

VIRGINIA CLASS A CONTRACTOR LICENSE PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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 statement best describes licensure eligibility for a joint venture?**
 - A. The joint venture or each contracting party must be licensed.
 - B. Only the joint venture must be licensed.
 - C. Only one contracting party must be licensed.
 - D. Licensing is not required for joint ventures.
- 2. When must class A, B, or C roof coverings be installed?**
 - A. When the edge of the roof is less than 3 feet from the property line
 - B. When the roof pitch exceeds 8/12
 - C. When the building is more than 3,000 square feet
 - D. When the area is in a flood zone
- 3. The BEST business practice for special-ordered materials is to**
 - A. put the order requirements in writing
 - B. rely on verbal confirmation
 - C. wait until delivery to confirm details
 - D. use the supplier's standard terms only
- 4. What is NOT required in exterior nonbearing walls?**
 - A. Load-bearing headers
 - B. Sheathing
 - C. Weather barriers
 - D. Masonry veneer anchors
- 5. What is the Class A initial license fee?**
 - A. \$100
 - B. \$200
 - C. \$300
 - D. \$400
- 6. According to standard guidelines, contraction joints should be spaced in feet equal to what factor of the slab depth in inches?**
 - A. 1 times the slab depth in inches
 - B. 2 1/2 times the slab depth in inches
 - C. 3 times the slab depth in inches
 - D. 4 times the slab depth in inches

- 7. In accounting terms, which statement best describes the relationship between net worth and owner's equity?**
- A. Net worth equals revenue
 - B. Net worth equals owner's equity
 - C. Net worth equals assets
 - D. Net worth equals expenses
- 8. According to the restrictive covenants, how close can a home be placed to the front of the lot?**
- A. 25 feet
 - B. 15 feet
 - C. 10 feet
 - D. 20 feet
- 9. Increasing the slump of concrete has what effect?**
- A. Increases its wetness
 - B. Increases its strength
 - C. Decreases setting time
 - D. Reduces workability
- 10. Which statement best describes the primary difference between a project manager and a project superintendent?**
- A. The project manager does not directly supervise day-to-day field activities.
 - B. The project manager oversees on-site work daily.
 - C. The project superintendent is responsible for client relations.
 - D. The project manager handles only safety on site.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which statement best describes licensure eligibility for a joint venture?

A. The joint venture or each contracting party must be licensed.

B. Only the joint venture must be licensed.

C. Only one contracting party must be licensed.

D. Licensing is not required for joint ventures.

Licensure for a joint venture hinges on who will be legally responsible for the work. A joint venture can bid and perform if the joint venture itself is licensed. If the joint venture isn't licensed as its own entity, then the individual contracting parties must each hold an active license so that a licensed party is responsible for the project. This setup ensures there is a qualified, legally accountable entity overseeing the contract and meeting the required experience, financial, and scope qualifications. The system is flexible: work can be covered either by the joint venture's license or by the licenses held by the partnering firms, but work cannot proceed with a non-licensed arrangement.

2. When must class A, B, or C roof coverings be installed?

A. When the edge of the roof is less than 3 feet from the property line

B. When the roof pitch exceeds 8/12

C. When the building is more than 3,000 square feet

D. When the area is in a flood zone

Fire safety distance from a property line drives the requirement for a fire-rated roof covering. If the edge of the roof is within three feet of a property line, the roof must use a Class A, B, or C rated covering to help prevent fire spread to neighboring structures. The other factors—roof pitch, building size, or whether the area is in a flood zone—do not trigger the requirement for a fire-rated roof in this context, which is why proximity to the property line is the determining condition.

3. The BEST business practice for special-ordered materials is to

A. put the order requirements in writing

B. rely on verbal confirmation

C. wait until delivery to confirm details

D. use the supplier's standard terms only

When you're dealing with special-ordered materials, capturing every detail in writing is essential. A written order or purchase order lays out exact specifications, part numbers, quantities, lead times, delivery dates, prices, payment terms, and any acceptance criteria or tolerances. This creates a clear, verifiable record that both you and the supplier can reference, which greatly reduces miscommunication and the chance of receiving the wrong item or missing deadlines. It also provides a solid basis for handling changes through formal change orders if the project scope evolves. Relying on verbal confirmation is risky because memories can drift, and interpretations of what was agreed can differ between parties. Waiting until delivery to confirm details is even riskier, since discovering mismatches or nonconforming items at that stage can cause costly rework, delays, or nonavailability of alternate solutions. Using only the supplier's standard terms often doesn't address the project's specific requirements, negotiated accommodations, or special conditions, which can lead to disputes or unfavorable outcomes. So, the best practice is to put all order requirements in writing to ensure accuracy, accountability, and a clear path for any necessary changes.

4. What is NOT required in exterior nonbearing walls?

- A. Load-bearing headers
- B. Sheathing
- C. Weather barriers
- D. Masonry veneer anchors

In exterior nonbearing walls, the load carried above the wall isn't transferred through that wall, so you don't need structural headers to carry gravity loads around openings. That's why a load-bearing header isn't required in this case. However, the wall still needs elements that provide overall stability and protect against the elements. Sheathing is necessary to give the wall its rigidity and a surface to attach other layers to. A weather barrier is required to keep rain and moisture from seeping into the wall assembly, improving durability and energy performance. If you're applying a masonry veneer, veneer anchors are needed to tie the veneer to the underlying wall so it stays in place against wind and other forces.

5. What is the Class A initial license fee?

- A. \$100
- B. \$200
- C. \$300
- D. \$400

The Class A initial license fee is a one-time amount charged when your license is issued. For Virginia, the initial issuance fee for a Class A (unrestricted) contractor license is two hundred dollars. This fee is paid as part of the licensing process after you meet the necessary requirements (experience, exams, and application). The other amounts listed are not the official initial issuance fee.

6. According to standard guidelines, contraction joints should be spaced in feet equal to what factor of the slab depth in inches?

- A. 1 times the slab depth in inches
- B. 2 1/2 times the slab depth in inches
- C. 3 times the slab depth in inches
- D. 4 times the slab depth in inches

Contraction joints are placed to control where cracks form as concrete shrinks during curing. To effectively relieve shrinkage stresses, guidelines specify that the spacing, in feet, should equal 2 1/2 times the slab depth, in inches. This means a 4-inch slab would have joints about 10 feet apart, and a 6-inch slab about 15 feet apart. A smaller multiplier would create joints too frequently, while larger multipliers risk cracking occurring between joints. So the recommended spacing is 2 1/2 times the slab depth in inches.

7. In accounting terms, which statement best describes the relationship between net worth and owner's equity?

- A. Net worth equals revenue
- B. Net worth equals owner's equity**
- C. Net worth equals assets
- D. Net worth equals expenses

Net worth represents the owner's claim on the business after all debts are paid, which is exactly what owner's equity is. In double-entry accounting, assets equal liabilities plus owner's equity, so rearranging gives owner's equity (the net worth) = assets minus liabilities. That means net worth is the residual interest the owner has in the business, not a type of revenue or expense, and not simply assets. Revenue and expenses affect this equity over time: revenue increases net income, which raises owner's equity and thus net worth, while expenses reduce net income and lower owner's equity. But the static relationship described here is that net worth is interchangeable with owner's equity. For a quick example, if a business has assets of \$600,000 and liabilities of \$350,000, the owner's equity (net worth) is \$250,000.

8. According to the restrictive covenants, how close can a home be placed to the front of the lot?

- A. 25 feet**
- B. 15 feet
- C. 10 feet
- D. 20 feet

Restrictive covenants are private rules attached to the property that limit how land can be used, including how far a house must sit back from the street. The front-yard distance is the setback—the space between the front of the house and the front property line. If the covenants specify 25 feet, the home must be placed at least 25 feet back from the street. This distance binds all lots in the subdivision and can be more restrictive than local zoning. So, the house cannot be closer than 25 feet to the front of the lot.

9. Increasing the slump of concrete has what effect?

- A. Increases its wetness**
- B. Increases its strength
- C. Decreases setting time
- D. Reduces workability

Slump measures how wet or fluid fresh concrete is. When slump increases, there's more water relative to cement and aggregates, so the mix becomes wetter and more flowable. That's why increasing the slump increases its wetness. In practice, higher slump does raise workability (ease of placement and finishing), but it can also reduce strength and durability due to a higher water–cement ratio. The other options don't fit: more water doesn't increase strength, slump isn't a direct indicator of shorter setting time, and higher slump does not reduce workability—it actually makes the mix more workable.

10. Which statement best describes the primary difference between a project manager and a project superintendent?

A. The project manager does not directly supervise day-to-day field activities.

B. The project manager oversees on-site work daily.

C. The project superintendent is responsible for client relations.

D. The project manager handles only safety on site.

The main point is the level and focus of responsibility. A project manager oversees the project as a whole—defining scope, budget, schedule, contracts, change management, and client communications—while coordinating with the on-site team but not handling the daily field tasks themselves. The project superintendent, on the other hand, is the on-site leader who directly supervises day-to-day field activities, manages crews, sequencing, safety, and quality, and reports progress to the project manager. That separation makes the statement that the project manager does not directly supervise day-to-day field activities the best description of the primary difference. The other ideas mix up roles: the project manager typically does not oversee on-site work every day; client relations are primarily handled by the project manager, not the superintendent; and the project manager's duties go beyond safety alone, covering broader project oversight.

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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://vaclassacontractor.examzify.com>

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

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