



## CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



### SANITATION SYSTEM (C-42)

#### Content of the Examination

The Sanitation System (C-42) Examination is divided into five major sections:

- 1. Planning and Estimating (27%)**
  - Planning sanitation systems
  - Estimating sanitation systems
- 2. New Septic System Installation (26%)**
  - Installing septic tanks
  - Installing leachlines and seepage pits
  - Testing and grading over septic systems
  - Installing alternative treatment systems
  - Specialty sanitation systems
- 3. Sewer Lateral Installation and Repair (10%)**
  - Installing sewer laterals
  - Maintaining and repairing existing sewer systems
- 4. Septic System Maintenance and Repair (10%)**
  - Troubleshooting existing septic systems
  - Removing or repairing existing septic systems
  - Maintaining existing septic systems
- 5. Safety (27%)**
  - Employee training and safety
  - Job site safety

*\*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. Which public agency issues permits for vacuum trucks?
  - a. The California Department of Transportation
  - b. The Department of Building and Safety
  - c. The Regional Water Quality Control Board
  - d. The Department of Public Health\*
2. How many 4" x 4" blocks are needed to line a 20' seepage pit using 14 blocks per row?
  - a. 4,480 blocks
  - b. 1,040 blocks
  - c. 840 blocks\*
  - d. 320 blocks
3. How does clay soil affect the surface area of seepage pits?
  - a. The size of the pits will need to be smaller.
  - b. Imported soil might be used to install the pits.
  - c. The pits might need to be connected in series.
  - d. Deeper or more pits might need to be installed.\*

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

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## 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)

**2025 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)

**A Builder's Guide to Wells and Septic Systems.** McGraw-Hill Professional.  
PHONE: (877) 833-5524  
INTERNET: [www.mhprofessional.com](http://www.mhprofessional.com)

**Pipe & Excavation Contracting.** Craftsman Book Company.  
PHONE: (800) 829-8123  
INTERNET: <https://craftsman-book.com>

**Residential Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems: An Operation and Maintenance Service Provider Program.** Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment.  
INTERNET: [www.mwps.iastate.edu/catalog/water-septic-systems/residential-onsite-wastewater-treatment-systems](http://www.mwps.iastate.edu/catalog/water-septic-systems/residential-onsite-wastewater-treatment-systems)

**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](http://www.mancomm.com)  
VIEW ONLINE:  
[www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm)

*\*Publisher information is current as of 3/26\**