

SPECS Building for Ecologically Responsive Design Excellence (BERDE) 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. In BERDE 2013, who is defined as the person, business, or organization that aims to register under BERDE Certification?**
 - A. Project Owner**
 - B. Certification Manager**
 - C. Assessment Team**
 - D. External Auditor**

- 2. Which sequence correctly represents the BERDE Certification Process steps?**
 - A. Check Project Eligibility - Apply - Sign Proposal - Payment - Appoint Management Representative**
 - B. Apply - Check Project Eligibility - Sign Proposal - Payment - Appoint Management Representative**
 - C. Check Project Eligibility - Sign Proposal - Payment - Apply - Appoint Management Representative**
 - D. Check Project Eligibility - Apply - Appoint Management Representative - Payment - Sign Proposal**

- 3. The BERDE certificate remains valid as long as the project operates within the assessed parameters. True or False?**
 - A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Not Applicable**
 - D. It Is Conditional**

- 4. The Management Representative must be employed by the Project Owner and be part of which group?**
 - A. The Certification Manager and technicians**
 - B. The Project Owner's junior staff**
 - C. The Assessment Team and external consultant**
 - D. The Project Owner's senior management**

- 5. Which project is Stage 2 BERDE Certified with 4 stars rating?**
 - A. Arya Residences**
 - B. Arthland Century Pacific Tower**
 - C. Five/Neo**
 - D. None**

- 6. Which of the following is a sub-category of the Economic Opportunity core framework?**
- A. Green Jobs**
 - B. Urban Development**
 - C. Economic Growth**
 - D. Public Investment**
- 7. How many points are assigned to Health and Wellbeing category?**
- A. 9 pts**
 - B. 33 pts**
 - C. 20 pts**
 - D. 6 pts**
- 8. Which organization is responsible for continuously developing and improving the BERDE Rating System?**
- A. PHILGBC**
 - B. Department of Environment**
 - C. Local Government Unit**
 - D. International Green Building Council**
- 9. The BERDE user guide for enclosed structure with a roof and walls standing permanently in one place is called what?**
- A. BERDE - Districts**
 - B. BERDE - Interiors**
 - C. BERDE - Buildings**
 - D. BERDE - Communities**
- 10. Which subcategory under Use of Land and Ecology focuses on promoting vegetated open spaces?**
- A. Vegetated Open Spaces Promotion**
 - B. Land Reuse**
 - C. Heat Island Reduction**
 - D. Light Pollution Reduction**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In BERDE 2013, who is defined as the person, business, or organization that aims to register under BERDE Certification?

- A. Project Owner**
- B. Certification Manager**
- C. Assessment Team**
- D. External Auditor**

In BERDE 2013, the party that aims to register under BERDE Certification is the Project Owner. This is the person, business, or organization behind the project who seeks certification to validate its sustainable performance. The project owner leads the process, provides the necessary project data, coordinates with the assessment team, and bears the certification costs. The other roles—Certification Manager, Assessment Team, and External Auditor—are part of the certification workflow, handling management, evaluation, and independent verification, respectively, but they are not the ones who initiate the registration. So the Project Owner is the entity that intends to register.

2. Which sequence correctly represents the BERDE Certification Process steps?

- A. Check Project Eligibility - Apply - Sign Proposal - Payment - Appoint Management Representative**
- B. Apply - Check Project Eligibility - Sign Proposal - Payment - Appoint Management Representative**
- C. Check Project Eligibility - Sign Proposal - Payment - Apply - Appoint Management Representative**
- D. Check Project Eligibility - Apply - Appoint Management Representative - Payment - Sign Proposal**

Onboarding and scoping for BERDE certification follows a logical flow where each step prepares for the next. Start by checking that the project qualifies for BERDE. This eligibility screen saves time and resources by ensuring only eligible projects enter the formal process. Once eligibility is confirmed, you submit the BERDE certification application to initiate the formal review. After the application is in, the project proposal is signed to formalize the scope, responsibilities, and terms of engagement. With the scope agreed, the required payment is made to move the process forward. Finally, appointing the Management Representative assigns accountability to someone who will lead and coordinate the certification effort, ensuring governance and clear communication throughout. This order makes sense because each step relies on the completion of the previous one—eligibility sets the stage, the application starts the process, the proposal codifies the deal, payment unlocks the next phase, and the Management Representative drives the project forward.

3. The BERDE certificate remains valid as long as the project operates within the assessed parameters. True or False?

A. True

B. False

C. Not Applicable

D. It Is Conditional

Certification validity in BERDE hinges on ongoing conformity with the assessed parameters. The certificate shows the project met the specified sustainability criteria at the time of assessment, and it remains valid as long as the project continues operating within those defined parameters. If operations or the design shift outside what was evaluated, the certification would need to be reevaluated or updated to remain current.

