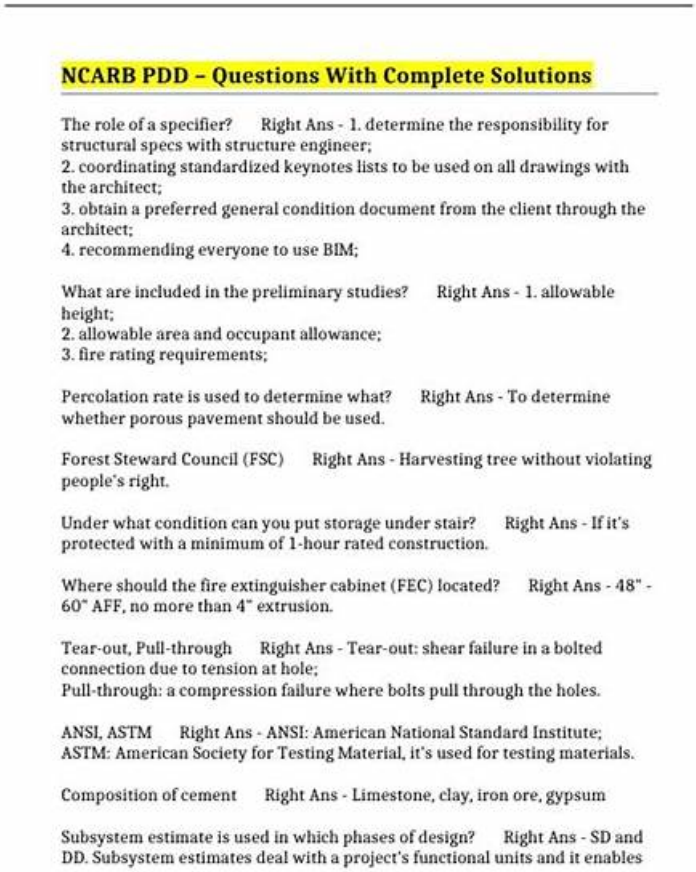
PDD Reliable Test Tips - Free PDF Quiz 2026 NCARB First-grade Exam PDD Actual Tests



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	• 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.

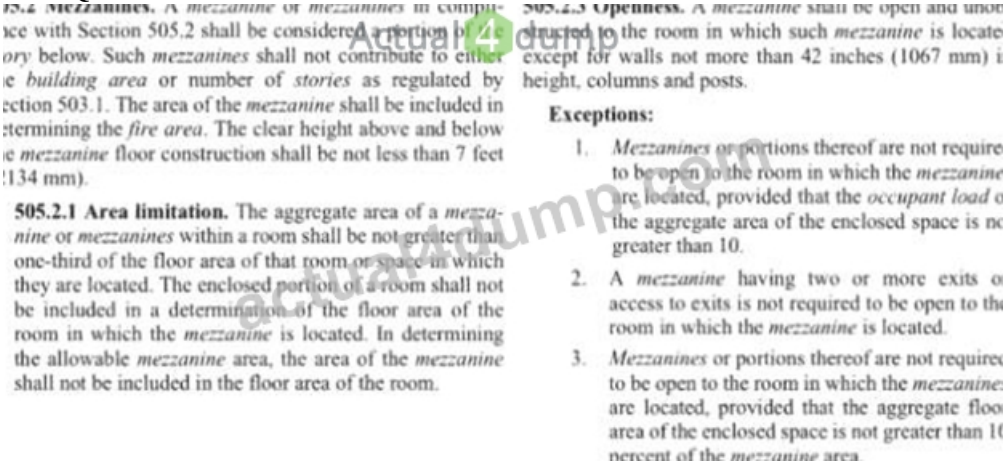
Topic 2	• Codes & Regulations: This section of the exam measures skills of Building Code Specialists and examines how codes and regulations apply at a detailed level during documentation. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of compliance with the International Building Code (IBC) as well 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 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.:

Exam PDD Actual Tests - Exam PDD Vce Format

The web-based NCARB PDD Practice Exam is compatible with all operating systems, including Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, and Windows. It is a browser-based ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation Exam (PDD) practice exam that works on all major browsers, including Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer, and Opera. This means that you won't have to worry about installing any complicated software or plug-ins.

NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation Exam Sample Questions (Q97-Q102):

NEW QUESTION # 97



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.

