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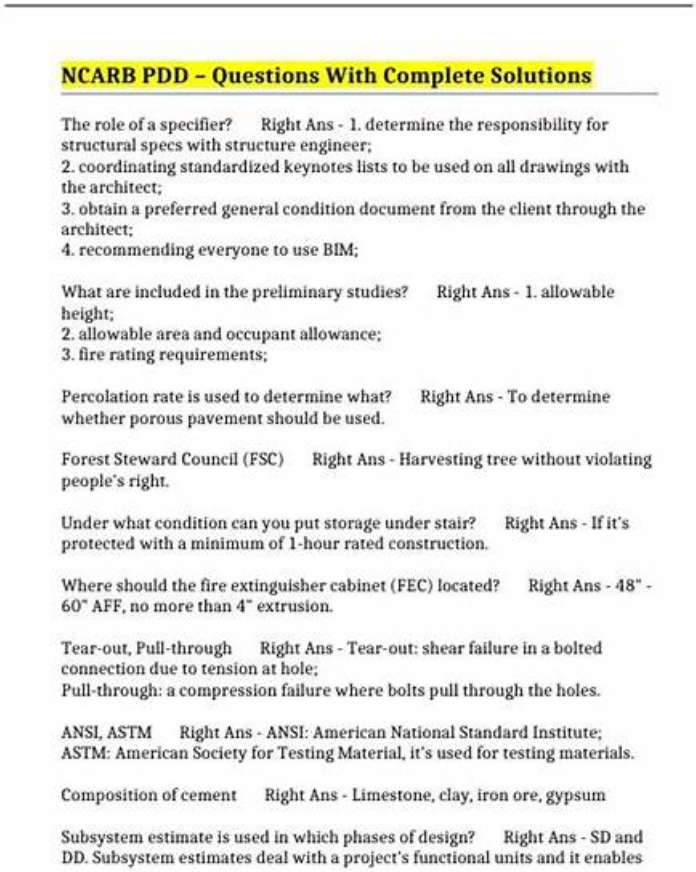

NCARB PDD – Questions With Complete Solutions

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	• Codes & 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.

Topic 2	• Project Manual & Specifications: 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.
Topic 3	• Integration of Building Materials & Systems: 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.
Topic 4	• Construction Cost: 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.
Topic 5	• Construction Documentation: 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.:

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NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation Exam Sample Questions (Q66-Q71):

NEW QUESTION # 66
An architect has a contract with a local school district to redesign a school reception office to ensure a more efficient interaction between office staff, students, and parents. The following instructions are given to the architect:
* The renovation scope is limited to the footprint only of the existing reception office.
* Additional staff is not proposed for the renovated area.
* The existing ceiling and associated fixtures will be protected from damage during construction.
* The construction of the renovation must occur during the 10-week summer break.
Which of the following series drawings should be included in the documents set?

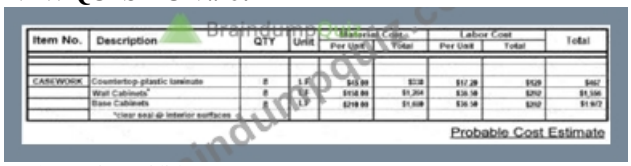
- A. Electrical
- B. Structural
- C. Mechanical
- D. Plumbing

Answer: A

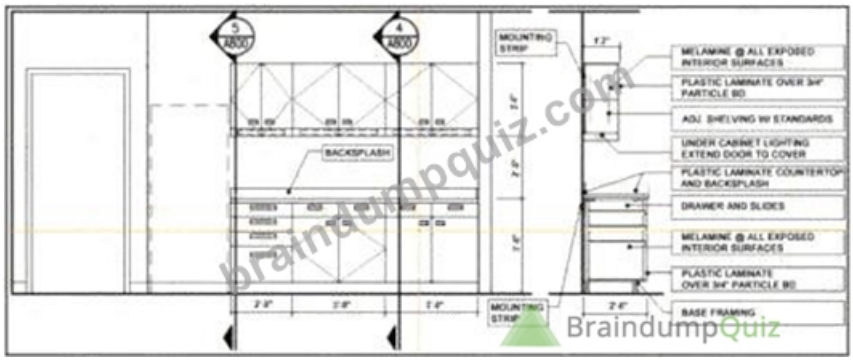
Explanation:
The scope involves interior renovation of an existing school reception office, limited to the footprint and protecting existing ceiling and

