

# Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL) Practice Test (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. Which line marks the left edge of one-way roads and separates opposing lanes on two-way roads?**
  - A. Solid white lines**
  - B. Dashed yellow lines**
  - C. Dashed white lines**
  - D. Solid yellow lines**
  
- 2. Why should you avoid using your horn around a blind pedestrian crossing the roadway with a guide dog or white cane?**
  - A. It could disturb traffic.**
  - B. It could confuse or frighten the blind pedestrian or the service animal.**
  - C. Horn is illegal.**
  - D. It has no effect.**
  
- 3. An object marker sign indicates that you should pass the object on which side?**
  - A. You should keep left to pass the object.**
  - B. It marks a construction zone.**
  - C. You should keep right to pass the object.**
  - D. It warns of a pedestrian crossing.**
  
- 4. Which statement best describes an object marker sign?**
  - A. It alerts to a barricade at a work zone.**
  - B. It warns of a pedestrian crossing.**
  - C. It notifies drivers of obstacles in the roadway and tells them to pass on the right.**
  - D. It is a guide sign on a freeway**
  
- 5. When it is raining or the road is wet, what term describes the condition in which tires ride up on a layer of water and lose traction?**
  - A. Tailgating**
  - B. Traction with the surface**
  - C. Wear and tear**
  - D. Hydroplaning**

6. You must not follow a fire truck closer than \_\_\_\_\_ when it is responding to a fire alarm.
- A. 300 feet
  - B. 500 feet
  - C. 400 feet
  - D. 200 feet
7. Why is the left lane on multi-lane highways reserved for passing?
- A. To control speed.
  - B. To provide a shoulder.
  - C. To allow faster vehicles to overtake.
  - D. To host bicyclists.
8. If you are in an intersection when an emergency vehicle approaches, you should
- A. Move to the right and stop in the intersection.
  - B. Continue through the intersection, then pull over to the right and stop.
  - C. Move to the left and stop in the intersection.
  - D. Continue through the intersection, then pull over to the left and stop.
9. It takes an average person's body about \_\_\_\_\_ to get rid of the alcohol in one typical alcoholic drink.
- A. Thirty minutes
  - B. One hour
  - C. Two hours
  - D. Three hours
10. You may pass a vehicle on the right in all of the following situations EXCEPT when you are in a left-turn lane.
- A. On roadways with at least two lanes traveling in your direction.
  - B. On one-way streets, where all lanes of traffic are moving in the same direction.
  - C. When you are in a left-turn lane.
  - D. When the vehicle is in a left-turn lane.

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which line marks the left edge of one-way roads and separates opposing lanes on two-way roads?**

- A. Solid white lines**
- B. Dashed yellow lines**
- C. Dashed white lines**
- D. Solid yellow lines**

Solid yellow lines indicate the boundary between opposing traffic and, on one-way streets, mark the left edge of the roadway. On a two-way road, a solid yellow line runs down the center to show you're not supposed to pass when that line is on your side. On a one-way street, that same solid yellow line serves as the left boundary of the travel lanes. Dashed yellow lines would allow passing when safe, while white lines are used for lane edges or for traffic moving in the same direction, and dashed white lines permit crossing.

**2. Why should you avoid using your horn around a blind pedestrian crossing the roadway with a guide dog or white cane?**

- A. It could disturb traffic.**
- B. It could confuse or frighten the blind pedestrian or the service animal.**
- C. Horn is illegal.**
- D. It has no effect.**

When you're near a blind pedestrian who is crossing with a guide dog or white cane, sound signals can disrupt their navigation. A sudden horn can startle or confuse the guide dog, causing it to freeze, pull the pedestrian off course, or react unpredictably. That confusion or fear increases the risk of an accident for both the pedestrian and the animal. The safest move is to avoid honking in these situations, wait for the person to cross completely, and proceed only after you've given them time and space.

**3. An object marker sign indicates that you should pass the object on which side?**

- A. You should keep left to pass the object.**
- B. It marks a construction zone.**
- C. You should keep right to pass the object.**
- D. It warns of a pedestrian crossing.**

Object marker signs tell you which side of a fixed object you must pass. They're placed to guide traffic around obstacles in the roadway and indicate the safest clearance side. In this situation, the marker shows you should pass on the object's right side, so you should keep to the right as you go by. The sign isn't indicating a construction-zone warning or a pedestrian crossing; it's directing you to pass on the designated side around the obstacle.