Exceptions:

1. *Mezzanines* or portions thereof are not require to be open to the room in which the *mezzanine* are located, provided that the *occupant load* o the aggregate area of the enclosed space is nc greater than 10.
2. A *mezzanine* having two or more exits o access to exits is not required to be open to th room in which the *mezzanine* is located.
3. *Mezzanines* or portions thereof are not require to be open to the room in which the *mezzanine* are located, provided that the aggregate floo area of the enclosed space is not greater than 1(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. 2,750 SF enclosed business center for 15 people
- B. 2,500 SF open lounge area for 20 people
- C. 3,250 SF open dining area for 30 people

Answer: A

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 # 98
For the same moment, a glue-laminated beam would require a section modulus of what proportion relative to a sawn timber beam? (Assume F# of the glue-laminated beam is 2,400 psi and F# of the sawn lumber beam equals 1,200 psi.)

- A. 3/4
- B. 1/2
- C. The same
- D. 0

Answer: B

Explanation:
Comprehensive Detailed Explanation with all NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation (PDD) Study Guide References:
The question is about the relative section modulus (S) required for a glue-laminated beam vs. a sawn timber beam to resist the same bending moment. The formula relating bending stress (Fb), moment (M), and section modulus (S) is:

$$Fb = \frac{M}{S} \quad \Rightarrow \quad S = \frac{M}{Fb}$$

For the same bending moment M, the section modulus is inversely proportional to the allowable bending stress

- F_b of glue-laminated beam = 2,400 psi
- F_b of sawn timber beam = 1,200 psi

Calculate relative section modulus:

$$\frac{S_{glulam}}{S_{sawn}} = \frac{F_{b\,saw}\downarrow}{F_{b\,glulam}} = \frac{1,200}{2,400} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore, the glue-laminated beam requires half the section modulus compared to the sawn timber beam.
Supporting Reference:
NCARB ARE 5.0 Review Manual, Structural Systems chapter
Basic bending stress and beam design equations from structural design texts

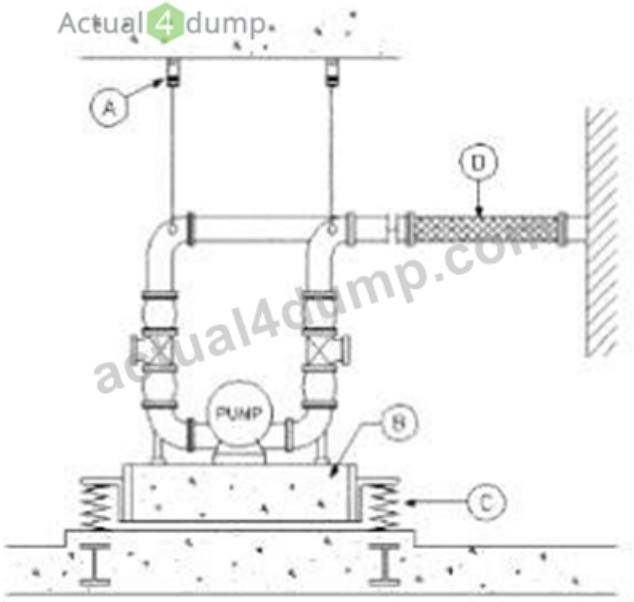
NEW QUESTION # 99
Which of the following documents should be coordinated in the design of a barrier-free building entrance?

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

Answer: B

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 # 100



Refer to the exhibit.
Which device allows for piping misalignment and isolation?

