

# USCIS Basic - Block 1 Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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

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# Table of Contents

<b>Copyright</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>How to Use This Guide</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Questions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Explanations</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Next Steps</b> .....	<b>16</b>

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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. Who served as President during both the Great Depression and World War II?**
  - A. Herbert Hoover**
  - B. Harry S. Truman**
  - C. Franklin D. Roosevelt**
  - D. Lyndon B. Johnson**
  
- 2. What is the minimum score that applicants must achieve to pass the civics test?**
  - A. 4 out of 10**
  - B. 5 out of 10**
  - C. 6 out of 10**
  - D. 7 out of 10**
  
- 3. Can Julie, a B-1 nonimmigrant admitted by CBP, attend graduate school in the United States?**
  - A. Yes**
  - B. No**
  - C. Only part-time**
  - D. Only after a status change**
  
- 4. What is the citation for the definition of "aggravated felony" in the INA?**
  - A. INA § 101(a)(34); 8 CFR § 101.34**
  - B. INA § 101(a)(34); 8 CFR § 1.2**
  - C. INA § 101(a)(43); 8 CFR § 101.43**
  - D. INA § 101(a)(43); 8 CFR § 1.2**
  
- 5. Which agency is responsible for immigrant visa allocation and immigrant visa issuance?**
  - A. Department of Justice (DOJ)**
  - B. Department of State (DOS)**
  - C. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)**
  - D. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**

- 6. Who was the first President of the United States?**
- A. Thomas Jefferson**
  - B. Abraham Lincoln**
  - C. George Washington**
  - D. Theodore Roosevelt**
- 7. Which legislation is a result of the laws passed by Congress?**
- A. Presidential proclamations**
  - B. Statutes and acts**
  - C. Judicial decisions**
  - D. Executive agreements**
- 8. What classification will a foreign national receive on his permanent resident card if he is approved under a Form I-140 petition for his expertise in genetic cloning?**
- A. E-12**
  - B. E-31**
  - C. T-51**
  - D. E-13**
- 9. Which system provides a digitized version of the physical alien and receipt files?**
- A. EDMS**
  - B. USCIS**
  - C. DHS**
  - D. FOIA**
- 10. What is a primary purpose of a border crossing identification card?**
- A. To allow citizens to work in other countries.**
  - B. To facilitate travel to and from the U.S.**
  - C. To serve as a government identification card.**
  - D. To provide healthcare services.**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Who served as President during both the Great Depression and World War II?**

- A. Herbert Hoover**
- B. Harry S. Truman**
- C. Franklin D. Roosevelt**
- D. Lyndon B. Johnson**

Franklin D. Roosevelt served as President during both the Great Depression and World War II. His presidency marked a significant era in American history, beginning in 1933 and concluding in 1945. Roosevelt responded to the economic crisis of the Great Depression with his New Deal programs, which aimed to provide relief, recovery, and reform to the struggling economy and support American citizens. His leadership during World War II was also crucial, as he played a key role in mobilizing the nation's resources for the war effort, forging important alliances, and making critical military and diplomatic decisions. The other figures mentioned were Presidents at different times. Herbert Hoover served before Roosevelt and is often associated with the onset of the Great Depression but was not in office during World War II. Harry S. Truman became President after Roosevelt's death in 1945 and is indeed noted for his actions during the latter part of World War II, particularly the decision to use atomic weapons, but he did not serve during the Great Depression. Lyndon B. Johnson was also not in office during either event, as he served from 1963 to 1969, long after World War II and the Great Depression had ended.

**2. What is the minimum score that applicants must achieve to pass the civics test?**

- A. 4 out of 10**
- B. 5 out of 10**
- C. 6 out of 10**
- D. 7 out of 10**

The minimum score required for applicants to pass the civics test is indeed 6 out of 10. This test is part of the naturalization process for individuals seeking to become U.S. citizens, and it assesses their knowledge of U.S. history, government, and civics. During the test, applicants are asked up to 10 questions from a list of 100 possible questions, and it is essential for them to correctly answer at least 6 of those questions to demonstrate their understanding of the material. Achieving this score reflects a basic comprehension of the principles and functioning of the U.S. government, which is crucial for their role as future citizens.

**3. Can Julie, a B-1 nonimmigrant admitted by CBP, attend graduate school in the United States?**

**A. Yes**

**B. No**

**C. Only part-time**

**D. Only after a status change**

A B-1 nonimmigrant visa is designated for business visitors, allowing individuals to engage in business activities such as attending conferences or meetings. However, it does not permit enrollment in academic programs, which includes attending graduate school. Therefore, the correct answer indicates that Julie cannot attend graduate school while in the United States on a B-1 visa. If she wishes to pursue education, she would need to change her status to a visa category that permits study, such as an F-1 student visa. This distinction emphasizes the specific restrictions placed on B-1 visas and the necessity of aligning one's activities with the permitted uses of that visa category.

**4. What is the citation for the definition of "aggravated felony" in the INA?**

**A. INA § 101(a)(34); 8 CFR § 101.34**

**B. INA § 101(a)(34); 8 CFR § 1.2**

**C. INA § 101(a)(43); 8 CFR § 101.43**

**D. INA § 101(a)(43); 8 CFR § 1.2**

The correct citation for the definition of "aggravated felony" is found in INA § 101(a)(43). This section of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) specifically enumerates the crimes that constitute an aggravated felony for immigration purposes. It plays a significant role in determining the eligibility of non-citizens for various forms of relief from removal and affects their ability to adjust their status or become lawful permanent residents. Citing 8 CFR § 1.2 does not relate directly to the definition of aggravated felonies. Instead, 8 CFR § 1.2 outlines general definitions of terms used in immigration regulations but does not provide the specific legal definitions associated with aggravated felonies as found in the INA. In summary, the combination of INA § 101(a)(43) and understanding that the aggravated felony designation carries significant legal consequences makes this citation the correct answer for identifying the legal definition of "aggravated felony."

