CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPING CONTRACTOR (C-27) LICENSE PRACTICE EXAM (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.

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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!

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Questions

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1. When preparing a bid, you should:

A. allow for unexpected problems or costs

B. negotiate after bid submission

C. omit contingency for unknowns

D. base the bid solely on material costs

2. Ms. Gomez applies for a job. Which of the following is the only lawful reason an employer may deny her employment?

A. She has poor references.

B. She lacks a work permit.

C. She is overqualified.

D. She has no work experience or Social Security number.

3. Which document attached to plans conveys details not shown in the drawings?

A. Change order.

B. Specification sheet.

C. Certificate of occupancy.

D. Project schedule.

4. A home improvement salesperson's (HIS) registration must be renewed every:

A. One year

B. Two years

C. Three years

D. Four years

5. When you take an employee with you to City Hall to get a building permit, what should you bring besides your contractor's license pocket card and plan?

A. A driver's license

B. A safety training certificate

C. A list of subcontractors

D. Certificate of workers' compensation insurance

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6. Which financial concept is fixed and does not vary with production volume?

A. Overhead

B. Materials

C. Direct Labor

D. Commissions

7. Which incident would NOT have to be reported to DOSH immediately or within 24 hours?

A. A minor first aid case with a small cut

B. A slip-and-fall resulting in a sprain

C. Car accident in which an employee steps onto a public road, gets hit by a car, and suffers a concussion

D. An exposure to heat with an illness

8. Which age-related fact is stated regarding driving as part of employment duties?

A. Drivers must be at least 25 for company vehicles

B. An 18-year-old can legally drive a vehicle as part of normal job duties

C. Only managers may drive company vehicles

D. There is no age restriction for driving on the job

9. If a subcontractor serves the owner with a stop payment notice, the most likely reason would be to:

A. inform the owner that the subcontractor has not been paid by the prime, and the owner must set aside sufficient funds to pay the subcontractor's bill.

B. inform the owner that the subcontractor has released the lien.

C. advise the owner to terminate the prime contractor immediately.

D. notify the owner of a pending arbitration.

10. A person who serves as the qualifier for licensure may qualify for how many firms in a single year?

A. One

B. Two

C. Three

D. Four

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When preparing a bid, you should:

A. allow for unexpected problems or costs

B. negotiate after bid submission

C. omit contingency for unknowns

D. base the bid solely on material costs

Build in a contingency when you prepare a bid so unknowns don't derail the project. Bids are predictions, and jobs often bring surprises like hidden drainage problems, soil conditions, permit delays, weather, design changes, or material price swings. A contingency provides a cushion to cover these costs without sacrificing scope or quality, protecting your profit and keeping the project financially viable if actual costs run higher than expected. It also fits how contracts manage changes later—adjustments can be handled through change orders rather than burying every risk in the base bid. Leaving no contingency risks overruns and possible loss, while basing the bid only on material costs ignores labor, equipment, overhead, and profit, which are essential for completing the work and sustaining the business.

2. Ms. Gomez applies for a job. Which of the following is the only lawful reason an employer may deny her employment?

A. She has poor references.

B. She lacks a work permit.

C. She is overqualified.

D. She has no work experience or Social Security number.

The main idea is employment eligibility. An employer may lawfully deny someone if the person cannot prove they are legally allowed to work in the United States. This is verified through documents for Form I-9, confirming both identity and work authorization. Other factors such as references, experience, or being overqualified relate to qualifications and aren't illegal reasons to deny on their own. A missing Social Security number isn't automatically disqualifying if the applicant can demonstrate work eligibility and provide the required payroll documentation once hired.

3. Which document attached to plans conveys details not shown in the drawings?

A. Change order.

B. Specification sheet.

C. Certificate of occupancy.

D. Project schedule.

Plans show the layout, dimensions, and relationships of elements, but they can't capture all the exact materials, finishes, installation methods, and workmanship criteria. Those details are provided in the specifications, often in a specification sheet or project manual, which accompanies the drawings to convey requirements that aren't drawn. The specs cover what materials to use, performance standards, and how things should be installed, so they guide the contractor beyond what the drawings alone communicate. A change order records adjustments to the contract or drawings after work has begun, not the embedded details of what to build. A certificate of occupancy is the official approval to occupy the space after completion, not a source of construction details. A project schedule outlines timing and sequencing, not technical construction requirements.

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4. A home improvement salesperson's (HIS) registration must be renewed every:

A. One year

B. Two years

C. Three years

D. Four years

Two years. A Home Improvement Salesperson is required to renew their registration on a biennial cycle, managed by the California Contractors State License Board. This two-year interval keeps the HIS records current, ensures they remain linked to a licensed contractor, and allows the board to update rules, fees, or requirements as needed. It also provides regular opportunities to verify compliance and protect consumers. Longer or shorter renewal intervals aren't used, so the standard period is every two years.

