

South Dakota Drivers 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 legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for drivers over 21 in South Dakota?**
 - A. 0.05%**
 - B. 0.08%**
 - C. 0.10%**
 - D. 0.12%**

- 2. How long should you give yourself to pass another vehicle?**
 - A. At least 5 seconds**
 - B. At least 10 seconds**
 - C. At least 15 seconds**
 - D. As long as it takes**

- 3. How do you keep a vehicle behind you at a safe distance?**
 - A. By accelerating quickly away from it**
 - B. Keeping a steady speed and signaling in advance when you need to turn**
 - C. Turning abruptly to confuse the driver**
 - D. Braking suddenly to create distance**

- 4. What is the purpose of the truck apron in a roundabout?**
 - A. It accommodates pedestrians**
 - B. It helps direct traffic flow**
 - C. It accommodates the rear wheels of long vehicles**
 - D. It serves as a decorative feature**

- 5. What should you never do while driving?**
 - A. Drive in someone's no-zone for an extended period of time**
 - B. Use your phone while driving**
 - C. Drive with one hand**
 - D. Follow too closely behind another vehicle**

- 6. What is the first step you should take before passing another vehicle?**
- A. Adjust speed**
 - B. Signal your intention to pass**
 - C. Check mirrors**
 - D. Steer smoothly into the passing lane**
- 7. When should you increase your following distance?**
- A. When on slippery roads**
 - B. When the driver behind wants to pass**
 - C. When following motorcycles or bicycles**
 - D. All of the above**
- 8. What does DUI stand for?**
- A. Driving Under Influence**
 - B. Driving Unimpaired Individuals**
 - C. Driving Under Inspection**
 - D. Driving Unlicensed Instructors**
- 9. What should you do if your vehicle skids?**
- A. Steer in the direction you want to go and avoid slamming on the brakes**
 - B. Brake immediately to stop the skid**
 - C. Turn the steering wheel in the opposite direction**
 - D. Accelerate to regain control**
- 10. What does a yellow line indicate in terms of road use?**
- A. Traffic is one-way**
 - B. Traffic is two-way**
 - C. Pedestrian lanes are present**
 - D. No vehicles allowed**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for drivers over 21 in South Dakota?

- A. 0.05%
- B. 0.08%**
- C. 0.10%
- D. 0.12%

In South Dakota, the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for drivers who are over 21 years of age is set at 0.08%. This limit is consistent with the national standard that aims to reduce drunk driving incidents and improve road safety. The measurement of BAC as a percentage indicates the amount of alcohol present in a person's bloodstream, and levels at or above 0.08% can impair a driver's ability to operate a vehicle safely. Therefore, it is illegal for individuals over the age of 21 to drive with a BAC at or above this threshold. Regulations are designed to protect all road users, and exceeding the legal limit can lead to serious consequences, including criminal charges, fines, and loss of driving privileges. Understanding this legal limit is crucial for responsible driving behavior and promotes safe practices on the road.

2. How long should you give yourself to pass another vehicle?

- A. At least 5 seconds
- B. At least 10 seconds**
- C. At least 15 seconds
- D. As long as it takes

Giving yourself at least 10 seconds to pass another vehicle is important for ensuring safety on the road. This time frame allows for a comfortable margin to execute the maneuver without feeling rushed, which is crucial when dealing with oncoming traffic or other potential hazards. The 10-second guideline takes into consideration the distance necessary to accelerate and safely move ahead of the vehicle being overtaken before returning to the right lane. It provides ample time to assess the speed of both your vehicle and the vehicle you are passing, making it easier to judge when it is safe to execute the pass. Additionally, this time frame helps reduce the risk of accidents, as you have the opportunity to monitor your rearview mirror and side mirrors to check for any approaching vehicles that could complicate the situation. In contrast, allowing significantly less time may increase the likelihood of a dangerous situation, especially on two-lane roads where visibility can be limited.

3. How do you keep a vehicle behind you at a safe distance?

- A. By accelerating quickly away from it
- B. Keeping a steady speed and signaling in advance when you need to turn**
- C. Turning abruptly to confuse the driver
- D. Braking suddenly to create distance

Maintaining a safe following distance behind your vehicle is crucial for safe driving, and keeping a steady speed while signaling in advance is an effective way to achieve this. When you signal your intention to turn, you allow the driver behind you to anticipate your movements, which gives them the opportunity to adjust their speed accordingly. This proactive approach helps prevent sudden stops or collisions. Additionally, by maintaining a steady speed, you ensure that your vehicle moves predictably, making it easier for the driver behind you to judge the appropriate distance to keep. This practice fosters a safer driving environment for everyone on the road, as it minimizes confusion and surprises for other drivers.

4. What is the purpose of the truck apron in a roundabout?

- A. It accommodates pedestrians
- B. It helps direct traffic flow
- C. It accommodates the rear wheels of long vehicles**
- D. It serves as a decorative feature

The primary purpose of the truck apron in a roundabout is to accommodate the rear wheels of long vehicles, such as trucks and buses, allowing them to navigate the turn without leaving the designated lane. The apron is a raised area that provides additional space to manage the wider turning radius required by large vehicles, ensuring they can safely make the turn without encroaching on adjacent lanes or striking curbs. This design feature helps maintain traffic flow and minimizes the risk of collisions or delays caused by large vehicles struggling to navigate the roundabout. The other options, while relating to aspects of roundabouts, do not accurately describe the specific function of the truck apron. For instance, the apron is not primarily designed for pedestrian accommodations or as a decorative feature, and while it indirectly supports effective traffic flow, that is not its main role.