**5. Which agency is responsible for immigrant visa allocation and immigrant visa issuance?**

- A. Department of Justice (DOJ)**
- B. Department of State (DOS)**
- C. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)**
- D. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**

The Department of State (DOS) is the agency responsible for immigrant visa allocation and issuance. This agency manages consular services internationally and plays a critical role in processing visa applications for foreign nationals seeking to immigrate to the United States. The DOS oversees the entire visa application process, including the determination of eligibility, conducting interviews at U.S. embassies and consulates, and ultimately issuing immigrant visas to those who meet the necessary criteria.

Understanding the other agencies helps clarify the distinction. The Department of Justice (DOJ) primarily handles immigration enforcement and legal proceedings related to immigration law but does not manage visa issuance. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is responsible for immigration enforcement within the United States, overseeing agencies like U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), yet it does not issue visas itself. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) focuses on national security and law enforcement, including background checks for visa applicants, but it is not engaged in visa allocation or issuance. This division of responsibilities highlights the specific role of the Department of State in managing the process of granting immigrant visas.

**6. Who was the first President of the United States?**

- A. Thomas Jefferson**
- B. Abraham Lincoln**
- C. George Washington**
- D. Theodore Roosevelt**

The first President of the United States was George Washington. He took office on April 30, 1789, after the Constitution was ratified. Washington is often referred to as the "Father of His Country" due to his leadership in the early years of the nation and his role in the American Revolutionary War. His presidency set many precedents for the future officeholders, including the establishment of a cabinet to advise him and the tradition of a two-term limit, which was later codified by the 22nd Amendment. Washington's leadership and character significantly shaped the new government and helped unify the country during its formative years.

**7. Which legislation is a result of the laws passed by Congress?**

- A. Presidential proclamations**
- B. Statutes and acts**
- C. Judicial decisions**
- D. Executive agreements**

The correct choice is statutes and acts because these terms specifically refer to laws that have been formally enacted by Congress. When Congress passes legislation, it creates statutes, which are written laws that govern various aspects of society and the legal framework within the United States. Each statute represents a formal and recorded decision made by the legislative branch of the government. Presidential proclamations refer to announcements made by the President, often on specific issues or to celebrate events, but they do not constitute legislation passed by Congress. Similarly, judicial decisions are rulings made by courts interpreting or applying laws, rather than laws themselves. Executive agreements, while binding agreements made by the President with foreign powers, do not require congressional approval and are not laws created by Congress. Therefore, the term that accurately describes legislation passed by Congress is statutes and acts.

**8. What classification will a foreign national receive on his permanent resident card if he is approved under a Form I-140 petition for his expertise in genetic cloning?**

- A. E-12**
- B. E-31**
- C. T-51**
- D. E-13**

A foreign national who is approved under a Form I-140 petition specifically for extraordinary ability in a field, such as genetic cloning, would receive the E-12 classification on his permanent resident card. The E-12 classification corresponds to individuals possessing extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business, or athletics. This category is designed for those who can demonstrate a high level of expertise and who have garnered significant recognition in their field. This classification is distinct from others that cater to different circumstances; for instance, the E-31 classification typically relates to individuals with a multinational manager or executive status, while the E-13 is generally for individuals of extraordinary ability in the arts or who are multinational executives whose transfer is being requested. The T-51 is not applicable in this context as it pertains to victims of severe forms of trafficking and is entirely unrelated to extraordinary ability classifications. Therefore, understanding the classifications assigned based on Form I-140 petitions allows for a more precise comprehension of how extraordinary abilities are recognized within the immigration process.

**9. Which system provides a digitized version of the physical alien and receipt files?**

- A. EDMS**
- B. USCIS**
- C. DHS**
- D. FOIA**

The digitized version of physical alien and receipt files is provided by the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS). This system is specifically designed to scan, digitize, and store documents related to immigration cases, making it easier for USCIS employees to access and manage the extensive documentation involved in immigration processes. By transitioning to a digital format, EDMS enhances efficiency, reduces physical storage needs, and facilitates faster retrieval of information when needed. The other options, while related to immigration services or agencies, do not focus primarily on the digitization and management of these specific document types. USCIS refers to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, which is the agency that oversees the administration of immigration and naturalization services. DHS stands for the Department of Homeland Security, which encompasses various agencies, including USCIS. FOIA, or the Freedom of Information Act, allows individuals to request access to records from federal agencies, but it does not provide a system for the digitization of files within USCIS.

**10. What is a primary purpose of a border crossing identification card?**

- A. To allow citizens to work in other countries.**
- B. To facilitate travel to and from the U.S.**
- C. To serve as a government identification card.**
- D. To provide healthcare services.**

A primary purpose of a border crossing identification card is to facilitate travel to and from the U.S. This card is specifically designed for residents of Mexico and Canada who need to cross the U.S. border for travel, commerce, or other legitimate purposes while maintaining the security and control of border regulations. It allows the cardholder to enter the U.S. without a visa, providing an efficient means of movement between countries for specific groups of people. In this context, the card serves an essential role in helping expedite the process of crossing the border, making it easier for travelers who regularly move between the two countries for work or family reasons. The other options do not accurately reflect the primary function of this identification card; while it does serve as a form of identification, its main intent is not to provide employment opportunities or healthcare services.

## 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://uscisbasicblock1.examzify.com>**

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

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