



PSI Services LLC  
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# CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN

## OREGON LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION AND OWNER/MANAGING EMPLOYEE EXAMINATION

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Be sure to review this entire Candidate Information Bulletin for complete information about the scheduling, testing and licensing processes. Please refer to our website to check for the most updated information at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com).

## EXAMINATIONS BY PSI

This Candidate Information Bulletin provides you with information about the written examination and application process for a Landscape Construction Professional licensee in the State of Oregon and the Owner/Managing Employee Examination.

The Landscape Contractors Board (Board) has contracted with PSI Services LLC (PSI) to conduct the written examination programs. PSI provides examinations through a network of computer examination centers in Oregon. PSI works closely with the Board to be certain that examinations meet requirements in basic principles and examination development standards.

### HOW TO OBTAIN A LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

1. The fastest method to obtain the license application is to download it at [www.oregon.gov/lcb](http://www.oregon.gov/lcb), otherwise request a landscape construction professional license application from:

**Landscape Contractors Board**  
2111 Front Street NE Ste 2-101  
Salem, OR 97301  
Ph: (503) 967-6291 • Fax: (503) 967-6298  
[www.oregon.gov/lcb](http://www.oregon.gov/lcb)  
Email: [LCBinfo@oregon.gov](mailto:LCBinfo@oregon.gov)

2. Complete the application and return it to the Board.
3. When your application has been approved by the Board, you will be sent a letter of qualification with instructions for scheduling the examination. Note: if you do not test on any sections within 2 years, you must re-apply with the Board.

### TYPES OF LICENSES

There are five (5) types of landscape construction professional licenses currently offered:

- All Phases plus Backflow - all aspects of landscaping work including irrigation and backflow installation.
- Standard - all aspects of landscaping work **except** irrigation and backflow.
- Irrigation plus Backflow - irrigation and backflow only.
- Planting - plant lawns, shrubs, vines, trees and nursery stock and prepare the property on which these are to be installed, including the grading and drainage services.
- Probationary All Phase plus Backflow - all aspects of landscaping work including irrigation and backflow installation **but with restrictions** (see below).

The applicant must pass all the sections of the exam within one year of the first sitting of the exam. After 24 months of being licensed and meeting the probationary requirements (ORS 671.571) the licensee may request the probation be removed.

## EXAMINATION SECTIONS

The exam sections for the landscape construction professional license are:

- Laws, Rules and Business Practice
- Plants & Turf
- Hardscaping
- Design, Grading and Drainage
- Irrigation
- Backflow

### REQUIRED SECTIONS TO BE PASSED TO OBTAIN A LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

**All Phase** - Laws, Rules and Business Practices, Plants & Turf, Hardscaping, Design, Grading and Drainage, Irrigation and Backflow (6 Sections)

**Planting** - Laws, Rules and Business Practices, Plants & Turf, Design, Grading and Drainage (3 Sections)

**Standard** - Laws, Rules and Business Practices, Plants & Turf, Hardscaping, Design, Grading and Drainage (4 sections)

**Irrigation Only** - Laws, Rules and Business Practices, Irrigation and Backflow (3 sections)

**Probationary** - Laws, Rules and Business Practices, Plants & Turf, Hardscaping, Design, Grading and Drainage, Irrigation and Backflow (6 Sections within one year of the first sitting)

## OWNER/MANAGING EMPLOYEE

### HOW TO APPLY FOR THE OWNER/MANAGING EMPLOYEE EXAMINATION

1. When you have completed the required 16 hour course from an approved course provider you must submit an application form and proof of completion of this course to the Board.
2. Download or request the application form from:

**Landscape Contractors Board**  
2111 Front Street NE Ste 2-101  
Salem, OR 97301  
Ph: (503) 967-6291 • Fax: (503) 967-6298  
[www.oregon.gov/lcb](http://www.oregon.gov/lcb)  
Email: [LCBinfo@oregon.gov](mailto:LCBinfo@oregon.gov)

3. Complete the form and return it to the Board.
4. When your application has been approved by the Board you will be sent a letter of qualification to sit for the examination with instructions for scheduling the examination.

