

# NCARB PDD Questions PDF File

## NCARB PDD – Questions With Complete Solutions

The role of a specifier? Right Ans - 1. determine the responsibility for structural specs with structure engineer;  
 2. coordinating standardized keynotes lists to be used on all drawings with the architect;  
 3. obtain a preferred general condition document from the client through the architect;  
 4. recommending everyone to use BIM;

What are included in the preliminary studies? Right Ans - 1. allowable height;  
 2. allowable area and occupant allowance;  
 3. fire rating requirements;

Percolation rate is used to determine what? Right Ans - To determine whether porous pavement should be used.

Forest Steward Council (FSC) Right Ans - Harvesting tree without violating people's right.

Under what condition can you put storage under stair? Right Ans - If it's protected with a minimum of 1-hour rated construction.

Where should the fire extinguisher cabinet (FEC) located? Right Ans - 48" - 60" AFF, no more than 4" extrusion.

Tear-out, Pull-through Right Ans - Tear-out: shear failure in a bolted connection due to tension at hole;  
 Pull-through: a compression failure where bolts pull through the holes.

ANSI, ASTM Right Ans - ANSI: American National Standard Institute;  
 ASTM: American Society for Testing Material, it's used for testing materials.

Composition of cement Right Ans - Limestone, clay, iron ore, gypsum

Subsystem estimate is used in which phases of design? Right Ans - SD and DD. Subsystem estimates deal with a project's functional units and it enables

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## NCARB PDD Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codes &amp; Regulations: This section of the exam measures skills of Building Code Specialists and examines how codes and regulations apply at a detailed level during documentation. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of compliance with the International Building Code (IBC) as well as other specialty regulations, as well as how to interpret and apply these standards to ensure design and documentation meet legal and safety requirements.</li> </ul>

Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Project Manual &amp; Specifications:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Specifications Writers and emphasizes the importance of developing documentation that goes beyond drawings. Candidates must understand how to identify and prioritize elements needed to prepare, maintain, and refine both the project manual and project specifications. It also assesses the ability to align and coordinate these specifications with the construction documents to ensure consistency and accuracy.</li> </ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Construction Documentation:</b> This section of the exam measures skills of Project Architects and addresses the creation and management of project documentation. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of documenting building design and site features, preparing detailed architectural drawings, and applying industry standards to produce a coordinated set of construction documents. The section also includes understanding how project changes impact documentation and how to communicate these updates effectively to both the design team and the client.</li> </ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Integration of Building Materials &amp; Systems:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Architectural Designers and focuses on the ability to resolve and integrate various building systems into cohesive project goals. It covers analyzing architectural systems and technologies, determining the size of structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, and incorporating specialty systems such as acoustics, lighting, security, and communications. It also evaluates the ability to detail how multiple building systems work together and to coordinate across disciplines to achieve a unified design.</li> </ul>
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Construction Cost:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Construction Managers and focuses on the financial side of project execution. It evaluates the ability to analyze construction cost estimates to confirm that they align with project design intent and budgetary constraints. Although this is the smallest section, it is critical for ensuring projects remain feasible and economically viable.</li> </ul>

>> PDD Sample Questions Answers <<

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## NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation Exam Sample Questions (Q52-Q57):

### NEW QUESTION # 52

Which code dictates the number of required exits for a 300-person assembly space?

- A. ADA
- B. International Mechanical Code
- C. International Building Code
- D. NFPA 70

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

IBC governs occupancy classification, occupant loads, and required means of egress. A 300-person taproom triggers egress path requirements under IBC Chapter 10. Objective 1.3 addresses code compliance.

### NEW QUESTION # 53

The client requests to limit daylighting in a second-story bedroom located in the northeast corner of a new house, especially in the mornings. The architect is considering options for the windows in terms of quantity, size, type, and location, and notes that emergency escape and rescue openings must provide a minimum clear opening of 5.7 square feet.



- \* 480 V = Voltage between any two phase conductors (line-to-line)
  - \* 277 V = Voltage between any one phase conductor and neutral (line-to-neutral) Fluorescent Lighting Voltage Requirements
  - \* Standard commercial fluorescent lighting systems are typically designed for 277 V operation in the U.S. (in buildings with a 480Y/277V system).
  - \* To achieve 277 V, you connect one phase conductor (A, B, or C) to Neutral (N).
  - \* This is a single-phase line-to-neutral connection.
- Which Conductors to Use?
- \* In the given options, the correct pair must give 277 V.
  - \* C, N # 277 V line-to-neutral # Correct for fluorescent lighting.
  - \* Other options produce different results:
  - \* A, B = 480 V (line-to-line) - too high for fluorescent ballasts.
  - \* C, A, B = all three phases - used for three-phase loads, not lighting.
  - \* C, A, N - would give two circuits, but includes extra phase unnecessarily for single-phase lighting.
- NCARB ARE 5.0 PDD Study Guide References:
- \* Content Area: Electrical Systems - Power Distribution and Circuiting for Lighting
  - \* Source References:
  - \* Electrical Systems for Architects - Fluorescent lighting voltage selection
  - \* MEEB (Mechanical and Electrical Equipment for Buildings) - Chapter on Electrical Service and Lighting Systems
  - \* NEC (National Electrical Code) - Voltage to ground for wye-connected systems Key Point:
- For a 480Y/277V wye system, fluorescent lighting should be connected from any phase to neutral for 277 V operation.

### NEW QUESTION # 56

In the design of a barrier-free access route, door locksets should be equipped with which one of the following?

- A. Lever handles
- B. Panic devices
- C. Knurled knobs
- D. Grip handles with thumbpieces

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

For barrier-free (ADA) accessible routes, operable parts such as door hardware must be usable with one hand and not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist (2010 ADA Standards §404.2.7). Lever handles meet this requirement because they can be operated by users with limited grip strength or dexterity.

A). Grip handles with thumbpieces - Often require pinching or twisting; not compliant for barrier-free.

B). Knurled knobs - Non-compliant because they require twisting and strong grip; also typically used for hazardous rooms as a tactile warning.

D). Panic devices - Allowed in certain egress conditions but not the universal ADA hardware requirement for standard accessible doors.

PDD Reference: ARE 5.0 Handbook, PDD "Codes and Regulations-Accessibility," 2010 ADA Standards §404.2.7, ICC A117.1 Accessibility Standard.

### NEW QUESTION # 57

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