



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE REMOVAL

Content of the Examination

The Hazardous Substance Removal Examination is divided into four major sections:

1. Planning and Estimating (21%)

- Planning hazardous substance projects
- Estimating hazardous substance projects
- Regulatory agencies and their requirements

2. Hazardous Substance Management (37%)

- Identifying hazardous substances
- Securing and controlling site access
- Selecting appropriate tools and equipment
- Removing hazardous substances
- Containing hazardous material migration
- Installing and operating remediation systems
- Determining proper waste disposal
- Preparing and disposing of waste

3. Storage Tanks (21%)

- Installing and upgrading storage tanks
- Excavating for underground storage tanks
- Removing and disposing of storage tanks
- Closing/abandoning storage tanks

4. Safety (21%)

- Job site safety
- Personnel safety
- Excavation and trenching
- Permissible exposure limits
- Selecting and using personnel protective equipment

Percentages are approximate

Test Policy

This is a closed-book examination. No reference materials may be used during the examination.

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. When using a crane to lift a 12,000-gallon tank out of the excavation, what is the preferable position of the rigging lines attached to the tank's lifting eyes?
 - a. One lifting line should be horizontal.
 - b. The lifting lines should be as far apart as possible.
 - c. The lifting lines should be as horizontal as possible.
 - d. The lifting lines should be as vertical as possible.*
2. To read and properly interpret laboratory analysis reports as they apply to hazardous sites, a contractor should have which of the following?
 - a. The phone number of a contact at the lead agency
 - b. Basic knowledge of math
 - c. A contact at Cal/OSHA
 - d. Basic knowledge of chemistry and the measurements used*
3. How much material will it take to fill up three round holes drilled into the ground 25 feet deep and 2 feet in diameter?
 - a. 235.5 cubic feet*
 - b. 180.5 cubic feet
 - c. 150.2 cubic feet
 - d. 100.7 cubic feet

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

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 29, Pt. 1900 to 1910 and 1926 (especially 1910.120 and 1926.65 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response).

PHONE: (886) 512-1800

INTERNET: bookstore.gpo.gov

VIEW ONLINE: www.osha.gov/law-regs.html

Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Guidance Manual. 2012 (revised 2015). State Water Resources Control Board.

PHONE: (916) 341-5254

INTERNET:

www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/luft_manual.shtml

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Orientation Manual. 2014. U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency.

INTERNET:

www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/resource-conservation-and-recovery-act-rcra-orientation-manual

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

Underground Service Alert Guidelines.

California Government Code 4216 and California Business & Professions Code 7110.

PHONE: (800) 642-2444 or 811

INTERNET: usanorth811.org OR www.digalert.org

Underground Storage Tank Regulations, Title 23, California Code of Regulations Chapter 16.

State Water Resources Control Board.

PHONE: (916) 341-5254

INTERNET: www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/regulatory/docs/ccr_title23div3chapt16.pdf

Publisher information is current as of 3/26