5. What should you never do while driving?

- A. Drive in someone's no-zone for an extended period of time**
- B. Use your phone while driving**
- C. Drive with one hand**
- D. Follow too closely behind another vehicle**

Driving in someone's no-zone for an extended period of time is crucial to avoid, but using your phone while driving is even more critical to understand. The no-zone refers to areas around large vehicles, like trucks or buses, where other drivers are in blind spots and cannot be seen by the driver of the larger vehicle. While it's important to avoid lingering in these areas, the act of using your phone while driving poses an immediate distraction that can lead to accidents. Using a phone while driving diverts attention from the road, increases reaction times, and significantly raises the likelihood of being involved in a crash. It's vital to keep both hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road to ensure safety for yourself and others. The implications of distracted driving are severe, making it not only illegal in many jurisdictions but also a critical safety issue to address. Driving with one hand can reduce your ability to react quickly and maintain control of the vehicle, and following too closely can lead to rear-end collisions, which are common in close-following scenarios. However, none of these actions directly relate to the immediate distraction caused by smartphone usage, which is a leading cause of accidents on today's roads. Understanding the magnitude of distraction that comes with phone use reinforces the importance of staying

6. What is the first step you should take before passing another vehicle?

- A. Adjust speed**
- B. Signal your intention to pass**
- C. Check mirrors**
- D. Steer smoothly into the passing lane**

Before passing another vehicle, it's crucial to check your mirrors. This action is essential because it allows you to be aware of your surroundings, particularly any vehicles or obstacles that may be in your blind spots. By checking both your rear and side mirrors, you ensure that the lane is clear and that it is safe to initiate the passing maneuver. Once you have confirmed that it's safe to pass, you would typically signal your intention to inform other drivers of your actions, adjust your speed appropriately, and then steer smoothly into the passing lane. However, the initial step of checking mirrors is critical as it prevents accidents and helps maintain safety on the road.

7. When should you increase your following distance?

- A. When on slippery roads
- B. When the driver behind wants to pass
- C. When following motorcycles or bicycles
- D. All of the above**

Increasing your following distance is an important safety practice in various driving scenarios. When driving on slippery roads, such as those wet from rain or covered in ice, it is crucial to maintain a greater distance to allow ample time for stopping. Slippery conditions can significantly reduce vehicle traction, increasing stopping distance and the risk of skidding. Additionally, if a driver behind you wants to pass, increasing your following distance can create a buffer, ensuring there is enough space for that driver to safely overtake you without coming too close. This reduces the risk of being involved in an accident during the passing maneuver. When following motorcycles or bicycles, a greater following distance is also necessary. These vehicles can stop more quickly than a car, and a driver must react adequately to their movements. By keeping a safe distance, you provide yourself more time to respond to any sudden changes or emergencies that may arise. Thus, it is imperative to increase your following distance in all these situations to enhance safety on the road.

8. What does DUI stand for?

- A. Driving Under Influence**
- B. Driving Unimpaired Individuals
- C. Driving Under Inspection
- D. Driving Unlicensed Instructors

DUI stands for "Driving Under the Influence." This terminology is specifically used to indicate a situation where an individual operates a motor vehicle while impaired by alcohol or drugs. The phrase captures the essence of the offense, focusing on the act of driving while impaired, which can significantly increase the risk of accidents and endanger both the driver and others on the road. The terminology surrounding DUI laws and their implications varies by state; however, it is a widely recognized term in traffic and criminal law. Understanding that DUI signifies driving under an influence of substances helps to frame the legal and social context of impaired driving, emphasizing the importance of safe driving practices and the legal repercussions of such behavior.

9. What should you do if your vehicle skids?

- A. Steer in the direction you want to go and avoid slamming on the brakes**
- B. Brake immediately to stop the skid**
- C. Turn the steering wheel in the opposite direction**
- D. Accelerate to regain control**

When your vehicle skids, the most effective response is to steer in the direction you want to go and avoid slamming on the brakes. This technique helps to regain control over your vehicle. When you experience a skid, your car is often losing traction with the road surface, causing it to slide. By steering toward your intended direction, you are allowing the wheels to regain contact with the pavement more naturally, promoting stability and reducing the likelihood of further skidding. Slamming on the brakes can worsen the skid by locking the wheels, which prevents you from steering. Accelerating in a skid can also lead to loss of control, as it may further destabilize the vehicle. Turning the steering wheel in the opposite direction can result in overcorrection, making the situation more dangerous. Therefore, managing a skid effectively requires calmness and the correct steering technique, enabling you to guide the vehicle back on course safely.

10. What does a yellow line indicate in terms of road use?

- A. Traffic is one-way**
- B. Traffic is two-way**
- C. Pedestrian lanes are present**
- D. No vehicles allowed**

A yellow line on the road indicates that traffic is two-way. This marking is specifically used to separate lanes of traffic moving in opposite directions. In many cases, a solid yellow line means that passing is not permitted for drivers, either for safety reasons or because it may be hazardous to cross over into the opposing lane. When a yellow line is dashed, it typically indicates that passing is allowed when it's safe to do so. In contrast, if a road had a white line, it would signify that the lanes of traffic are moving in the same direction, which is unrelated to the concept of two-way traffic. Other options like pedestrian lanes or restrictions on vehicles are represented through different signage and markings, reinforcing the point that the yellow line specifically pertains to the regulation of vehicles traveling in opposing directions.

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://sddrivers.examzify.com>

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

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