WASHINGTON ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://washingtonarmynatguard.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 15

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. What is the expected action regarding a salute if you are in civilian attire and you encounter an officer?

A. Salute as usual.

B. Salute when you pass them.

C. Do not salute.

D. Salute only outdoors.

2. What insignia is authorized for wear on the IPFU?

A. The Physical Fitness Badge

B. The Unit Crest

C. The Combat Patch

D. The Name Tag

3. How does a Commander exercise command?

A. By issuing orders directly to every soldier.

B. By relying on the NCO support channel exclusively.

C. By personal supervision of every unit.

D. Through subordinate commanders.

4. What is the Time in Grade requirement for SSG?

A. 12 months TIG

B. 24 months TIG

C. 36 months TIG

D. 18 months TIG

5. What does ARP stand for?

A. Army Readiness Program

B. Army Reenlistment Policy

C. Army Risk Prevention

D. Army Retention Program

6. The NCO Guide is associated with which Army publication series prefix?

A. ADP

B. FM

C. TM

D. OPS

SAMPLE

7. What is the time in grade and time in service pin-on requirement for SSG?

A. 12 months TIG / NA

B. 30 months TIG / NA

C. 18 months TIG / NA

D. 24 months TIG / NA

8. Which color represents cultural features on standard maps?

A. Black

B. Red

C. Blue

D. Green

9. The M17 magazine holds how many rounds?

A. 17 rounds

B. 15 rounds

C. 20 rounds

D. 30 rounds

10. When should soldiers be recommended for promotion?

A. When they volunteer for promotion.

B. Immediately after they meet time in grade.

C. Only after they develop the skills and abilities necessary to perform the duties and responsibilities of the next higher grade.

D. After they complete basic training.

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is the expected action regarding a salute if you are in civilian attire and you encounter an officer?

A. Salute as usual.

B. Salute when you pass them.

C. Do not salute.

D. Salute only outdoors.

Saluting is a gesture tied to being in military uniform or on official duty. When you're in civilian clothes, you're not in uniform, so you do not render a salute to an officer. The appropriate action is to acknowledge the officer with a polite verbal greeting if needed, rather than a salute. This keeps civilian interactions aligned with military etiquette and avoids implying military status you don't hold.

2. What insignia is authorized for wear on the IPFU?

A. The Physical Fitness Badge

B. The Unit Crest

C. The Combat Patch

D. The Name Tag

When you're in the IPFU, the focus is on physical readiness, so the insignia you wear should reflect fitness achievement. The only insignia authorized for wear on the IPFU is the Physical Fitness Badge, placed on the left chest of the top. This badge directly represents meeting the Army's fitness standards and is designed specifically for PT gear. The other items are tied to different contexts and uniforms. A Unit Crest signals unit identity and is normally worn on dress or service uniforms. A Combat Patch marks combat service and is worn on the Army Combat Uniform, not PT gear. A Name Tag is associated with other uniforms and isn't approved for the IPFU. So the Physical Fitness Badge is the appropriate and approved insignia for this uniform.

3. How does a Commander exercise command?

A. By issuing orders directly to every soldier.

B. By relying on the NCO support channel exclusively.

C. By personal supervision of every unit.

D. Through subordinate commanders.

Command is exercised through subordinate commanders who receive the mission, interpret the commander's intent, and lead their units to accomplish the task. The top leader sets the overall direction, priorities, and limits, then delegates authority down the chain so decisions can be made close to the action. This approach keeps unity of command, enables rapid, adaptive action, and uses the strengths of the staff and NCOs to synchronize effort across all units. Directly issuing orders to every soldier would overwhelm the chain of command and stifle initiative, while relying exclusively on the NCO channel or personally supervising every unit is impractical at any meaningful scale.

