Content of the Examination

The Swimming Pool (C-53) Examination is divided into eight major sections:

1. Planning and Estimation (28%)
   - Planning
   - Estimating

2. Swimming Pool/Spa Shell Construction (31%)
   - Permitting
   - Rough plumbing and electrical
   - Site preparation and excavation
   - Steel placement and bonding
   - Gunite/shotcrete placement and curing

3. Pool/Spa Systems Installation (10%)
   - Plumbing
   - Electrical
   - Equipment installation
   - Solar thermal/photovoltaic

4. Non-Concrete Pools/Spas and Extra Pool/Spa Features (3%)
   - Fiberglass, vinyl, metal
   - Pool covers
   - Water features
   - Pool/spa accessories

5. Pool/Spa Shell Finishing (8%)
   - Interior finish and startup
   - Tile and coping
   - Decking

6. Commercial Swimming Pools/Spas (3%)
   - Title 22 and other code requirements
   - Disabled access features

7. Pool/Spa Repair, Renovation, Removal, and Maintenance (7%)
   - Water loss and discoloration
   - Structural modifications
   - Equipment and systems

8. Safety (10%)
   - Swimming pool/spa safety
   - Job site safety

*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 underlined.

1. When establishing the elevation of a swimming pool bond beam on a residential pool, which of the following must be considered?
   a. Bond beam width and coping thickness
   b. Bond beam width and pool depth
   c. Deck drainage and coping thickness
   d. Deck drainage and pool depth

2. What is the flow rate in gallons per minute for a 14,400 gallon pool to turn over in six hours?
   a. 40 gpm
   b. 80 gpm
   c. 144 gpm
   d. 240 gpm

3. Which of the following pipes is approved for underground gas lines?
   a. Schedule 40 CPVC pipe
   b. Polyethylene pipe
   c. Black iron pipe
   d. Galvanized pipe

*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.bsc.ca.gov

PHONE: (800) 786-4452
INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

PHONE: (888) 264-2665
INTERNET: www.bni-books.com

PHONE: (800) 854-2766
INTERNET: www.iapmo.org

PHONE: (703) 838-0083
INTERNET: www.apsp.org

PHONE: (703) 838-0083
INTERNET: www.apsp.org

Shotcrete for the Craftsman. American Concrete Institute.
PHONE: (248) 848-3700
INTERNET: www.concrete.org

PHONE: (877) 626-2666
INTERNET: www.mancomm.com
VIEW ONLINE: www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm

PHONE: (909) 472-4208
INTERNET: www.iapmomembership.org

*Publisher information is current as of 9/17*