

Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS) 2 Core Practice Exam (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. Addressing conflicts of interest in research involving humans is important because which statement best captures its purpose?**
 - A. It helps to protect the integrity of research.**
 - B. It is part of the process of ensuring that prospective research participants make informed decisions regarding their consent to participate.**
 - C. It makes researchers feel virtuous.**
 - D. All conflicts of interest can and must be eliminated.**

- 2. In research, conflict of interest is an issue that can affect which parties?**
 - A. Researchers.**
 - B. Researchers and REB members.**
 - C. Researchers, REB members, and institutions.**
 - D. REB members and institutions.**

- 3. Who has responsibility for safeguarding the privacy of research participants?**
 - A. Researchers alone.**
 - B. Researchers and REBs.**
 - C. Researchers, REBs, and institutions.**
 - D. Researchers, REBs, institutions, and funders.**

- 4. In Indigenous community research oversight, which statements are true? Some Indigenous studies can meet minimal risk and be delegated; It is the REB's responsibility to determine minimal risk; All of the above.**
 - A. Some Indigenous studies can meet minimal risk and be delegated**
 - B. It is the REB's responsibility to determine minimal risk**
 - C. Both statements are true**
 - D. All of the above**

- 5. Which statement best represents the rationale behind the Justice principle in TCPS 2?**
- A. This helps to maintain public trust in research.**
 - B. This contributes to the legitimacy of research results by ensuring that research findings are drawn from the full range of those to whom the research applies.**
 - C. This avoids disadvantaged or marginalized groups from bearing a disproportionate share of research risks.**
 - D. All of the above.**
- 6. Under the Justice principle in TCPS 2, which outcome best reflects its aim?**
- A. Maintains public trust in research.**
 - B. Increases likelihood of publishing significant results.**
 - C. Ensures no risk to participants.**
 - D. Reduces research costs.**
- 7. Some Indigenous community research projects can meet the criteria for minimal risk and be evaluated in delegated review.**
- A. Yes**
 - B. No**
 - C. Sometimes**
 - D. Not applicable**
- 8. In Indigenous-focused research, guidance suggests that community engagement should begin before seeking REB review.**
- A. Community engagement should begin before REB review.**
 - B. Engagement should occur after data collection.**
 - C. Engagement is optional.**
 - D. Engagement must wait until consent.**

9. Which entity is NOT typically responsible for safeguarding privacy in TCPS 2?

- A. Researchers.**
- B. REBs.**
- C. Institutions.**
- D. Funders.**

10. Which statement best describes evidence about multi-jurisdictional minimal risk research?

- A. It requires official agreements between institutions.**
- B. The single REB review model is mandatory.**
- C. Any REB can act as the single reviewing REB.**
- D. More REBs always increase participant protections.**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Addressing conflicts of interest in research involving humans is important because which statement best captures its purpose?

A. It helps to protect the integrity of research.

B. It is part of the process of ensuring that prospective research participants make informed decisions regarding their consent to participate.

C. It makes researchers feel virtuous.

D. All conflicts of interest can and must be eliminated.

Conflicts of interest in research are addressed to protect the trustworthiness and credibility of the research by ensuring that personal or financial interests don't bias what is done or reported. When these interests can sway study design, data collection, analysis, interpretation, or publication decisions, the integrity of the findings is at risk and public trust can erode. That makes the choice about protecting the integrity of the research the best answer. While transparency about conflicts can support informed consent and ethical oversight, the central aim is to prevent bias and preserve objectivity across the entire research process. It's not realistic to say all conflicts can or must be eliminated—many can be mitigated through disclosure and governance, but the priority is maintaining the integrity of the research and the trust of participants and the public. The other options don't capture that overarching goal.