- A. B
- B. C
- C. D
- D. A

Answer: C

Explanation:
Understanding the Diagram
The image shows a pump installation detail with various vibration and alignment control devices:
* A - Typically a pipe hanger or suspension support to reduce strain on piping.
* B - Likely a flexible electrical conduit (for pump motor connection).
* C - Spring vibration isolators under the pump base to prevent vibration transmission into the building structure.
* D - A flexible pipe connector (also called a flex connector or braided flexible coupling).
Purpose of Flexible Pipe Connectors
Flexible pipe connectors (D in the diagram) are designed to:
* Absorb minor misalignment between connected piping systems.
* Reduce stress on pump flanges due to thermal expansion, settlement, or installation tolerances.
* Isolate vibration from the pump so that it is not transmitted along rigid piping to the building structure.
This makes them essential in mechanical systems where pumps, chillers, or other vibrating equipment connect to rigid building piping.
Why Other Options Are Incorrect:
* A. Pipe hangers/supports - Maintain alignment and support vertical loads but do not allow for misalignment or vibration isolation in the same way as flexible connectors.
* B. Electrical conduit/flexible connection - Relates to electrical supply flexibility, not piping alignment.
* C. Spring vibration isolators - Isolate vibration from equipment to the floor but do not address piping misalignment.
NCARB ARE 5.0 PDD Study Guide References:
* Content Area: Integration of Building Materials & Systems - Mechanical Systems Coordination
* Source References:
* Mechanical and Electrical Equipment for Buildings (MEEB) - Chapter on Vibration Isolation & Pump Installation
* Architectural Graphic Standards - Flexible Connector & Piping Details
* Key Point: Flexible connectors at pumps and equipment protect against misalignment, vibration, and stress transfer to the piping system.

NEW QUESTION # 101
A family-owned apple farm in the Upper Midwest is taking advantage of a change in the local zoning code that added a new Agri-Tourism class in the existing farm zone. This allows the Owner to build a new facility on their existing site. The building will be open to the public and include a brewery, distillery, tap room, and market. The architect is ready to submit the drawings to the Owner for

the 50% construction documents review.
To accommodate a compressed construction schedule, the Owner will be utilizing a design-build process. The Contractor has submitted the Pre-Engineered Metal Building (PEMB) shop drawings to the Architect for review, due to the lead time on this critical path item. Once construction begins, farming operations must be able to continue uninterrupted.
Key project information includes:
* Brewing and distilling will operate year-round.
* Brewery will initially include four fermenting tanks. Owner has requested space for at least two additional tanks. Potential expansion will be based on future sales.
* Distillery will produce 16% alcohol, which is classified as a flammable liquid. Fire separations are required.
* Tap Room is designed with seating for 300 people, not including exterior patio seating. It will have views to the working orchards and the historic buildings on site.
* Tap Room is scheduled to be open from August through November. Owner would like options to extend operating dates based on popularity.
* The Market area will feature local farm products and is not conditioned.
* Entire building will be fully sprinklered.
* Selected building materials are low-maintenance, as requested by the Owner, for durability and to reflect the nature of a working farm.
* Mechanical and electrical systems will be hung from the building structure. These loads are included in PEMB shop drawings.
* Public water and sewer is not available at the Project Site.
* Occupancy sensors are included to reduce utility costs and achieve energy conservation requirements.
The following resources are available for your reference:
* Architectural Drawings, including plans, elevations, sections, and schedules
* Consultant Drawings, including structural, HVAC, power distribution, and plumbing
* PEMB Shop Drawings
* Design and Construction Schedule
* Specification Excerpts, showing relevant spec sections
* IBC and ADA Excerpts, showing relevant code and accessibility sections
* After reviewing the documents, the architect discovers a coordination issue in the corridor.
The owner decides to triple the size of the distillery component of the project to make hand sanitizer and wants to use the Tap Room spaces adjacent to the brewery and distillery for this purpose.
Which of the following must the architect reevaluate and change to accommodate this request? Check the three that apply.

- A. A-05 ROOF PLAN
- B. A-03 FLOOR PLAN
- C. A-01 LIFE SAFETY PLAN
- D. A-04 REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
- E. A-02 SITE PLAN
- F. A-06 EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

Answer: B,C,D

Explanation:
Tripling the distillery and converting adjacent Tap Room areas to production introduces additional hazard (flammable liquids), changes occupancies/occupant loads, and requires updated fire separations and egress.
A-01 Life Safety Plan must be revised for occupancy classification, fire#resistance ratings between uses, travel distances, exit widths/number, and signage.
A-03 Floor Plan must change to show new room uses, rated partitions/doors, openings, and equipment footprints.
A-04 Reflected Ceiling Plan must change for new/relocated rated assemblies at ceilings (e.g., continuity of fire /smoke barriers), sprinkler/exit sign/FA device locations, and any duct-damper/access changes.
Site (B), Roof (E), and Elevations (F) are not directly driven by the interior use change.
PDD refs: IBC Chs. 3, 5-10 (occupancy, separation, egress), coordination of architectural, fire protection, and MEP on drawings (Division 01).

NEW QUESTION # 102
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