The required section to be passed for the Owner/Managing Employee is Laws, Rules and Business Practice.



## EXAMINATION REGISTRATION PAYMENT AND SCHEDULING PROCEDURES

Examination fees can be found on the registration form at the end of this Candidate Information Bulletin.

### INTERNET REGISTRATION

For the fastest and most convenient test scheduling process, PSI recommends that candidates register for their examinations using the Internet. In order to register over the Internet, candidates will need to have a valid credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover). Candidates register online by accessing PSI's registration website at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com). Internet registration is available 24 hours a day.

Upon completion of the online registration form, candidates will be given available exam dates and locations for scheduling examinations.

### TELEPHONE REGISTRATION

Call (800) 733-9267, PSI registrars are available to receive payment and to schedule your appointment for the examination. Please call Monday through Friday between 4:30 am and 7:00 pm, and Saturday-Sunday between 6:00 am and 2:30 pm, Pacific Time.

To register by phone, you need a valid credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.)

### FAX REGISTRATION

In order to fax registrations, you will need a valid credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover).

Complete the Examination Registration Form, including your credit card number and expiration date.

Fax the completed form to PSI at (702) 932-2666. Faxed registrations are accepted 24 hours a day. If your information is incomplete or incorrect, it will be returned for correction.

Please allow three business days to process your registration. After three business days, you may call PSI to schedule the examination, (800) 733-9267.

### REGISTRATION VIA STANDARD MAIL

In order to register by standard mail, please follow the steps below.

Complete the PSI Registration Form. Payment of applicable fees may be made by money order, company check or cashier's check. Make your money order or check payable to PSI and print your name on it to ensure that your fees are properly assigned. **CASH and PERSONAL CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

PSI Services LLC  
3210 E Tropicana  
Las Vegas, NV 89121  
(800) 733-9267 • Fax (702) 932-2666  
[www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com)

BE SURE TO READ ALL DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE EXAMINATION REGISTRATION FORMS. IMPROPERLY COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE RETURNED UNPROCESSED.

If examination fees are not the correct amount, PSI will return them to you immediately with instructions on correct examination registration procedures.

Please allow three days to process your registration. After three days, candidates may call PSI to schedule the examination after 7:30 a.m., Eastern Time, (800) 733-9267.

### CANCELING & RESCHEDULING EXAMINATION APPOINTMENTS

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your *cancellation notice is received 2 days before the scheduled examination date*. For example, for a Monday appointment, the cancellation notice would need to be received on the previous Saturday. You may reschedule online at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com) or call PSI at (800) 733-9267.

**Note:** A voice mail message is not an acceptable form of cancellation. Please use the PSI Website or call PSI and speak directly to a Customer Service Representative.

### MISSED APPOINTMENT OR LATE CANCELLATION

Your registration will be invalid, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled, and you will forfeit your examination fee, if you:

- Do not cancel your appointment 2 days before the scheduled examination date;
- Do not appear for your examination appointment;
- Arrive after examination start time; or
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

### EXAM ACCOMMODATIONS

All examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and exam accommodations will be made in meeting a candidate's needs. Applicants with disabilities or those who would otherwise have difficulty taking the examination should make a request for exam accommodations with PSI. Requests for exam accommodations should be made in writing, describing the specific accommodations that will be needed, and must include supporting documentation on official letterhead from a licensed professional. Please fill out the form at the end of this Candidate Information Bulletin and fax it to PSI (702) 932-2666.

### EXAMINATION SITE CLOSING FOR AN EMERGENCY

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces the closure of an examination site on a scheduled examination date, your examination will be rescheduled. PSI personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation. However, you may check the status of your examination schedule by calling (800) 733-9267. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible.



## EXAMINATION SITE LOCATIONS

### Baker City

2101 Main Street, #203  
Baker City, OR 97814

From I-84 take Exit 304 onto Campbell Street. Campbell Street to Main Street, turn left. Test site is on right side, Northwest corner of Main and Broadway, upstairs above Charlie's Ice Cream, in the Basch Sage Mini Mall, Room 203. Enter from Broadway.

