



## CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



### PIPELINE (C-34)

#### Content of the Examination

The Pipeline (C-34) Examination is divided into five major sections:

- 1. Planning and Estimating (21%)**
  - Project scope planning
  - Cost and material calculation
- 2. New Pipeline Installation (35%)**
  - Preparing job sites
  - Installing pipeline projects
  - Cleaning, testing, and finishing pipelines
- 3. Removal, Repair, and Maintenance of Existing Systems (12%)**
  - Locating and isolating pipes
  - Maintaining existing systems
  - Repairing or abandoning pipeline systems
- 4. Specialty Pipeline Projects (12%)**
  - Installing grease interceptors
  - Installing fire hydrants
  - Installing manholes
  - Installing specialty pipes/conduits
- 5. Safety (20%)**
  - Personnel safety
  - Job site and equipment safety
  - Trench and confined space work
  - Hazardous materials

*\*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. Using a load factor of 50%, how many 10-yard dump truck loads are required to export 6" of paving removed from a 120' x 4' trench?
  - a. 1 load
  - b. 2 loads\*
  - c. 4 loads
  - d. 6 loads
  
2. What is a corporation stop (corp stop)?
  - a. A valve used at the connection of a water service and a water main\*
  - b. A valve used to release air that has collected in the water main
  - c. A valve used to stop the flow at the end of the water main
  - d. A valve installed just before the meter
  
3. What type of equipment should be used to lower and maneuver a 6,000-lb. shoring box?
  - a. A loader
  - b. A backhoe
  - c. A skid-steer
  - d. An excavator\*

*\*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)

**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)

**Excavation and Grading Handbook.** Craftsman Book Company.

PHONE: (800) 829-8123

INTERNET: [craftsman-book.com](http://craftsman-book.com)

**The "Greenbook": Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction.** BNI Publications, Inc.

PHONE: (888) 264-2665

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

**Moving the Earth: The Workbook of Excavation.** McGraw-Hill Professional.

PHONE: (877) 833-5524

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

**Pipe and Excavation Contracting.** Craftsman Book Company.

PHONE: (800) 829-8123

INTERNET: [craftsman-book.com](http://craftsman-book.com)

**Pipeline Rules of Thumb Handbook.** E.W. McAllister. Gulf Professional Publishing.

PHONE: (404) 799-4000

INTERNET: [www.elsevier.com/books](http://www.elsevier.com/books)

**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)

**Trenchless Technology Piping: Installation and Inspection.** McGraw-Hill Professional.

PHONE: (877) 833-5524

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

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