SAMPLE

4. What is the Time in Grade requirement for SSG?

A. 12 months TIG

B. 24 months TIG

C. 36 months TIG

D. 18 months TIG

Time in Grade is the minimum time you must have served in your current rank before you're eligible for promotion. For a Staff Sergeant, you must have 18 months TIG as a Sergeant before you can be considered for promotion to E-6. This period ensures you've had enough time to develop squad leadership skills and prove reliability at the NCO level. A shorter period like 12 months wouldn't meet the standard, while longer periods such as 24 or 36 months would unnecessarily delay advancement. Remember, other criteria like Time in Service and board requirements also apply.

5. What does ARP stand for?

A. Army Readiness Program

B. Army Reenlistment Policy

C. Army Risk Prevention

D. Army Retention Program

ARP is about retaining personnel in the Army. It stands for Army Retention Program, a set of efforts and initiatives aimed at encouraging soldiers to stay in service, including reenlistment incentives, career development opportunities, and assignments aligned with manpower needs. This focus on keeping trained soldiers in uniform makes it the correct expansion, because the term in Army contexts is specifically used to refer to retention efforts rather than readiness activities, policy rules about reenlistment, or risk prevention programs. In practice, ARP is referenced when discussing how the Army or National Guard plans to maintain its force strength and support soldiers in continuing their service.

6. The NCO Guide is associated with which Army publication series prefix?

A. ADP

B. FM

C. TM

D. OPS

The NCO Guide is a practical, leadership-focused reference used by NCOs in day-to-day duties. In Army publication types, Field Manuals cover procedures, drills, and standard practices used in the field and in training. This makes the NCO Guide a field-level manual rather than a higher-level doctrine publication or a technical manual for equipment. It isn't an ADP/ADRP doctrinal work, and it isn't a technical manual for gear. So, the appropriate prefix is Field Manual.

SAMPLE

7. What is the time in grade and time in service pin-on requirement for SSG?

A. 12 months TIG / NA

B. 30 months TIG / NA

C. 18 months TIG / NA

D. 24 months TIG / NA

Time in grade is the factor that determines when you can pin to Staff Sergeant. For the Staff Sergeant rank, you must have spent enough time in your current grade to prove you're ready for the added responsibilities; the time in service requirement isn't needed for this pin-on in the National Guard context, so it's listed as not applicable. The minimum is 18 months of time in grade, meaning you've served as a Sergeant for at least 18 months before pinning on to Staff Sergeant. That's why the correct option shows 18 months TIG and NA for time in service. Options with 12, 24, or 30 months TIG don't match the established requirement here, which is why they're not the correct choice. The 18-month TIG ensures sufficient experience at the E-5 level before advancing.

8. Which color represents cultural features on standard maps?

A. Black

B. Red

C. Blue

D. Green

Cultural features, meaning human-made elements like roads, buildings, and boundaries, are drawn in black on standard maps. This color choice provides strong contrast against other colors used for natural features—blue for water, green for vegetation, and brown for contours—so these man-made features stand out clearly and labels remain readable. While water and vegetation have their own conventional colors, and some map series use red for certain features, black is the typical color used to represent cultural features across standard reference maps.

9. The M17 magazine holds how many rounds?

A. 17 rounds

B. 15 rounds

C. 20 rounds

D. 30 rounds

The standard capacity of the M17 magazine is 17 rounds. The M17 uses a 17-round detachable box magazine as its normal configured magazine for 9mm ammunition, which is the typical service-capacity setup. While some contexts may use smaller magazines or other platforms may offer higher-capacity options, for the M17 the standard magazine holds 17 rounds.

SAMPLE

10. When should soldiers be recommended for promotion?

A. When they volunteer for promotion.

B. Immediately after they meet time in grade.

C. Only after they develop the skills and abilities necessary to perform the duties and responsibilities of the next higher grade.

D. After they complete basic training.

Promotion should happen when a soldier has demonstrated the skills and abilities required to perform the duties and responsibilities of the next higher grade. This ensures they can lead, manage, and handle the increased responsibilities that come with higher rank. Merely volunteering, or relying on time-in-grade alone, or completing basic training does not guarantee readiness for the next level; promotions are earned through demonstrated capability, performance, and potential to meet the standards of the higher rank.

SAMPLE

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://washingtonarmynatguard.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE