



## CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



### LANDSCAPING (C-27)

#### Content of the Examination

The Landscaping (C-27) Examination is divided into six major sections:

##### 1. Planning and Estimating (26%)

- Project planning
- Botanical names of plants
- Project estimating

##### 2. Construction Preparation (14%)

- Pre-construction site planning
- Pre-construction site demolition and preparation
- Trenching and grading

##### 3. Hardscape Installation (16%)

- Flatwork
- Masonry
- Structures
- Water features

##### 4. Drainage, Irrigation, Lighting, and Plant Installation (24%)

- Drainage
- Irrigation
- Lighting
- Plant installation

##### 5. Maintenance and Repair (10%)

- Landscape maintenance
- Landscape repair

##### 6. Safety (10%)

- Employee 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. If the maximum flow for a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " valve is 10 gpm on a level area, what is the MAXIMUM flow if there is a 25' elevation drop in the same system?
  - a. 16 gpm
  - b. 14 gpm
  - c. 12 gpm
  - d. 10 gpm

2. If a plant requires good drainage, what type of backfill material should be used?
- Shale
  - Loam
  - Clay
  - Silt
3. What is the MAXIMUM distance between joints in a concrete patio?
- 8'
  - 10'
  - 12'
  - 14'

*\*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](http://www.dgs.ca.gov/bsc)

**2019 California Building Code.** California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.  
PHONE: (800) 786-4452  
INTERNET: [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)

**2019 California Electrical Code.** California Code of Regulations, Title 24. BNI Publications, Inc.  
PHONE: (888) 264-2665  
INTERNET: [www.bnibooks.com](http://www.bnibooks.com)

**2019 California Plumbing Code.** California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).  
PHONE: (909) 472-4100  
INTERNET: [www.iapmo.org](http://www.iapmo.org)

**Abiotic Disorders of Landscape Plants.** L. Costello. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources.  
PHONE: (800) 994-8849  
INTERNET: [www.ucanr.edu](http://www.ucanr.edu)

**Construction Best Management Practices Handbook.** California Stormwater Quality Association.  
PHONE: (650) 366-1042  
INTERNET: [www.casqa.org](http://www.casqa.org)

**The Contractor's Guide to Quality Concrete Construction.** American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) and American Concrete Institute (ACI).

PHONE: (314) 962-0210 (ASCC)  
(248) 848-3700 (ACI)  
INTERNET: [www.asconline.org](http://www.asconline.org)  
[www.concrete.org](http://www.concrete.org)

**Landscape Construction.** David Sauter. Cengage Learning.  
PHONE: (800) 354-9706  
INTERNET: [www.cengage.com](http://www.cengage.com)

**The Landscape Lighting Book.** Janet Lennox Moyer. Wiley.  
PHONE: (877) 762-2974  
INTERNET: [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

**Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.** California Department of Water Resources.  
PHONE: (916) 651-9676  
INTERNET:  
[water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency](http://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency)

**The New Sunset Western Garden Book.** Sunset Publishing.  
PHONE: (510) 858-3400  
INTERNET: [www.sunset.com](http://www.sunset.com)

**Simplified Irrigation Design.** Pete Melby. Wiley.  
PHONE: (877) 762-2974  
INTERNET: [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

**State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2019.** California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.  
PHONE: (877) 626-2666  
INTERNET: [www.mancomm.com](http://www.mancomm.com)  
VIEW ONLINE:  
[www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm)

**Trouble Shooting Irrigation Control Systems.** Bill Derryberry.  
PHONE: (480) 423-0542  
EMAIL: [billderryberry@cox.net](mailto:billderryberry@cox.net)

*\*Publisher information is current as of 10/19\**