5. When you take an employee with you to City Hall to get a building permit, what should you bring besides your contractor's license pocket card and plan?

A. A driver's license

B. A safety training certificate

C. A list of subcontractors

D. Certificate of workers' compensation insurance

When you're taking an employee to City Hall to pull a permit, you need to show proof of workers' compensation insurance for your crew. In California, any employer with employees must carry workers' compensation coverage, and the permit office typically requires a current certificate as evidence that injuries on the job will be covered. This protects the worker and demonstrates compliance with state law as you proceed with the permit. The other items aren't typically required for permit issuance: a driver's license is just personal ID, a safety training certificate isn't a standard permit document, and a list of subcontractors isn't usually needed at the counter. The certificate of workers' compensation insurance is the essential document in this scenario.

6. Which financial concept is fixed and does not vary with production volume?

A. Overhead

B. Materials

C. Direct Labor

D. Commissions

Costs that stay the same regardless of how much you produce are fixed costs. Overhead is the group of costs that supports production but isn't tied to a specific unit of output. In the short term, many overhead items—rent, utilities, depreciation, insurance, and management salaries—do not change with production volume, so they remain fixed as output varies. Materials, direct labor, and commissions typically move with production or sales: you need more materials as you produce more, more labor hours are required for more units, and commissions usually scale with sales. So overhead is the concept that is fixed and does not vary with production volume.

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7. Which incident would NOT have to be reported to DOSH immediately or within 24 hours?

A. A minor first aid case with a small cut

B. A slip-and-fall resulting in a sprain

C. Car accident in which an employee steps onto a public road, gets hit by a car, and suffers a concussion

D. An exposure to heat with an illness

DOSH reporting focuses on incidents that are work-related and meet certain severity thresholds. If an injury happens off the job or outside the course of employment, it isn't typically reportable to DOSH within the 8- or 24-hour windows. In this scenario, the car accident on a public road where the employee is struck and suffers a concussion is usually considered not work-related unless the employee was performing job duties or traveling on behalf of the employer at the time. Because it's not clearly a workplace incident, it would not have to be reported to DOSH immediately or within 24 hours. The other options describe events that are more clearly connected to work or could meet the severity thresholds for reporting: a minor first-aid case doesn't reach reporting thresholds; a slip-and-fall resulting in a sprain could trigger reporting if it's work-related and meets severity criteria; heat exposure that leads to illness is a work-related condition that may require reporting if it qualifies as a reportable illness.

8. Which age-related fact is stated regarding driving as part of employment duties?

A. Drivers must be at least 25 for company vehicles

B. An 18-year-old can legally drive a vehicle as part of normal job duties

C. Only managers may drive company vehicles

D. There is no age restriction for driving on the job

Driving as part of a job depends on the legal driving age. Once someone is 18 and holds a valid license, they can legally drive a vehicle for normal job duties, so an 18-year-old can perform driving tasks on the job. This aligns with basic licensing rules that mark adulthood and full driving privileges as of 18, allowing them to operate company vehicles for work. The other statements aren't accurate: requiring a minimum of 25 is unnecessary, driving isn't restricted to managers, and there is indeed an age standard for lawful driving on the job. Keep in mind employers should verify licenses and maintain safe driving policies.

9. If a subcontractor serves the owner with a stop payment notice, the most likely reason would be to:

A. inform the owner that the subcontractor has not been paid by the prime, and the owner must set aside sufficient funds to pay the subcontractor's bill.

B. inform the owner that the subcontractor has released the lien.

C. advise the owner to terminate the prime contractor immediately.

D. notify the owner of a pending arbitration.

A stop payment notice is a tool used to protect a subcontractor's right to payment by forcing the owner to withhold funds from the project to cover the subcontractor's unpaid bill. When a subcontractor serves the owner for this reason, it's because they have not been paid by the prime contractor, and the owner must set aside enough funds to pay the subcontractor's claim. This ensures the subcontractor has a funded path to getting paid even if the general contractor hasn't paid them yet. It's not about releasing a lien, terminating the contract, or pursuing arbitration. Its purpose is specifically to create a hold on project funds so the subcontractor's claim can be satisfied.

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10. A person who serves as the qualifier for licensure may qualify for how many firms in a single year?

A. One

B. Two

C. Three

D. Four

The key idea is how many firms one qualified person can supervise in a given year. In California, the qualifier is the licensed individual responsible for the work of a firm and for meeting license requirements. A single qualifier may qualify up to three different firms in one year, allowing them to oversee multiple businesses without being overextended. If you need to qualify more than three firms, you'd need additional qualifiers or wait until the next year. This limit helps ensure each firm receives proper oversight and compliance.

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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://californiac27.examzify.com

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

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