### Bend

325 NW Vermont Pl, #106  
Bend, OR 97701

From US-97 going North, continue on SE 3rd St. Turn left on NW Greenwood Ave. Turn right on NW Wall St. Then turn left on Vermont Place. Vermont Place is a one block street.

### Eugene

1955 Empire Park Drive, Suite #1  
Eugene, OR 97402

From I-5 take Beltline Hwy West to exit #5 Barger Drive. Turn Left at the end of exit ramp. Go .7 miles and turn right onto Empire Park Drive. (JUST before Hwy 99). The first building on the corner is Subway. Second building is PSI exams Suite A. Edward Jones Investments is the other tenant of the building in Suite B.

From Hwy 126 which is also West 11th take Beltline Hwy to exit #5 Barger Drive. Turn right at the end of exit ramp. Go .7 miles and turn Right onto Empire Park Drive. (JUST before HWY 99). The first building on the corner is Subway. Second building is PSI exams Suite A. Edward Jones Investments is the other tenant of the building in Suite B.

Please do not park at or near Subway, but instead park on the left-hand side of the building.

### Independence

4901 Airport Rd  
Independence State Airport  
Independence, OR 97351

Take I-5 to exit 260A for OR-99E BUS S/Salem Expy and follow, then taking a slight left onto Commercial St NE. Turn right on Marion St NE continuing onto OR-22W/Marion St. Bridge. Follow OR-22W for 5 miles, then turn left onto OR-51S/Independence Hwy. Turn right onto Polk St and continue onto Hoffman Rd. Turn right onto Airport Rd.

### Medford

1236 A North Riverside Ave  
Medford, OR 97501

From I-5 going North, take the Barnett Street off ramp and turn left. Turn right on Riverside Ave, and go approximately 3 miles. The site will be on the right-hand side.

From I-5 going South, take the North exit (#30) and turn right and follow signs to "City Center". Pass McAndrews, and turn left on Manzanita. This dead-ends at Riverside. Turn left on Riverside, go one block and site will be on the right-hand side.

### Portland

205 Business Center, Suite 258  
8383 NE Sandy Blvd  
Portland, OR 97220

From the West Side: Get on I-84 heading East. Take Exit No. 5-82<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Turn right on NE Multnomah St. Turn right on NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Turn right on NE Sandy Blvd. The site is on the left ½ block from 82<sup>nd</sup> and Sandy.

From South East Portland: Get on I-205N toward Seattle. Take Exit 23B Killingsworth St/US 30 Bypass W exit. Take the Sandy Blvd. West/US-30 Business W exit-exit number 23B on the left. Turn slight right on NE Sandy Blvd. Site is on the right ½ block before you reach 82<sup>nd</sup> and Sandy.

From Vancouver, WA: Get on I-205 South toward Salem. Take Exit 23A-the US-30 Bypass E exit toward Sandy Blvd. Turn right on NE Columbia Blvd/US-30 Bypass. Turn right on NE Sandy Blvd. Site is on the right ½ block before you reach 82<sup>nd</sup> and Sandy. Site is across from the Grotto.

### Wilsonville

25195 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite #105  
Wilsonville, OR 97070

From I-5 going South take exit 286 (Ellingens/Boones Ferry Rd). Turn left and cross back over the freeway. Turn left at 2nd signal light (Parkway Ave). Turn into Parkway Plaza parking lot (across the street from Shriner's). Site is located in the Main Entrance first door on the right.

From I-5 going North take exit 286 (Ellingens/Boones Ferry Rd), Turn Right, Turn Left at next signal light (Parkway Ave). Turn into Parkway Plaza parking lot (across the street from Shriner's). Site is located in the Main Entrance first door on the right.

