



## CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



### WELL DRILLING (C-57)

#### Content of the Examination

The Well Drilling (C-57) Examination is divided into seven major sections:

#### 1. Planning and Estimating (18%)

- Site evaluation
- Equipment and material selection
- Cost calculation

#### 2. Water Well Drilling and Well Development (24%)

- Water well setup
- Water well drilling
- Water well construction
- Water well monitoring

#### 3. Geotechnical Borings and Environmental Wells (7%)

- Geotechnical borings
- Environmental wells

#### 4. Water Distribution System Installations (12%)

- Pump systems
- Distribution systems

#### 5. Water Distribution System Repairs (7%)

- Pump system repair
- Delivery system repair

#### 6. Water Well Rehabilitation and Destruction (11%)

- Water well rehabilitation
- Water well destruction

#### 7. Safety (21%)

- Employee safety
- Job site and equipment safety
- Hazardous materials

*\*Percentages are approximate\**

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#### Test Site Policy

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

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#### 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. The contractor is installing a pitless adapter and a well lid that are estimated at \$400 to buy and install. The contractor had estimated a 50% markup, but the job costs \$650. What is the difference between the costs and the bid price for this project?
  - a. \$50 profit
  - b. \$150 profit
  - c. Loss of \$50\*
  - d. Loss of \$250
2. What method should be used to install electrical and telephone conduit in the same trench?
  - a. Electrical over telephone conduit with a concrete barrier and 4" between them
  - b. Electrical over telephone conduit with a separation of at least 12" in between
  - c. Telephone over electrical conduit secured together every 12"
  - d. Telephone over electrical conduit with a separation of at least 12" in between\*
3. When replacing pavement over a trench, what is meant by "overcutting"?
  - a. All wide spots and bell holes are cut square before paving.
  - b. Paving is reinstalled one inch thicker than what was removed.
  - c. The trench is base-paved and capped later.
  - d. The paving is cut outside the ditch line by a few inches.\*

*\*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)

**AIM Manual, 60 Hz Submersible Motors. 2015.**

Franklin Electric.

PHONE: (800) 348-2420

INTERNET: [www.franklinwater.com](http://www.franklinwater.com)

**Bulletin 74-81: Water Well Standards and Bulletin 74-90: California Well Standards.**

California Department of Water Resources.

PHONE: (916) 653-5791

INTERNET: [water.ca.gov](http://water.ca.gov)

**California Commercial Driver Handbook. 2019-2021.** California Department of Motor Vehicles.

PHONE: (800) 777-0133

INTERNET: [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov)

**The Drilling Manual.** Australian Drilling Industry Training Committee Limited.

ISBN: 978-1439814208

INTERNET: [adia.com.au](http://adia.com.au)

**Groundwater and Wells.** Robert J. Sterrett. Johnson Screens.

ISBN: 978-0978779306

INTERNET: [adia.com.au](http://adia.com.au)

**State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2026.**

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 03/26\**