

USCG FACILITY INSPECTOR 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 act allows USCG to take actions to prevent hazards in ports and waterways?**
 - A. Magnuson Act
 - B. Ports and Waterways Safety Act
 - C. Federal Water Pollution Control Act
 - D. Oil Pollution Act of 1990

- 2. Which action best reduces slip hazards in a facility?**
 - A. Promptly cleaning spills.
 - B. Letting spills dry on their own.
 - C. Wearing non-slip shoes as the sole measure.
 - D. Keeping cords in walkways.

- 3. A COA is valid for how many years?**
 - A. 3 years
 - B. 5 years
 - C. 7 years
 - D. 2 years

- 4. What are the requirements for a PIC?**
 - A. No experience necessary; on-the-job training.
 - B. 12 hours of training only.
 - C. At least 48 hours of transfer experience and completion of training from the facility operator.
 - D. Must be a PIC for at least one year.

- 5. What are the requirements for a QI?**
 - A. Must hold a pilot license.
 - B. Available 24 hours, located in the US, fluent in English, familiar with FRP.
 - C. Must be available 9-5, located abroad.
 - D. No English language requirement.

6. What performance standard is required for LNG and LHG transfer areas concerning earthquakes and fires?

- A. Must withstand earthquakes and fires for 1 hour.
- B. Must withstand fires for 2 hours.
- C. Must withstand earthquakes for 2 hours.
- D. Must withstand earthquakes and fires for 2 hours.

7. Which PFSP section addresses incident response planning?

- A. Training
- B. Public relations
- C. Incident response
- D. Alarm and surveillance

8. What are the requirements for NLS?

- A. 7 hours with no notice
- B. 10 hours with 24 hours notice
- C. 24 hours with 10 hours notice
- D. 1 hour with 24 hours notice

9. Which outcome best results from properly applying the risk-based inspection approach during a facility inspection?

- A. Prioritized corrective actions with deadlines and risk-based prioritization.
- B. Randomized actions with no deadlines.
- C. Only documenting findings with no action.
- D. Immediate noncompliance penalties.

10. What does PAA stand for?

- A. Public Access Areas
- B. Public Administrative Areas
- C. Public Airspace Areas
- D. Private Access Areas

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which act allows USCG to take actions to prevent hazards in ports and waterways?

- A. Magnuson Act
- B. Ports and Waterways Safety Act**
- C. Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- D. Oil Pollution Act of 1990

The main idea is the Coast Guard's authority to prevent hazards in navigable waters. The Ports and Waterways Safety Act gives the Coast Guard broad power to regulate navigation safety, manage vessel traffic, and enforce safety rules and measures in ports, harbors, and channels. This enables proactive actions to prevent accidents, collisions, groundings, and other hazards before they happen, such as setting navigation rules, maintaining aids to navigation, and coordinating traffic management. The other acts don't provide that same broad safety mandate for ports and waterways: the fisheries act governs marine resource management; the Clean Water Act focuses on preventing and controlling pollution discharges into waters; the Oil Pollution Act centers on oil spill response and liability.

2. Which action best reduces slip hazards in a facility?

- A. Promptly cleaning spills.**
- B. Letting spills dry on their own.
- C. Wearing non-slip shoes as the sole measure.
- D. Keeping cords in walkways.

Promptly cleaning spills is the best way to reduce slip hazards because it removes the slippery surface at its source and minimizes the time people are exposed to the danger. A spill left on the floor can quickly spread and become slick, especially in high-traffic areas, so addressing it immediately dramatically lowers the chance of someone slipping. If it can't be cleaned right away, containing the spill with absorbent material and putting up a caution sign helps control the risk until cleanup is possible, and then the floor should be dried completely. Wearing non-slip shoes helps reduce the risk, but it isn't enough on its own because the hazard remains until the liquid is removed. Keeping cords in walkways creates another danger—tripping—not a slip hazard from liquids, and it doesn't address the risk from spilled fluids.

3. A COA is valid for how many years?

- A. 3 years
- B. 5 years**
- C. 7 years
- D. 2 years

A COA is valid for five years. This five-year period is chosen to require regular re-evaluation of safety practices, equipment, and procedures, ensuring standards stay current with updates in regulations and technology. During renewal, the organization typically submits updated documentation and may undergo an on-site check to confirm continued compliance. If conditions change or issues are found, the COA may be amended or not renewed, which keeps oversight active and relevant.

4. What are the requirements for a PIC?

- A. No experience necessary; on-the-job training.
- B. 12 hours of training only.
- C. At least 48 hours of transfer experience and completion of training from the facility operator.**
- D. Must be a PIC for at least one year.

Understanding who can act as Person in Charge (PIC) hinges on practical, facility-specific preparation. The requirement is at least 48 hours of transfer experience and completion of training from the facility operator. This combination ensures the PIC has substantial hands-on familiarity with how transfers are actually performed, including procedures for initiating and stopping transfers, using monitoring equipment, PPE, and handling spills or emergencies. It also guarantees the PIC is trained on the facility's particular practices, equipment, alarm systems, communication protocols with terminal control, and the facility's emergency response plan. Without transfer experience, there's a risk the PIC cannot anticipate operational hazards or respond to abnormal conditions. Training alone, such as a small number of hours, would leave gaps in practical know-how. Requiring a PIC to have long tenure in the role isn't the standard; the emphasis is on demonstrated transfer experience plus facility-specific training to ensure competent supervision of operations.