## REPORTING TO THE EXAMINATION SITE

You should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. This allows time for the sign-in and identification verification. *If you arrive late, you will not be admitted to the examination site and you will forfeit your examination registration fee.*

### REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION AT EXAMINATION SITE

Candidates must register for the exam with their LEGAL first and last name as it appears on their government issued identification. The required identification below must match the first and last name under which the candidate is registered. Candidates are required to bring one (1) form of valid (non-expired) signature bearing identification to the test site. If the candidate fails to bring proper identification or the candidate names do not match, the candidate will not be allowed to test and their examination fee will not be refunded.

### **PRIMARY IDENTIFICATION (with photo) - Choose One**

- State issued driver's license
- State issued identification card
- US government issued passport
- US government issued military identification card
- US government issued Alien Registration Card
- Canadian government issued identification card

NOTE: ID must contain candidate's photo, be valid and unexpired.



*Failure to provide all of the required identification at the time of the examination is considered a missed appointment, and you will not be able to take the examination at that time.*

### SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following security procedures will apply during the examination:

- Candidates may take only approved items into the examination room.
- All personal belongings of candidates, with the exception of close-fitting jackets or sweatshirts, should be placed in the secure storage provided at each site prior to entering the examination room. Personal belongings **include, but are not limited to**, the following items:
  - **Electronic devices of any type**, including cellular / mobile phones, recording devices, electronic watches, cameras, pagers, laptop computers, tablet computers (e.g., iPads), music players (e.g., iPods), smart watches, radios, or electronic games.
  - **Bulky or loose clothing or coats** that could be used to conceal recording devices or notes, including coats, shawls, hooded clothing, heavy jackets, or overcoats.
  - **Hats or headgear not worn for religious reasons** or as religious apparel, including hats, baseball caps, or visors.
  - **Other personal items**, including purses, notebooks, reference or reading material, briefcases, backpacks, wallets, pens, pencils, other writing devices, food, drinks, and good luck items.
- Person(s) accompanying an examination candidate may not wait in the examination center, inside the building or on the building's property. This applies to guests of any nature, including drivers, children, friends, family, colleagues or instructors.
- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination center.
- During the check in process, all candidates will be asked if they possess any prohibited items. Candidates may also be asked to empty their pockets and turn them out for the proctor to ensure they are empty. The proctor may also ask candidates to lift up the ends of their sleeves and the bottoms of their pant legs to ensure that notes or recording devices are not being hidden there.
- Proctors will also carefully inspect eyeglass frames, tie tacks, or any other apparel that could be used to harbor a recording device. Proctors will ask to inspect any such items in candidates' pockets.
- If prohibited items are found during check-in, candidates shall put them in the provided secure storage or return these items to their vehicle. PSI will not be responsible for the security of any personal belongings or prohibited items.
- Any candidate possessing prohibited items in the examination room shall immediately have his or her test results invalidated, and PSI shall notify the examination sponsor of the occurrence.
- Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance on an examination, found with unauthorized materials, or who violates any security regulations will be asked to surrender all examination materials and to leave the examination center. All such instances will be reported to the examination sponsor.

- Copying or communicating examination content is violation of a candidate's contract with PSI, and federal and state law. Either may result in the disqualification of examination results and may lead to legal action.
- Once candidates have been seated and the examination begins, they may leave the examination room only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the proctor. Candidate will not receive extra time to complete the examination.

## TAKING THE EXAMINATION BY COMPUTER

The examination will be administered via computer. You will be using a mouse and computer keyboard.

### IDENTIFICATION SCREEN

You will be directed to a semiprivate testing station to take the examination. When you are seated at the testing station, you will be prompted to confirm your name, identification number, and the examination for which you are registered.

### TUTORIAL

Before you start your examination, an introductory tutorial is provided on the computer screen. The time you spend on this tutorial, up to 15 minutes, DOES NOT count as part of your examination time. Sample questions are included following the tutorial so that you may practice answering questions, and reviewing your answers. The "Function Bar" at the top of the sample question provides mouse-click access to the features available while taking the examination.

### TEST QUESTION SCREEN

The "function bar" at the top of the test question screen provides mouse-click access to the features available while taking the examination.