2. In research, conflict of interest is an issue that can affect which parties?

A. Researchers.

B. Researchers and REB members.

C. Researchers, REB members, and institutions.

D. REB members and institutions.

Conflict of interest can affect every party involved in research: researchers, REB members, and the institutions hosting or funding the work. When someone has a personal, financial, or other interest that could influence judgment or actions, it can bias study design, data analysis, or reporting, potentially compromising participant welfare and the integrity of the research. Researchers may unconsciously or consciously steer methods, selective reporting, or recruitment to benefit themselves. REB members might face COI if they have close relationships with researchers, financial ties, or other interests that could influence risk assessments or consent decisions. Institutions can be affected when funding, reputation, or strategic goals create pressure to approve certain studies, potentially shaping policy or review processes. TCPS2 requires disclosure and management of conflicts to protect participants and maintain trust, which can involve recusal from decisions, divestment of conflicting interests, or independent review. That's why the best choice includes all three groups.

3. Who has responsibility for safeguarding the privacy of research participants?

- A. Researchers alone.
- B. Researchers and REBs.
- C. Researchers, REBs, and institutions.**
- D. Researchers, REBs, institutions, and funders.

Protecting privacy is a shared responsibility among researchers, REBs, and the institution hosting the research. Researchers design and conduct the study with privacy in mind—obtaining informed consent that clearly explains data use, minimizing data collection, de-identifying data where possible, and implementing secure data handling, storage, and access controls. REBs review the plan to identify privacy risks and ensure appropriate safeguards are in place, often requiring conditions or modifications before approval. The institution provides the governance framework, policies, and resources—such as privacy officers, data management and IT security infrastructure, training, and formal data-sharing agreements—to support and enforce privacy protections across the research enterprise. Funders may set privacy expectations as part of funding criteria, but they do not directly manage day-to-day privacy protections.

4. In Indigenous community research oversight, which statements are true? Some Indigenous studies can meet minimal risk and be delegated; It is the REB's responsibility to determine minimal risk; All of the above.

- A. Some Indigenous studies can meet minimal risk and be delegated
- B. It is the REB's responsibility to determine minimal risk
- C. Both statements are true
- D. All of the above**

Minimal risk means the potential harms of the research are no greater than those encountered in daily life. Some Indigenous studies can be designed to stay at that low level of risk, making delegated review appropriate. Delegated review is when the Research Ethics Board assigns the review to a designated reviewer rather than the full board. The REB is the body responsible for assessing the level of risk and deciding the most appropriate review pathway. Because risk can be minimal in certain Indigenous studies and the REB determines both the risk level and the review type, both statements are true, so all of the above is the best answer.

5. Which statement best represents the rationale behind the Justice principle in TCPS 2?

- A. This helps to maintain public trust in research.**
- B. This contributes to the legitimacy of research results by ensuring that research findings are drawn from the full range of those to whom the research applies.**
- C. This avoids disadvantaged or marginalized groups from bearing a disproportionate share of research risks.**
- D. All of the above.**

Justice in TCPS 2 is about fair treatment and the equitable distribution of research burdens and benefits. Public trust grows when research practices are fair and transparent, which is why maintaining public trust fits under Justice. Including the full range of people to whom the research applies helps ensure findings reflect those groups and that benefits and knowledge aren't limited to a narrow subset, supporting both fairness and the legitimacy of the results. Avoiding that disadvantaged or marginalized groups bear a disproportionate share of risks protects those most at risk from exploitation and harm, a core justice concern. Taken together, these points show why the rationale behind Justice includes fostering trust, ensuring representative inclusion, and preventing unequal burden—so all of these ideas align with the principle.

6. Under the Justice principle in TCPS 2, which outcome best reflects its aim?

- A. Maintains public trust in research.**
- B. Increases likelihood of publishing significant results.**
- C. Ensures no risk to participants.**
- D. Reduces research costs.**

Justice is about fairness in how research burdens and benefits are distributed and in how participants and communities are treated. When studies are designed and conducted with fair recruitment, equitable access to benefits, and protection against exploitation, the public sees that research respects people and communities. That visible fairness builds and maintains trust in the research enterprise. The other options focus on outcomes like publishing results, eliminating risk entirely, or cutting costs, which do not capture the fairness and accountability central to Justice.