5. What are the requirements for a QI?

- A. Must hold a pilot license.
- B. Available 24 hours, located in the US, fluent in English, familiar with FRP.**
- C. Must be available 9-5, located abroad.
- D. No English language requirement.

The thing being tested is what makes someone eligible to be the Qualified Individual for a Facility Response Plan. That role is the on-site point person who must be ready to oversee and coordinate the plan's actions during an incident. To do this effectively, the QI must meet several practical requirements: be available 24 hours a day, so there's always someone who can take charge; be located in the United States, ensuring the person is under the proper regulatory authority and able to work within USCG response channels without offshore delays; be fluent in English, so communication with the Coast Guard, responders, and facility staff is clear and rapid; and be familiar with the Facility Response Plan, so they understand the specific procedures, roles, escalation paths, and reporting requirements of that facility. If any of these aren't met—being available only during business hours, being located abroad, lacking English proficiency, or not knowing the FRP—the QI wouldn't be reliably able to lead during emergencies or accurately implement the plan. These conditions together ensure the QI can perform the role effectively whenever an incident occurs.

6. What performance standard is required for LNG and LHG transfer areas concerning earthquakes and fires?

- A. Must withstand earthquakes and fires for 1 hour.
- B. Must withstand fires for 2 hours.
- C. Must withstand earthquakes for 2 hours.

D. Must withstand earthquakes and fires for 2 hours.

The main idea here is that LNG and LHG transfer areas must remain structurally sound and maintain safety functions under both major hazards—earthquakes and fires—for a sufficient period. Designing to withstand earthquakes and fires for two hours ensures that, even if a seismic event or a fire occurs, the area won't fail immediately. This two-hour resilience gives emergency actions a fighting chance: personnel can shut down transfers, isolate the system, evacuate if needed, and fire suppression and rescue efforts can begin without the risk of rapid, catastrophic containment loss. LNG and LHG present high fire and explosion risks, so the protection window must cover both hazards simultaneously, not just one. Shorter durations or addressing only one hazard would leave the transfer area vulnerable to rapid escalation and hinder safe response.

7. Which PFSP section addresses incident response planning?

- A. Training
- B. Public relations
- C. Incident response**
- D. Alarm and surveillance

When a PFSP addresses incident response planning, it focuses on how a facility will respond to a security event: who leads, who must be informed, how communications flow, and the steps to contain, mitigate, and recover from the incident. This is why the incident response section is the best choice—it directly lays out the procedures for triggering the response, coordinating with authorities (like the Coast Guard and local law enforcement), preserving evidence, and restoring normal operations. Training and public relations cover different needs—training ensures personnel know their duties and how to act in drills; public relations handles communications with the public and media; alarm and surveillance deal with detection and monitoring systems. They support the overall security program but do not specify the structured response actions and coordination that incident response planning provides.

8. What are the requirements for NLS?

- A. 7 hours with no notice
- B. 10 hours with 24 hours notice**
- C. 24 hours with 10 hours notice
- D. 1 hour with 24 hours notice

The question is about scheduling requirements for NLS, specifically the needed amount of time and the advance notice to arrange it. The best choice says you need 10 hours of activity with 24 hours of advance notice. This combination ensures there is enough time to prepare, allocate staff and equipment, and complete the NLS process within a practical window, without leaving the team scrambling at the last minute. Having 24 hours of notice helps coordination across the necessary personnel and resources, while 10 hours reflects the typical duration needed to carry out the NLS tasks thoroughly. The other options either lack the required advance notice, or pair the durations in a way that doesn't align with the established scheduling practice (for example, offering too little notice, or swapping the expected duration with the notice).

9. Which outcome best results from properly applying the risk-based inspection approach during a facility inspection?

- A. Prioritized corrective actions with deadlines and risk-based prioritization.**
- B. Randomized actions with no deadlines.
- C. Only documenting findings with no action.
- D. Immediate noncompliance penalties.

Focusing on risk levels and timely remediation is the heart of a risk-based inspection approach. In practice, findings are evaluated by how serious the potential harm could be and how likely it is to occur, then corrective actions are assigned with clear deadlines that match that risk level. This ensures the most dangerous issues are addressed first, resources are used efficiently, and the facility maintains safe operations while staying compliant with regulations. For example, a critical life-safety deficiency would receive immediate attention and a tight deadline, while less severe issues would have longer timelines or require verification that closure has occurred. Other options don't achieve the same outcome. Actions with no deadlines fail to push for timely fixes; documenting findings without action leaves risks open; random actions with no plan waste resources and don't systematically reduce risk; penalties alone don't drive the proactive remediation that risk-based inspection aims for.

10. What does PAA stand for?

- A. Public Access Areas**
- B. Public Administrative Areas
- C. Public Airspace Areas
- D. Private Access Areas

Public Access Areas are the spaces within a facility that the general public may enter, such as lobbies, waiting areas, ticket counters, and viewing spots. In Coast Guard facility inspections, PAA identifies these accessible zones so safety and security checks focus on what the public can encounter. This includes clear exits and signage, adequate lighting, slip-resistant floors, handrails where required, and accessibility features. The other options describe areas that aren't open to the public—administrative zones, general airspace terms, or private restricted areas—so they don't fit the intended meaning of PAA.

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://uscgfacilityinspector.examzify.com>

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

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