LADOTD PCC PAVEMENT INSPECTION PRACTICE TEST (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. Where can the correct MATT Codes be found?

A. Field Book

B. Structural Concrete Tests Form

C. The MATT System Code Manual

D. 2059 Review

2. The profilograph produces a trace for what purpose?

A. determining the rideability of pavement, and locating individual surface deviations

B. measuring thickness

C. determining drainage

D. evaluating compaction

3. What condition causes immediate suspension of concrete operations?

A. Weather Delay

B. Inadequate Curing

C. Equipment Failure

D. Failure to provide sufficient cover material at the jobsite

4. The sampling plan is prepared by which combination?

A. The DOTD Inspector and the District Laboratory Engineer

B. The Project Engineer and the Contractor

C. The DOTD District Administrator and the Project Manager

D. The Materials Supervisor and Field Crew

5. Which role performs QC testing including measuring slump & air content, making cylinders, taking temperature of concrete, and adjusting water at the job site?

A. The DOTD Inspector

B. The Field Tester

C. Authorized Concrete Field Tester

D. Contractor QC Supervisor

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6. The forward speed of a paver should be...

A. As fast as possible

B. As slow as possible

C. As uniform as possible

D. Variable but smooth

7. Who should the DOTD Certified Inspector notify if discrepancies are found during the on-site inspection?

A. The Project Engineer

B. The District Laboratory Engineer

C. The DOTD District Administrator

D. The Contractor

8. Which joint must be used when paving operations are suspended at the end of the day?

A. Transverse Expansion Joint (Type EJ)

B. Transverse Construction Joint (type CJ)

C. Longitudinal Joint

D. Header Board

9. Which tool is used to produce a gritty surface texture and to even out minor surface irregularities in PCC concrete?

A. Carpet Drag

B. Finishing Trowel

C. Bull Float

D. Power Screed

10. Where are forms oiled using a form release agent?

A. The Inside Face And Top

B. The Outside Face

C. The Bottom

D. The Top Edge

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Where can the correct MATT Codes be found?

A. Field Book

B. Structural Concrete Tests Form

C. The MATT System Code Manual

D. 2059 Review

The main idea is that MATT codes are defined in a central reference document, making the MATT System Code Manual the authoritative source. This manual lists every code, explains what it stands for, and shows how to apply it correctly in reports and records. You'd consult it whenever you need to know the meaning of a code or ensure you're using it properly. The field book and Structural Concrete Tests Form are for recording data and test results, not for defining or explaining the codes themselves. A 2059 Review is a procedural or review document, not the code reference. So the MATT System Code Manual is the best place to find the correct MATT Codes.

2. The profilograph produces a trace for what purpose?

A. determining the rideability of pavement, and locating individual surface deviations

B. measuring thickness

C. determining drainage

D. evaluating compaction

The profilograph is used to capture a longitudinal trace of the pavement surface so you can judge rideability and pinpoint surface irregularities. As the profilograph travels along the pavement, a recording wheel or stylus moves vertically with the surface, producing a trace that shows every rise and dip. This trace reveals how rough the surface is and where there are localized deviations like bumps, patches, or damage, allowing engineers to assess ride quality and identify spots needing repair. It doesn't measure pavement thickness, drainage characteristics, or compaction. Those require other tests and instruments (such as core samples or thickness gauges for thickness, slope and drainage evaluations for drainage, and density tests for compaction).

3. What condition causes immediate suspension of concrete operations?

A. Weather Delay

B. Inadequate Curing

C. Equipment Failure

D. Failure to provide sufficient cover material at the jobsite

Fresh concrete needs protection right away to develop strength properly. This protection keeps moisture in and shields the surface from sun, wind, and temperature swings during the early curing period. If there isn't enough cover material on site to maintain that moisture and protection, you can't meet the curing requirements, so operations are halted immediately to prevent compromising the concrete's strength and durability. Once the proper cover material is available (or an approved curing method is put in place), work can resume. Weather delays and equipment failures can stop work for other reasons, and curing problems are addressed by ensuring the right materials or methods are used. Inadequate curing is a symptoms of not meeting curing requirements, but the immediate trigger in this scenario is the lack of sufficient cover material to properly cure the concrete.

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4. The sampling plan is prepared by which combination?

A. The DOTD Inspector and the District Laboratory Engineer

B. The Project Engineer and the Contractor

C. The DOTD District Administrator and the Project Manager

D. The Materials Supervisor and Field Crew

The person who prepares the sampling plan is a collaboration between the on-site DOTD inspector and the district laboratory engineer. The inspector brings knowledge of field conditions, project specifications, and how testing will affect construction quality, while the district lab engineer provides the technical know-how for test methods, sample handling, lab capacity, and how results will be interpreted. Together they decide where and when samples are taken, how many samples are needed, which tests to run, and what acceptance criteria apply, ensuring that the plan is practical in the field and fully compatible with lab procedures. Other roles are involved in execution or oversight, but the plan itself is shaped by the inspector and the district laboratory engineer.