7. Some Indigenous community research projects can meet the criteria for minimal risk and be evaluated in delegated review.

A. Yes

B. No

C. Sometimes

D. Not applicable

Delegated review can apply to research when the risk to participants is minimal. In TCPS2, minimal risk means the potential harm or discomfort is no greater than what people encounter in daily life or routine medical care, and the study can be reviewed by a chair or designated reviewer (or a small subcommittee) rather than the full ethics board. Some Indigenous community research projects can fit this situation because they are designed to be low risk—for example, involving surveys or interviews on non-sensitive topics with proper informed consent and strong privacy protections. When the study also respects culturally safe practices and data governance expectations (such as community engagement and appropriate stewardship of data), it can be assessed through delegated review instead of the full committee. So, it is possible for these projects to meet minimal-risk criteria and be evaluated via delegated review.

8. In Indigenous-focused research, guidance suggests that community engagement should begin before seeking REB review.

A. Community engagement should begin before REB review.

B. Engagement should occur after data collection.

C. Engagement is optional.

D. Engagement must wait until consent.

In Indigenous-focused research, involving the community early is essential because it centers respect, reciprocity, and self-determination from the start. Beginning engagement before seeking ethics review allows researchers to co-design the study with community members, ensuring the research questions, methods, and planned activities align with community priorities and governance norms. It also helps establish data ownership and stewardship expectations (such as OCAP principles), determine who has decision-making authority, and set up appropriate consent and dissemination plans. When communities are involved from the outset, there's a clearer path for any necessary community approvals and governance requirements, which can influence the study design and the ethics review that follows. Engagement after data collection or only optional engagement undermines these protections, and waiting for consent without community input can privilege researcher perspectives over community rights and interests.

9. Which entity is NOT typically responsible for safeguarding privacy in TCPS 2?

- A. Researchers.**
- B. REBs.**
- C. Institutions.**
- D. Funders.**

Who is responsible for safeguarding privacy under TCPS 2? The protections are built into the roles of researchers, the Research Ethics Board, and the institution. Researchers must design and conduct the study in a way that protects privacy—obtaining informed consent that explains data use, minimizing the data collected, de-identifying data when possible, and storing information securely with access limited to authorized personnel. The Research Ethics Board reviews the protocol to ensure privacy protections are appropriate and monitors consent processes and data handling throughout the study. The institution provides the framework for privacy protection—policies, training, privacy offices, data governance, and secure IT infrastructure to support researchers and REBs. Funders can require privacy safeguards as a condition of funding, but they do not typically oversee or manage the day-to-day privacy protections in the research itself.

10. Which statement best describes evidence about multi-jurisdictional minimal risk research?

- A. It requires official agreements between institutions.**
- B. The single REB review model is mandatory.**
- C. Any REB can act as the single reviewing REB.**
- D. More REBs always increase participant protections.**

In multicenter, minimal-risk research, the governance mechanism that makes cross-site ethical review workable is a formal reliance arrangement between participating institutions. These official agreements designate one Research Ethics Board to review the study for all sites, and they spell out how information, consent materials, amendments, and protections are harmonized across jurisdictions. This centralized approach depends on institutions signing and upholding those arrangements, ensuring consistent protections for participants wherever they are. That's why this option fits best: it captures the requirement for an official agreement to enable a single reviewing REB across institutions. Without such agreements, you can't reliably appoint one REB to oversee all sites, and other review models may be used only when such arrangements exist. The idea that the single-REB model is mandatory is not accurate, and saying any REB can act as the single reviewer ignores the need for a formal reliance arrangement. Likewise, more REBs do not automatically mean greater participant protections; they can complicate the process and lead to inconsistent protections if not coordinated.

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://tcps2core.examzify.com>

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

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