining additional knowledge or skills that are not available through other means such as non-accredited online webinars or watching videos online. Additionally, attending a PT conference or Board meeting may be more rigorous in terms of requirements for attendance and may have stricter guidelines for ensuring the quality and relevance of the information presented. Therefore, this option may be considered a more reliable and effective means of obtaining continuing competency hours compared to the other options listed.

**3. What does an EMG report NOT provide?**

**A. Diagnostic interpretations**

**B. EMG data collection**

**C. Medical diagnosis**

**D. Data presentation and summarization**

An EMG (electromyography) report is a detailed record of the electrical activity in a muscle or group of muscles. It is typically used to assess nerve or muscle function and diagnose neuromuscular disorders. While it may provide diagnostic interpretations and EMG data collection, an EMG report does not provide a medical diagnosis. This is because EMG results must be interpreted by a trained healthcare professional and combined with other clinical findings and tests to make a medical diagnosis. Additionally, the report primarily presents and summarizes the collected data, rather than providing a diagnosis. Therefore, option C is the correct answer.

**4. What is the cost for EMG exam/certification?**

- A. \$200.00
- B. \$500.00**
- C. \$100.00
- D. \$400.00

The cost for an EMG exam/certification can vary depending on the specific organization and location. While some options may seem like a reasonable cost, option B, \$500.00, is likely the most accurate answer. Options A and C may seem too low to cover the costs associated with the exam and option D may be too high. Additionally, other factors such as study materials or retake fees may also contribute to the overall cost.

**5. The CBPT may issue a citation, impose discipline, suspend or revoke a license, or impose probationary conditions on a license due to:**

- A. Practicing beyond the scope of a practice
- B. Failure to follow infection control guidelines
- C. Committing sexual harassment/abuse
- D. All of the above**

The California Board of Physical Therapy (CBPT) is responsible for regulating the practice of physical therapy in California. This includes issuing citations, disciplining, suspending or revoking licenses, and imposing probationary conditions on licensed physical therapists. In this case, all of the options listed (A, B, and C) are violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of physical therapy and can result in actions by the CBPT. Therefore, the correct answer is D, as all of these violations can lead to penalties by the CBPT.

**6. How can a PT provide the Notice to Consumers (Form NTC 12-01)?**

- A. By emailing it to the patient
- B. Posting prominently or giving a copy to the patient**
- C. Only by handing it directly to the patient
- D. Mailing it to the patient's residence

A PT can provide the Notice to Consumers (Form NTC 12-01) by posting it prominently or giving a copy directly to the patient. Option A is incorrect because emailing the form does not qualify as "posting prominently" or giving a copy directly to the patient. Option C is incorrect because it limits the ways in which the form can be provided. Option D is incorrect because it does not guarantee that the patient will receive the form, as they may not be at their residence at the time of mailing.

**7. How long after the original notice must an applicant pass the NPTE before the license application is denied?**

- A. Within 6 months**
- B. Within 1 year**
- C. Within 18 months**
- D. Within 2 years**

The other options are incorrect because they either have a shorter or longer time frame than the correct answer. Option A states within 6 months, which is shorter than a year. Option C states within 18 months, which is longer than a year. Option D states within 2 years, which is significantly longer than a year. Therefore, option B of within 1 year is the only option that falls within the correct time frame and is the closest to the actual time frame.

**8. How much is the application fee for PT foreign graduates?**

- A. \$125.00**
- B. \$200.00**
- C. \$100.00**
- D. \$400.00**

The application fee for PT foreign graduates is \$200.00. This option is correct because it matches the listed fee amount. Option A, \$125.00, is incorrect because it is a lower amount and does not match the listed fee. Option C, \$100.00, is incorrect because it is a lower amount and does not match the listed fee. Option D, \$400.00, is incorrect because it is a higher amount and does not match the listed fee.

**9. What must a PTA do before treating a patient?**

- A. Sign a consent form**
- B. Notify the PT of record**
- C. Undergo an examination**
- D. Document the plan of care communicated verbally/in writing**

Before treating a patient, a PTA must document the plan of care that has been communicated either verbally or in writing. Option A, signing a consent form, does not require documentation of the plan of care and may not always be necessary for treatment. Option B, notifying the PT of record, is not a necessary requirement before treating a patient and may not always be feasible, especially in urgent situations. Option C, undergoing an examination, is not a requirement for a PTA before treating a patient as they should already be familiar with the patient's condition and treatment plan. Therefore, documenting the plan of care is the most essential step that a PTA must take before treating a patient.

**10. What is the range of the administrative fine for violators of the Physical Therapy Practice Act?**

**A. Between \$100 and \$2500**

**B. Between \$500 and \$2500**

**C. Between \$100 and \$5000**

**D. Between \$500 and \$5000**

The range of the administrative fine for violators of the Physical Therapy Practice Act is between \$100 and \$2500. Option B is incorrect because it starts at a higher amount, not the lower \$100 amount. Option C is incorrect because it has a higher maximum amount of \$5000. Option D is incorrect because it also has a higher maximum amount of \$5000. Thus, A is the correct answer as it includes the full range of possible fine amounts.



## 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://ptbccalifornia.examzify.com>**

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