fixtures. Additional staff is not proposed, and construction is during a defined
10-week summer break.
Plumbing is unlikely to require new or modified systems unless specified; not mentioned here.
Structural changes are not indicated since footprint remains same and no structural modifications are noted.
Mechanical changes would typically be required if HVAC or ventilation systems are altered, but the ceiling and fixtures (likely including diffusers) must be protected and are presumably left unchanged.
Electrical modifications are common in interior renovations to accommodate lighting, power outlets, communication systems, and potentially security or reception technology updates.
Thus, electrical drawings should be included to cover these updates.
Reference:
NCARB ARE 5.0 Review Manual, Project Development and Documentation, Construction Documents chapter Typical interior renovation scopes often require electrical updates to accommodate new equipment and code compliance.

NEW QUESTION # 67

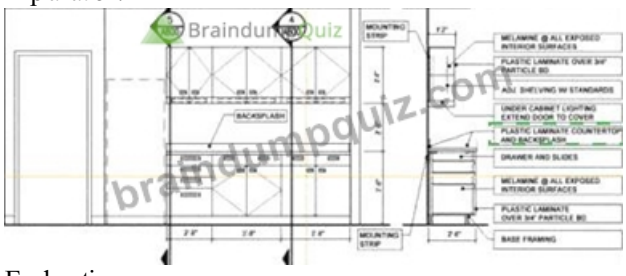


Refer to the exhibit.
Construction document drawings are in the final review stages. The architect needs to coordinate the casework detail with the probable cost estimate.
Click on the drawing note in the casework section that does not align with the cost estimate.



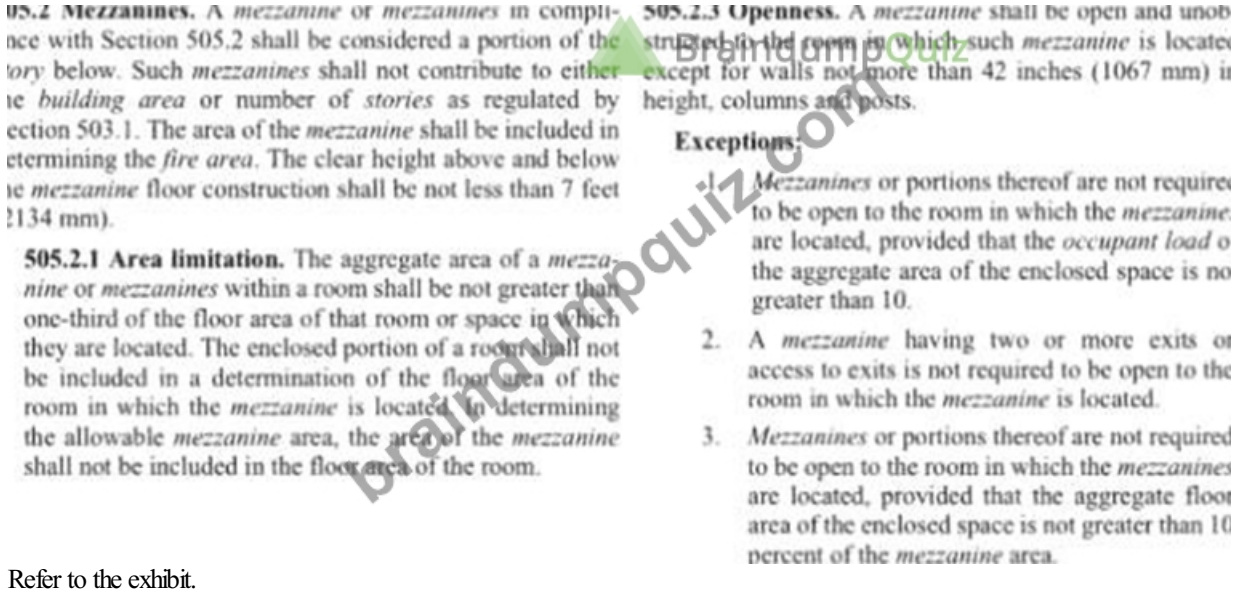
Answer:

