

VIRGINIA CONTRACTOR GENERAL PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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 which year was lead exposure significantly addressed in regulations?**
 - A. 1970
 - B. 1975
 - C. 1978
 - D. 1985

- 2. What is the maximum number of days to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy?**
 - A. 3 Days
 - B. 5 Days
 - C. 10 Days
 - D. 15 Days

- 3. What should contractors do to comply with safety regulations?**
 - A. Ignore complaints from employees
 - B. Conduct periodic safety training sessions
 - C. Limit safety equipment usage
 - D. Postpone safety reviews

- 4. Which regulation must a contractor follow regarding employee designation?**
 - A. Their own discretion
 - B. State guidelines
 - C. Local city laws
 - D. Company policies

- 5. What should a contractor do if the location for a swimming pool is in violation of local code?**
 - A. Agree to build the pool
 - B. Delay the project until further notice
 - C. Not agree to build the pool
 - D. Consult with a lawyer about the code

- 6. Which entity must approve erosion control specifications?**
- A. The owner
 - B. The contractor
 - C. The local building official
 - D. The environmental agency
- 7. What does "Contractor's Risk Insurance" primarily cover?**
- A. Liability for worker injuries
 - B. Damages caused by subcontractors
 - C. Civil suits from homeowners
 - D. Losses incurred during construction projects
- 8. Which document serves as evidence of the agreement between the contractor and the client?**
- A. A verbal agreement
 - B. A written contract
 - C. An email correspondence
 - D. A business card
- 9. What is considered a 'Class A' contract that is subject to specific licensing requirements?**
- A. Any contract under \$50,000
 - B. Any contract over \$70,000
 - C. Any contract over \$120,000
 - D. Any contract over \$200,000
- 10. Which document is essential for defining the contractual obligations of a contractor?**
- A. Building permit
 - B. Scope of work
 - C. Insurance policy
 - D. Construction schedule

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In which year was lead exposure significantly addressed in regulations?

- A. 1970
- B. 1975
- C. 1978**
- D. 1985

The year 1978 is significant in the context of regulations addressing lead exposure due to the implementation of key legislation that aimed to reduce lead hazards, particularly in residential settings. In that year, the Consumer Product Safety Commission banned the use of lead-based paints in residential properties, which was a critical step in mitigating lead exposure among children and vulnerable populations. This regulation was prompted by growing awareness of the severe health effects of lead poisoning, especially in young children, and the need to safeguard public health. The ban on lead-based paint reflected broader efforts during the late 1970s to address environmental health risks and created a framework for subsequent policies and regulations aimed at controlling lead exposure in various settings, including homes, workplaces, and public areas. Over the years that followed, further regulations were established to address lead in other products and environmental sources, but 1978 marks a pivotal moment in the effort to curb lead-related health hazards.

2. What is the maximum number of days to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy?

- A. 3 Days
- B. 5 Days**
- C. 10 Days
- D. 15 Days

The maximum number of days to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy is 5 days. This timeline is established by local building codes and regulations to ensure that the process of verifying compliance with the applicable building standards occurs promptly. A Certificate of Occupancy is crucial as it indicates that a building is suitable for occupancy and meets safety, health, and zoning standards, allowing the owner to legally occupy the space. The five-day period is designed to balance efficiency with the necessary thoroughness required to verify that all inspections have been completed and all codes have been adhered to. If the maximum time frame were longer than this, it could delay occupants' ability to legally inhabit the building, potentially causing issues for both the owner and the community. Regulations and procedural guidelines are in place to ensure that this process is managed effectively while protecting public welfare and maintaining building integrity.

3. What should contractors do to comply with safety regulations?

- A. Ignore complaints from employees
- B. Conduct periodic safety training sessions**
- C. Limit safety equipment usage
- D. Postpone safety reviews

Conducting periodic safety training sessions is essential for contractors to comply with safety regulations. These training sessions ensure that all employees are informed about the latest safety practices, hazard recognition, and emergency procedures. Regular training helps to reinforce a culture of safety within the organization, making employees more aware of potential risks and the importance of using safety equipment correctly. By committing to ongoing safety training, contractors demonstrate adherence to regulatory requirements and foster a safer work environment. This proactive approach can ultimately reduce the number of accidents and injuries on job sites, which is beneficial for both employees and the business as a whole. Proper safety training equips workers with the knowledge to protect themselves and their coworkers, contributing to overall compliance with safety regulations.

4. Which regulation must a contractor follow regarding employee designation?

- A. Their own discretion
- B. State guidelines**
- C. Local city laws
- D. Company policies

The correct answer highlights the importance of adhering to established state guidelines when it comes to employee designation. These regulations are designed to ensure compliance with labor laws, safety protocols, and other legal standards that govern how contractors should classify their workers. State guidelines provide a framework that ensures contractors operate within the bounds of the law, taking into account factors such as minimum wage, overtime pay, and proper classification of employees versus independent contractors. Compliance with these guidelines not only protects workers' rights but also shields contractors from potential legal repercussions and penalties for misclassification or failure to follow labor laws. While company policies and local city laws may also play a role in employee designation, they must operate within the broader context of state regulations. If there is a conflict, state guidelines typically take precedence, ensuring that contractors maintain adherence to the law throughout their operations. This layered approach to regulation helps to standardize practices across the industry, safeguarding both workers and employers.