The screenshot shows a computer interface for a test. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Mark, Comments, Goto, Help, and End. Below this is a status bar showing: Question: 3 of 40, Answered: 2, Unanswered: 1, Marked: 0, View: All, Time Left(Min): 359. The main question area displays: "3. What do the stars on the United States of America's flag represent?". Below the question, it says "(Choose from the following options)" and lists four options: "1. Presidents", "2. Colonies", "3. States", and "4. Wars". At the bottom of the question area, there are navigation buttons: "<< Back" and "Next >>".

One question appears on the screen at a time. During the examination, minutes remaining will be displayed at the top of the screen and updated as you record your answers.

**IMPORTANT:** After you have entered your responses, you will later be able to return to any question(s) and change your response, provided the examination time has not run out or you have ended your examination.

## EXAMINATION REVIEW

You will be given 30 minutes at the end of ALL sections to review the items you missed. The items will not be in any particular order.

Comments may be entered during the examination by clicking the Comments link on the function bar of the test question screen. Your comments regarding the questions and the examinations are welcomed. Comments will be analyzed by PSI examination development staff. While PSI does not respond to individuals regarding these comments, all substantive comments are reviewed. This is your opportunity to notify the licensing agency if you dispute a question on the exam.

## **SCORE REPORTING**

The following summary describes the score reporting process:

- **On screen** - your score will appear immediately on the computer screen. This will happen automatically at the end of the time allowed for the examination; if you are using review features, you will be able to obtain your score immediately when you indicate that you have finished and would like to see your results.
  - If you **pass**, you will immediately receive a successful notification and performance summary on the screen.
  - If you **do not pass**, you will immediately receive an unsuccessful notification on the screen along with a diagnostic report indicating your strengths and weaknesses by examination portion.
- **On paper** - an official score report will be printed at the examination site.

## **LENGTH PASSING SCORES ARE VALID**

Effective July 1, 2016, once you have received a passing score on a section of the exam the score remains valid for a period of 24 months. (Exam scores prior to June 30, 2016 or earlier are valid for a period of 12 months). If you do not obtain a license prior to the exam score expiring you will have to retake and pass that section of the exam again.

If you have applied for the Probationary License, you must pass all 6 exam sections within 12 months of the first sitting in order to obtain this license. If you do not, you will not receive this license and must reapply.

## **EXPERIMENTAL QUESTIONS**

In addition to the number of examination items specified, a small number of five to ten “experimental” questions may be administered to candidates during the examinations. **These questions will not be scored and the time taken to answer them will not count against examination time.** The administration of such non-scored experimental questions is an essential step in developing future licensing examinations.

## **WHAT TO BRING TO THE EXAMINATION**

You should bring a calculator. Only non-programmable calculators that are silent, battery operated, do not have paper tape printing capabilities, and do not have a keyboard containing the alphabet will be allowed in the examination site.

You are also allowed to bring in one language translation dictionary or electronic translating device if English is not your first language. No notes or writing on or in these translation aides is allowed.

## **EXAMINATION TYPES**

Effective 8/1/2016 a short form examination will be offered for the following:

- Plants & Turf
- Design, Grading and Drainage
- Irrigation

The short form examination will not replace the traditional long form examination. Scores can only be considered when taking the annual Practical Skills Testing option offered annually on the fourth Friday of July each year.

### PAPER AND PENCIL VERSION

The Oregon Landscape Contractors Board will conduct a paper and pencil version of the Plants and Turf; Design, Grading and Drainage; and Irrigation short forms on the fourth Friday in July of each year at Clackamas Community College. Please contact the Board for scheduling information.