4. The Management Representative must be employed by the Project Owner and be part of which group?

A. The Certification Manager and technicians

B. The Project Owner's junior staff

C. The Assessment Team and external consultant

D. The Project Owner's senior management

The Management Representative should be embedded in the project owner's leadership so they have direct authority and visibility with the people who set policies and allocate resources. Being part of the owner's senior management ensures they can secure the necessary support, make decisions that align with the owner's sustainability goals, and report performance up the chain. This position needs to be owned by the organization that holds ultimate responsibility for the project, not an external party or mid-level staff, to keep the BERDE process integrated with the owner's priorities.

5. Which project is Stage 2 BERDE Certified with 4 stars rating?

A. Arya Residences

B. Arthland Century Pacific Tower

C. Five/Neo

D. None

BERDE uses staged levels and star ratings to measure how well a building performs in environmentally responsible design. Stage 2 adds more rigorous documentation and verification, and a 4-star rating signals strong overall performance across key areas like energy, water, materials, waste, and indoor environmental quality. Arya Residences is the project that has achieved Stage 2 BERDE Certification with a 4-star rating, reflecting that it meets these higher standards and has been verified accordingly. The other options do not carry that Stage 2, 4-star certification, so they do not match this level of BERDE performance.

6. Which of the following is a sub-category of the Economic Opportunity core framework?

- A. Green Jobs**
- B. Urban Development**
- C. Economic Growth**
- D. Public Investment**

Economic Opportunity aims to create jobs and income through sustainable practices. Green Jobs directly embodies that by focusing on employment opportunities generated through environmentally beneficial activities—like solar installations, energy-efficiency retrofits, green construction, sustainable transportation, and related skills training. This ties workforce development to ecological and economic benefits, making it a clear sub-category within Economic Opportunity. The other options describe broader concepts rather than a workforce-focused area within this framework: urban development relates to city planning and land use, economic growth is a wide macroeconomic outcome, and public investment concerns funding itself rather than a specific employment-focused sub-area.

7. How many points are assigned to Health and Wellbeing category?

- A. 9 pts**
- B. 33 pts**
- C. 20 pts**
- D. 6 pts**

In BERDE, each category has a fixed point value, and Health and Wellbeing is assigned 33 points. That means a project can earn up to 33 points by meeting the sub-criteria that support occupant health and comfort, such as indoor environmental quality, appropriate daylight, good acoustics, and thermal comfort. The other numbers don't match the official allocation for this category, so they aren't the correct total for Health and Wellbeing.

8. Which organization is responsible for continuously developing and improving the BERDE Rating System?

- A. PHILGBC**
- B. Department of Environment**
- C. Local Government Unit**
- D. International Green Building Council**

BERDE is continuously developed and improved by the Philippine Green Building Council, PHILGBC. As the national body coordinating green building practice in the Philippines, PHILGBC updates the BERDE Rating System through ongoing stakeholder input, pilot projects, and evolving performance criteria to keep it current with new technologies, building practices, and environmental goals. The Department of Environment sets environmental policies but doesn't manage BERDE's criteria, local government units enforce permits and local codes rather than oversee the rating system, and the International Green Building Council is a global network, not the Philippines' steward of BERDE.

9. The BERDE user guide for enclosed structure with a roof and walls standing permanently in one place is called what?

- A. BERDE - Districts**
- B. BERDE - Interiors**
- C. BERDE - Buildings**
- D. BERDE - Communities**

The situation describes an enclosed structure with a roof and fixed walls that is meant to stand in one place, which defines a single building. In BERDE, the Buildings category covers the environmental performance of a standalone structure or a group of related structures treated as a single building unit. This is different from interiors, which focuses on spaces and elements inside a building rather than the building as a whole; districts and communities refer to larger scales—collections of multiple buildings and public spaces. So the term for this description is BERDE - Buildings.

10. Which subcategory under Use of Land and Ecology focuses on promoting vegetated open spaces?

- A. Vegetated Open Spaces Promotion**
- B. Land Reuse**
- C. Heat Island Reduction**
- D. Light Pollution Reduction**

The item tests how Use of Land and Ecology prioritizes creating and promoting vegetated open spaces in the urban landscape. This subcategory focuses specifically on encouraging the development and maintenance of areas covered with vegetation—such as parks, greenways, and other plant-rich spaces—that provide shade, habitat, and stormwater benefits, contributing to biodiversity, cooling, and air quality improvements. The correct choice names this emphasis directly, making it the best fit. The other options address different ecological goals: repurposing developed land, reducing urban heat through various strategies, and lowering light pollution, none of which center on promoting vegetated open spaces.

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://specsberde.examzify.com>

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

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