Explanation:



Explanation:
In the casework section drawing provided, the detail that likely does not align with the cost estimate is the note:
"PLASTIC LAMINATE COUNTERTOP AND BACKSPLASH"
This is often a higher-cost item compared to alternatives like post-formed countertops, solid surface over MDF, or budget composite finishes. If the project is under cost pressure, specifying both a plastic laminate countertop and a separate laminate backsplash can increase material and labor costs due to custom fabrication and edge treatments.

NEW QUESTION # 68



505.2 Mezzanines. A *mezzanine* or *mezzanines* in compliance with Section 505.2 shall be considered a portion of the *story* below. Such *mezzanines* shall not contribute to either the *building area* or number of *stories* as regulated by Section 503.1. The area of the *mezzanine* shall be included in determining the *fire area*. The clear height above and below the *mezzanine* floor construction shall be not less than 7 feet (2134 mm).

505.2.1 Area limitation. The aggregate area of a *mezzanine* or *mezzanines* within a room shall be not greater than one-third of the floor area of that room or space in which they are located. The enclosed portion of a room shall not be included in a determination of the floor area of the room in which the *mezzanine* is located. In determining the allowable *mezzanine* area, the area of the *mezzanine* shall not be included in the floor area of the room.

505.2.3 Openness. A *mezzanine* shall be open and unobstructed to the room in which such *mezzanine* is located except for walls not more than 42 inches (1067 mm) in height, columns and posts.

Exceptions:

1. *Mezzanines* or portions thereof are not required to be open to the room in which the *mezzanine* are located, provided that the *occupant load* of the aggregate area of the enclosed space is not greater than 10.
2. A *mezzanine* having two or more exits or access to exits is not required to be open to the room in which the *mezzanine* is located.
3. *Mezzanines* or portions thereof are not required to be open to the room in which the *mezzanines* are located, provided that the aggregate floor area of the enclosed space is not greater than 10 percent of the *mezzanine* area.

Refer to the exhibit.
An architect is working on an airport lounge project. The 9,000 SF floor plan includes an open, double-height space. Due to area limitations, all program requirements cannot fit within the 9,000 SF floor plan. A mezzanine level with one exit is being proposed to solve this programming constraint. There are adequate exits available on the main floor plan to pick up the additional occupant load from the mezzanine.
Which method of mezzanine construction should the architect design?

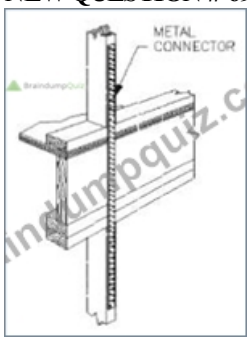
- A. 3,250 SF open dining area for 30 people
- B. 2,750 SF enclosed business center for 15 people
- C. 2,500 SF open lounge area for 20 people

Answer: B

Explanation:
Step-by-Step Reasoning
1. Mezzanine Area Limitations - IBC Section 505.2.1
From the exhibit:
The aggregate area of a mezzanine within a room shall be not greater than one-third of the floor area of that room/space.
Given:
* Main floor = 9,000 SF
* Maximum mezzanine size = 1/3 × 9,000 SF = 3,000 SF
2. Openness Requirements - IBC Section 505.2.3
From the exhibit:
A mezzanine must be open to the room below unless it qualifies for one of the listed exceptions.
3. Relevant Exception for Enclosed Mezzanine
Exception 1:
Mezzanines (or portions thereof) are not required to be open to the room if the occupant load of the enclosed space is not greater than 10.
Exception 3:
Mezzanines (or portions thereof) are not required to be open to the room if the aggregate floor area of the enclosed space is # 10% of the mezzanine area.
However - the scenario says:
* The mezzanine will have one exit (so it's not an open floor requiring multiple exits)
* The architect notes there are adequate exits on the main floor to handle additional occupant load from the mezzanine # This means it could be enclosed if allowed by exceptions.
4. Evaluate Each Option:
* A. 2,500 SF open lounge for 20 people
* Size < 3,000 SF # OK on area.
* Open mezzanine # Complies without needing an exception.
* But 20 occupants means more than 10 occupant load, so it can't be enclosed unless open - this one is already open, so fine.
* This works, but the question asks for which method should the architect design, and the key is the one-exit enclosed scenario.
* B. 2,750 SF enclosed business center for 15 people
* Size < 3,000 SF # OK.
* It is enclosed, and occupant load is 15, which is greater than 10. That means Exception 1 doesn't apply.

