



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



FIRE PROTECTION (C-16)

Content of the Examination

The Fire Protection (C-16) Examination is divided into five major sections:

1. Planning and Estimating (25%)

- Planning fire protection projects
- Estimating fire protection projects

2. Installation of Underground Fire Main Systems (9%)

- Trenching and shoring excavations
- Installing pipes and thrust blocks
- Installing fire hydrants and fire department connections (FDC)

3. Installation of Fire Protection Systems (36%)

- Installing fire sprinkler systems
- Installing preaction and deluge systems
- Installing storage tanks and fire pumps
- Installing fire suppression systems

4. Maintenance and Repair of Fire Protection Systems (9%)

- Inspecting and troubleshooting fire protection equipment
- Repairing fire protection equipment
- Maintaining fire protection equipment

5. Safety (21%)

- Personnel safety
- Job site safety
- Underground work

Percentages are approximate

Test Site Policy

This is a closed-book examination. No reference materials may be used during the examination. All materials brought to the examination site must be left in an unmonitored area at your own risk.

Test Strategy

This is a multiple-choice examination with four choices per question. Examination questions are written to provide only one BEST answer. Some questions require mathematical computation. A calculator will be provided.

There is no penalty for guessing. If you are unsure about a particular question, it is better to try to answer the question than to leave the question blank.

Plenty of time is provided to answer all examination questions, so be sure to read each question and its four choices completely and carefully before selecting the BEST possible answer to the question.

Sample Questions

Below are three typical examination questions. The correct answer is marked with an asterisk (*).

1. What events are required to activate a preaction double interlock electric pneumatic system?
 - a. Operation of a water flow device and a drop in air pressure
 - b. Operation of a control valve and a sprinkler head
 - c. Operation of a fire pull station and a control valve
 - d. Operation of a detection device and a sprinkler head *

2. What type of sprinklers must be used in clean rooms?
 - a. Dry pendent
 - b. High temperature
 - c. Quick response *
 - d. Standard response

3. In a 5,400 sq. ft. building with light hazard design, what would be the total cost for upright sprinklers if they are \$6.35 each?
 - a. \$146.05
 - b. \$152.40 *
 - c. \$260.35
 - d. \$342.90

All questions are written and reviewed by licensed contractors who are actively working in the trade

Resources

Publisher information for reference books and code is provided below. Other sources for reference books may be found online.

California code books can be viewed online:
www.dgs.ca.gov/bsc

2025 California Building Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.

PHONE: (800) 786-4452

INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

2025 California Fire Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.

PHONE: (800) 786-4452

INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

NFPA 13 (2025), NFPA 13D (2025),

NFPA 13R (2025), NFPA 14 (2024),

NFPA 17 (2024), NFPA 17A (2024),

NFPA 20 (2025), NFPA 24 (2025),

NFPA 25 (2026 California Edition).

National Fire Protection Association.

PHONE: (800) 344-3555

INTERNET: www.nfpa.org

State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2025.

California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.

PHONE: (877) 626-2666

INTERNET: www.mancomm.com

VIEW ONLINE:

www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm

Publisher information is current as of 3/26