5. What should a contractor do if the location for a swimming pool is in violation of local code?

- A. Agree to build the pool
- B. Delay the project until further notice
- C. Not agree to build the pool**
- D. Consult with a lawyer about the code

When a contractor identifies that the proposed location for a swimming pool is in violation of local code, the appropriate action is to not agree to build the pool. This is crucial because proceeding with construction in a location that does not comply with local regulations could result in legal issues, fines, or the requirement to remove the pool after it has been constructed. Contractors have a responsibility to ensure that all work complies with applicable laws and codes. By choosing not to move forward with the project that violates local codes, the contractor protects both their interests and those of the client. This ensures that the project can either be re-evaluated for compliance or possibly relocated where it can adhere to all local regulations, thus avoiding future complications. Additionally, while consulting a lawyer or delaying the project might seem viable options, the best initial response is to clearly communicate the violation to the customer and refuse to commence any construction until the issue is resolved. This establishes a professional standard and ensures that all construction adheres to safety and legal requirements.

6. Which entity must approve erosion control specifications?

- A. The owner
- B. The contractor
- C. The local building official**
- D. The environmental agency

The entity that must approve erosion control specifications is the local building official. This is important because erosion control is a critical aspect of construction and land disturbance projects. Local building officials ensure that erosion control measures comply with municipal codes and state regulations designed to prevent soil erosion, protect waterways, and preserve the environment. Erosion control specifications are often part of a broader set of regulations, including zoning laws and environmental protection guidelines. The local building official's role is to review these specifications to ensure that they meet all legal and safety standards. This oversight helps minimize the impact of construction activities on the surrounding environment and guarantees that the project adheres to local construction and sustainability regulations. While the owner and the contractor have their respective roles in the construction process, their approvals typically pertain to project plans and budgets rather than specific adherence to erosion control requirements. The environmental agency has oversight for environmental protection, but on a project level, local building officials are directly involved in approving on-site erosion control measures.

7. What does "Contractor's Risk Insurance" primarily cover?

- A. Liability for worker injuries
- B. Damages caused by subcontractors
- C. Civil suits from homeowners
- D. Losses incurred during construction projects**

"Contractor's Risk Insurance," also known as Builder's Risk Insurance, primarily focuses on protecting construction projects from various risks that can lead to financial loss. This type of insurance is designed to cover losses or damages to buildings or structures while they are under construction or renovation. It typically includes coverage for risks such as fire, theft, vandalism, and certain weather-related events, ensuring that the contractor is financially protected against unforeseen circumstances during the construction period. The other options relate to different aspects of liability and coverage that may not be specifically under the realm of Contractor's Risk Insurance. For instance, liability for worker injuries falls under Workers' Compensation Insurance, which provides coverage for employees injured on the job. Damages caused by subcontractors or civil suits from homeowners would pertain to liability insurance, which addresses legal claims and damages but is separate from the specific risks associated with the physical construction process.

8. Which document serves as evidence of the agreement between the contractor and the client?

- A. A verbal agreement
- B. A written contract**
- C. An email correspondence
- D. A business card

A written contract serves as the most reliable evidence of the agreement between the contractor and the client. It formalizes the terms and conditions of the project, including the scope of work, payment terms, timelines, and obligations of both parties. By providing a clear and documented reference, a written contract reduces misunderstandings and serves as a legal document that can be enforced in case of disputes. In contrast, a verbal agreement may lack the precision and clarity needed for legal enforceability, making it difficult to prove the details if disagreements arise. Email correspondence might document certain aspects of the agreement but typically does not encapsulate the full terms and conditions in a single, legally binding manner. A business card has no relevance in demonstrating an agreement, as it merely provides contact information and does not detail the terms of engagement between the parties involved.

9. What is considered a 'Class A' contract that is subject to specific licensing requirements?

- A. Any contract under \$50,000
- B. Any contract over \$70,000
- C. Any contract over \$120,000**
- D. Any contract over \$200,000

A 'Class A' contract in Virginia refers to contracts that have a monetary threshold for licensing purposes. The correct answer identifies that any contract over \$120,000 falls into this category. Class A contractors are required to have a specific license issued by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), signifying their capability to handle larger construction projects. This licensing requirement is established to ensure that contractors possess the necessary skills, financial responsibility, and understanding of legal implications involved in large-scale projects, which often entail more complex regulations and risks. Contracts below the \$120,000 threshold are typically classified under other categories, which have different licensing requirements that are less stringent. By assigning different licensing classes based on project size, Virginia aims to regulate the construction industry effectively, ensuring that only qualified contractors operate within certain financial parameters, thus protecting consumers and promoting industry standards.

10. Which document is essential for defining the contractual obligations of a contractor?

- A. Building permit
- B. Scope of work**
- C. Insurance policy
- D. Construction schedule

The scope of work is vital for defining the contractual obligations of a contractor because it provides a detailed description of the tasks that need to be completed for a project. This document outlines not only the specific duties and responsibilities of the contractor but also the expectations and standards required for the work to meet the contract specifications. By clearly defining what is included in the project, the scope of work helps to prevent misunderstandings or disputes between the contractor and the client. It serves as a reference point throughout the project to ensure that all parties are aligned on what is to be delivered, thus establishing clear contractual obligations. Other documents have important roles in the construction process but do not specifically outline contractual obligations in the same way. For instance, a building permit is necessary for compliance with local regulations, but it does not detail what work will be performed. An insurance policy is crucial for protecting against risks and liabilities but does not define the scope of work. A construction schedule outlines timelines for task completion but does not delineate the specific responsibilities and duties of the contractor as the scope of work does.

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://virginiacontractor.examzify.com>

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

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