For more information about the Practical Skills Testing option or Traditional Written Exam, please contact the Board:

**Landscape Contractors Board**  
2111 Front Street NE Ste 2-101  
Salem, OR 97301  
Ph: (503) 967-6291 • Fax: (503) 967-6298  
[www.oregon.gov/lcb](http://www.oregon.gov/lcb)  
Email: [LCBinfo@oregon.gov](mailto:LCBinfo@oregon.gov)



## EXAMINATION SECTIONS

### LAWS, RULES, AND BUSINESS PRACTICE

Time limit: 90 minutes

Passing score: 75%

This section is open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
License Requirements	6
Insurance/Bonding	4
Employment Law	6
Contracts	4
Supervision	4
Claims/Dispute Resolution	4
Lien Law	4
Building Codes/Permits	4
Safety/Hazard Communication	6
Communications	4
Estimating	4
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>50</b>

#### REFERENCE LIST

The Oregon Revised Statutes packet can be found on the web at: <http://www.oregon.gov/LCB/docs/lawpacket.pdf>

- *ORS 656 - Workers' Compensation*
- *ORS 447 - Plumbing; Architectural Barriers*
- *ORS 479 - Protection of Buildings from Fire; Electrical Safety Law*
- *ORS 571 - Nurseries, Growers, Dealers, Christmas Tree Growers*
- *ORS 671.520 - 671.760 - Architect, Landscape Professions and Business*
- *ORS 87 - Statutory Liens*
- *ORS, Title 52, Chapter 670, Section 600 - Independent Contractors*
- *OAR 808 - Landscape Contractors Board*
- *OR OSHA*
- *Oregon Owner/Managing Employee Manual*

### PLANTS & TURF

Time limit: 60 minutes

Passing score: 75%

This section is open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
Estimating/Plan Reading	6
Plant Exposure	5
Plant ID	3
Plant Type	8
Plant Use and Size	10
Planting/Staking	4
Turfgrass	6
Water and Soil Requirements	8
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>50</b>

#### SHORT FORM: PLANTS & TURF

*(PRACTICAL SKILLS TEST OPTION ONLY)*

Time limit: 30 minutes

Passing Score: 75%

Open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
Estimating/Plan Reading	4
Plant Exposure	3
Plant Type	4
Plant Use and Size	5
Turfgrass	4
Water and Soil Requirements	5
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>25</b>

Questions in this section address:

1. Seed mixtures for various Oregon localities & seeding rates
2. Installation of sod
3. Cultural requirements of specific grass mixtures and plants
4. Plant identification (Latin and common names)
5. Plant installation, including planting, fertilization, staking, watering, amending soils
6. Balled and burlapped vs. bare root installation
7. Soil structure as related to plant cultivation

## REFERENCE LIST

### Plant:

- *Oregon Plant Study Guide*, 2006
- *Western Garden Book*, Sunset Publishing Company, 2007 (Copyright 2001)
- *Landscape Construction, Custom 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition—Oregon Landscape Contractors Board Special Edition*, 2011, Cengage Learning

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## HARDSCAPING

Time limit: 60 minutes

Passing score: 75%

This section is open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
Estimating/Plan Reading	4
Concrete/Masonry	7
Decks/Arbors	6
Fences/Gates	4
Low Voltage Lighting	5
Lumber/Fasteners	3
Paving	4
Project Layout	3
Retaining Walls	7
Steps/Stairs	2
Water Features	5
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>50</b>

Questions in this section address:

1. Decks:
  - Identification of the parts of a deck
  - Choice of materials and installation
  - Joists
  - Guardrails
  - Blocking
  - Flashing
2. Low Voltage Wiring:
  - Choice of materials and installation
  - Cables and transformers
3. Concrete and Masonry:
  - Choice of materials and installation
  - Joints
  - Reinforcement
  - Expansion strips
  - Mortar
  - Brick paving
  - Tooling and curing
4. Retaining Walls (both dry stack and mortared):
  - Choice of materials and installation
  - Footings
  - Joints
  - Weep holes and drains
5. Fences:
  - Choice of materials and installation
  - Postholes and joints
  - Gates
  - Painting or staining
6. Water-features:
  - Choice of materials and installation
  - Pumps
  - Water clarity and quality

7. Steps, Walks, Paths:

- Choice of materials and installation

8. Materials:

- Terminology, including board size, lumber grades, nails

9. Project Layout

- Use of right triangles
- Staking

## REFERENCE LIST

### Hardscaping:

- *Landscape Construction, Custom 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition—Oregon Landscape Contractors Board Special Edition*, 2011, Cengage Learning

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## DESIGN, GRADING AND DRAINAGE

Time limit: 60 minutes

Passing score: 75%

This section is open book (to be provided at the exam site)

For this section, a calculator is required. All calculations should be to the 100th decimal (2 places). A grading plan will be provided with a scale of 1": 20' (one inch to 20 feet).