5. Which role performs QC testing including measuring slump & air content, making cylinders, taking temperature of concrete, and adjusting water at the job site?

A. The DOTD Inspector

B. The Field Tester

C. Authorized Concrete Field Tester

D. Contractor QC Supervisor

The key idea is who is officially authorized to perform on-site QC testing for concrete and handle the testing workflow from fresh-mixture tests to specimen preparation. The role that is designated to carry out field QC testing—measuring slump and air content, making cylinders, taking the concrete temperature, and adjusting the water at the job site—is the Authorized Concrete Field Tester. This position is trained and certified to run these tests according to DOTD procedures and to document the results, ensuring the concrete mix meets specifications while it's still in the field. A DOTD inspector mainly observes and verifies compliance rather than performing routine field tests. A field tester could refer to someone who performs tests, but the "Authorized Concrete Field Tester" wording specifically indicates official authorization to conduct these tests on site. A contractor QC supervisor oversees quality control activities but is not necessarily the person who performs the actual testing and records the results for DOT compliance. So, the role that best fits all the listed tasks and the on-site testing authority is the Authorized Concrete Field Tester.

6. The forward speed of a paver should be...

A. As fast as possible

B. As slow as possible

C. As uniform as possible

D. Variable but smooth

The main idea is that a paver needs to move with a steady, unvarying pace to lay a consistent mat. When the forward speed is uniform, the material flows to the screed at a constant rate, which helps you achieve the same thickness and smoothness across the entire pave. If speed changes, the amount of material entering the screed changes too, leading to variations in mat thickness, surface texture, and potential seams or ridges. A steady pace also helps coordinate with the trucks delivering material and with the downstream rollers that finish and compact the surface. So, keeping the forward speed as uniform as possible produces the most uniform, high-quality pavement.

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7. Who should the DOTD Certified Inspector notify if discrepancies are found during the on-site inspection?

A. The Project Engineer

B. The District Laboratory Engineer

C. The DOTD District Administrator

D. The Contractor

When discrepancies show up on site, the inspector should report them to the person who oversees the project's contract administration and design intent on that site—the Project Engineer. This individual is responsible for interpreting the contract documents, reviewing field conditions, and deciding whether a field change, stop-work order, or adjustments to quantities are needed. They coordinate with the contractor and other stakeholders to ensure any deviation is properly documented and approved. The other options aren't the typical recipient for on-site discrepancies. The District Laboratory Engineer handles testing and QC issues, not general construction discrepancies. The DOTD District Administrator is a higher-level manager and not involved in day-to-day field decisions. The Contractor is the party performing the work and would not be the person to notify about discrepancies; issues are addressed through the Project Engineer to maintain proper contract administration and communication.

8. Which joint must be used when paving operations are suspended at the end of the day?

A. Transverse Expansion Joint (Type EJ)

B. Transverse Construction Joint (type CJ)

C. Longitudinal Joint

D. Header Board

When paving is paused for the day, a transverse construction joint is required. This joint cuts across the full width of the pavement, creating a clearly defined plane where the old mat ends and the next day's layer will begin. It allows the new paving to tie into the finished surface with proper bonding, typically aided by a tack coat on the existing surface before the next pour. The other options serve different purposes: an expansion joint accommodates temperature-related movement and is placed at specific locations, a longitudinal joint runs along the length of the pavement, and a header board is just an edge barrier for the day's stop and does not establish a bonding joint between days.

9. Which tool is used to produce a gritty surface texture and to even out minor surface irregularities in PCC concrete?

A. Carpet Drag

B. Finishing Trowel

C. Bull Float

D. Power Screed

Carpet drag is used during PCC pavement finishing to create a gritty surface texture and to smooth out minor surface irregularities while the concrete is still plastic. Dragging a carpet-covered tool across the surface grabs the paste, helps even out small ridges, and leaves a controlled, textured finish that improves traction. This step is done after initial leveling but before final troweling, when the surface can hold texture without being too soft or too firm. Other tools have different primary roles: a finishing trowel aims for a smooth surface, a bull float smooths and brings paste to the surface while leveling small flaws, and a power screed focuses on rapid leveling without adding texture.

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10. Where are forms oiled using a form release agent?

A. The Inside Face And Top

B. The Outside Face

C. The Bottom

D. The Top Edge

Release agents are applied to the surfaces that will touch the fresh concrete. The inside face of the form—the side that will be in contact with the concrete—and the top edge are coated so the concrete doesn't stick to the form and can be stripped cleanly, leaving a good surface finish. The outside face and the bottom aren't in contact with the concrete, so they don't need this coating, and applying it there wouldn't help and could cause staining or other issues.

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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://ladotdpccpavementinspec.examzify.com

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

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