4. Which statement best describes an object marker sign?

- A. It alerts to a barricade at a work zone.
- B. It warns of a pedestrian crossing.
- C. It notifies drivers of obstacles in the roadway and tells them to pass on the right.**
- D. It is a guide sign on a freeway

Object marker signs are used to warn you that there is a fixed obstacle in the roadway and to guide you on which side to pass. When you see one, you should pass the obstacle on the right side, keeping a safe distance from it. This helps protect you and any workers or equipment nearby by clearly signaling the safest path around the obstruction. They're specifically about obstacles in or near the travel lane, not about barricades in general, pedestrian crossings, or freeway guide signs.

5. When it is raining or the road is wet, what term describes the condition in which tires ride up on a layer of water and lose traction?

- A. Tailgating
- B. Traction with the surface
- C. Wear and tear
- D. Hydroplaning**

Hydroplaning is when tires ride up on a layer of water on the road and lose traction. This happens because water pressure builds beneath the tire faster than the tread can channel it away, so the tire basically rides on a film of water instead of gripping the pavement. With the tire no longer in solid contact, steering, acceleration, and braking become ineffective, making the vehicle hard to control. You're more prone to hydroplaning at higher speeds, in deeper water, on worn tires, or when tires aren't inflated to the recommended pressure. To handle it: ease off the accelerator, keep the steering steady, avoid hard braking or sudden turns, and slow down to regain traction.

6. You must not follow a fire truck closer than \_\_\_\_\_ when it is responding to a fire alarm.

- A. 300 feet
- B. 500 feet**
- C. 400 feet
- D. 200 feet

When a fire engine is responding to a fire alarm, you must give it space to operate safely. The required minimum is to stay at least 500 feet behind it. This distance provides enough room for the engine to maneuver, brake, or avoid hazards, and it reduces the risk of collision or being struck by debris or water if the vehicle suddenly stops or turns. Driving closer than 500 feet can hinder the engine and endanger you and others. If you find yourself behind the truck, slow down, and wait until the emergency vehicle has passed and the scene is under control before moving on.

**7. Why is the left lane on multi-lane highways reserved for passing?**

- A. To control speed.**
- B. To provide a shoulder.**
- C. To allow faster vehicles to overtake.**
- D. To host bicyclists.**

The left lane is reserved for passing to keep traffic moving smoothly and safely. When faster vehicles can overtake slower ones without having to squeeze through lanes, it reduces speed differences within a single lane and minimizes sudden lane changes, which are common causes of crashes. Drivers who are being overtaken should return to the right-hand lane as soon as it's safe to do so, allowing the left lane to remain available for others who need to pass. It's not about controlling speed, not a shoulder, and it's not for bicyclists, which is why those options don't fit.

**8. If you are in an intersection when an emergency vehicle approaches, you should**

- A. Move to the right and stop in the intersection.**
- B. Continue through the intersection, then pull over to the right and stop.**
- C. Move to the left and stop in the intersection.**
- D. Continue through the intersection, then pull over to the left and stop.**

When an emergency vehicle is approaching, you must yield the right of way so they can pass safely. The best approach is to pull to the right edge of the road and stop. If you're in an intersection when the emergency vehicle arrives, you should continue through the intersection and then pull over to the right and stop. Stopping inside the intersection can block cross traffic and delay the responders, creating a hazardous situation. By finishing the passage through the intersection first, you clear the way and then can safely move to the right edge and stop. After stopping, stay put until the emergency vehicle has passed and it's safe to proceed.

**9. It takes an average person's body about \_\_\_\_\_ to get rid of the alcohol in one typical alcoholic drink.**

- A. Thirty minutes**
- B. One hour**
- C. Two hours**
- D. Three hours**

Alcohol is eliminated by the body at a fairly steady rate, about one standard drink per hour. In the U.S., a standard drink contains roughly 14 grams of pure alcohol, so the alcohol from one such drink typically leaves the body in about an hour. Individual factors like body weight, sex, food in the stomach, and liver health can cause some variation, but the one-hour-per-drink rule is the common rule of thumb used for quick estimates.

**10. You may pass a vehicle on the right in all of the following situations EXCEPT when you are in a left-turn lane.**

- A. On roadways with at least two lanes traveling in your direction.**
- B. On one-way streets, where all lanes of traffic are moving in the same direction.**
- C. When you are in a left-turn lane.**
- D. When the vehicle is in a left-turn lane.**

Passing on the right is allowed in locations where traffic flows in multiple lanes in the same direction, such as roads with two or more lanes in your direction or on one-way streets with several lanes. You can also pass a slower vehicle if it's safe to do so and there's room on the right when the vehicle ahead is turning left. However, you must not pass when you are in a left-turn lane. Those lanes are designated for vehicles turning left, and using them to pass would put you alongside or in front of vehicles that may move left into an intersection, creating a collision risk. The situations described in the other options are examples where passing on the right is permitted, so the only scenario that prohibits it is being in a left-turn lane.

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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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://wadol.examzify.com>**

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

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