* But Exception 3 says: enclosed space can be allowed if enclosed area # 10% of mezzanine area.
Here:
* 10% of 2,750 SF = 275 SF.
* If the enclosed portion is the business center itself (full area enclosed), then it fails Exception 3.
* Wait: This would only be code-compliant as enclosed if the occupant load is # 10 (Exception 1) OR enclosed area # 10% of mezzanine (Exception 3).
* This option might work only if the mezzanine is considered enclosed but the occupant load doesn' t require multiple exits and is allowed due to adequate exit capacity on the main floor - this appears to be the intended IBC Exception 1 scenario, but since OL = 15 > 10, it technically fails Exception 1.
* The problem statement says "adequate exits available on main floor to pick up additional occupant load" - which would allow designing an enclosed mezzanine as long as total egress capacity is fine.
* C. 3,250 SF open dining for 30 people
* Size exceeds 3,000 SF # FAILS area limitation. Not allowed.
5. Conclusion
Given the constraints:
* Must fit within 1/3 floor area rule (# 3,000 SF)
* Must work with one exit and available exit capacity on main floor
* Option C fails on size
* Option A is possible but doesn't use the enclosed condition in the prompt
* Option B meets area limit, occupant load works with available exit capacity, and provides an enclosed use that matches the problem's "program requirement" scenario

NEW QUESTION # 69



Refer to the exhibit.
The metal connector shown is primarily designed to resist which one of the following?

- A. Uplift
- B. Racking
- C. Sliding
- D. Twisting

Answer: A

Explanation:
The detail shows a metal connector fastening a vertical framing member (stud or post) to a horizontal member (likely a top plate or beam). This type of metal connector-often a hurricane tie or hold-down-is designed to anchor the vertical framing to the horizontal framing to prevent separation caused by uplift forces.
Key points:
* Uplift occurs when wind loads or seismic activity try to pull the roof or upper framing away from the wall below.
* The connector wraps over and around members, securing them together.
* Commonly used in roof-to-wall connections to comply with wind resistance requirements in the IBC and ASCE 7.
* This does not primarily resist sliding (shear) or racking (lateral deformation of a frame), nor is it designed mainly for twisting (torsion).
PDD ARE Objective Tie-in:
ARE 5.0 PDD Objective 3.2 - Evaluate and integrate structural systems with architectural elements, ensuring proper load path continuity for resisting vertical and lateral loads, including uplift forces.

NEW QUESTION # 70

Which of the following documents should be coordinated in the design of a barrier-free building entrance?

- A. Vertical elevations, hardware schedule, and electrical drawings
- B. Hardware schedule, electrical drawings, and sprinkler drawings
- C. Door schedule, hardware schedule, and alarm system design
- D. Door schedule, vertical elevations, and structural plans

Answer: C

Explanation:
Designing a barrier-free (accessible) building entrance requires coordination among:
Door schedule: Door sizes, types, clearances, and thresholds
Hardware schedule: Handles, closers, locks, and accessibility hardware (e.g., lever handles, automatic operators) Alarm system design: To ensure audible and visual alarms meet ADA requirements for people with disabilities, particularly for emergency egress
Other documents like electrical and structural plans are important but less directly related to barrier-free entrance compliance.
Reference:
NCARB ARE 5.0 Review Manual, Accessibility and Codes chapter
ADA Standards for Accessible Design

NEW QUESTION # 71
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