Topics	# of Questions
Planting on Structures	3
Cut and Fill	3
Drainage Materials	2
Effects of Grading	3
Erosion Control	4
Grading/Drainage Calculations	4
Plan Reading - Drainage	3
Soil Types	3
Surface/Subsurface Drainage	3
Surveying	3
Soil Science	5
Safety	7
Design	7
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>50</b>

## SHORT FORM: DESIGN, GRADING & DRAINAGE

(PRACTICAL SKILLS TEST OPTION ONLY)

Time Limit: 30 minutes

Passing Score: 75%

Open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
Planting on Structures	3
Drainage Materials	2
Effects of Grading	3
Erosion Control	3
Plan Reading - Drainage	3
Soil Types	2
Surface/Subsurface Drainage	2
Soil Science	2
Safety	5
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>25</b>



Questions in this section address:

1. Surface and Subsurface:
  - Removing and adding soil
  - Area drains, French drains
  - Grading for pathways
  - Defining terms which relate to grade
2. Surveying:
  - Specific calculations of grade (given elevation points)
  - Using the surveying instrument
  - Topographical surveys
3. Erosion Control:
  - Methods for slowing erosion
  - Soil types as they relate to erosion
  - Techniques for erosion control on slopes
4. Soil Types:
  - Percolation rates and water retention rates of various soils
  - Erosion rates and angle of repose of various soil types
5. Effects of Grading:
  - Effects of grading a site
  - What happens when grading is too flat or too steep
  - Swales
6. Slope Calculations:
  - Specific mathematical questions
7. Reading Plans (questions refer to a grading plan provided during examination):
  - Identification of terms and symbols on the plan such as directional arrows, contour lines, swales, berms, cuts, and elevations
  - Calculation of contours and slopes
  - Choice of subsurface for pavers (stone & concrete), walks, pathways
  - Choice of soil amendments
  - Choice of erosion control materials (top-dressings, nettings, etc.)
8. Cutting and Filling:
  - Calculating amounts for excavation and fill (rock, bark, soil, etc.)

## REFERENCE LIST

### Design, Grading and Drainage:

- *Landscape Construction, Custom 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition—Oregon Landscape Contractors Board Special Edition*, 2011, Cengage Learning
- OR OSHA

## IRRIGATION

Time Limit: 120 minutes

Passing score: 75%

This section is open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
Design	25
Drip Irrigation	9
Electrical	6
Heads/Nozzles	8
Hydraulics	12

Install/Practical Applications	4
Pipe/Fittings	11
Plan Questions - Irrigation	6
Plant Culture - Irrigation	7
Repair/Troubleshooting	4
Valves	2
Winterizing	2
Scheduling	4
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>100</b>

## SHORT FORM: IRRIGATION

(PRACTICAL SKILLS TEST OPTION ONLY)

Time Limit: 60 minutes

Passing score: 75%

Open book (to be provided at the exam site)

Topics	# of Questions
Design	13
Electrical	5
Hydraulics	8
Pipe/Fittings	7
Plan Questions - Irrigation	5
Plant Culture - Irrigation	5
Winterizing	3
Scheduling	4
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>50</b>

## REFERENCE LIST

### Irrigation:

- *Landscape Construction, Custom 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition—Oregon Landscape Contractors Board Special Edition*, 2011, Cengage Learning
- *Oregon Plant Study Guide*
- *ORS 671.520 - 671.760 - Architect, Landscape Professions and Business*
- *OAR 808 - Landscape Contractors Board*

## BACKFLOW

Time limit: 60 minutes

Passing score: 75%

This section is closed book.

Topics	# of Questions
Definitions	11
Devices	21
Piping	8
Installation Code	10
<b>Total Questions</b>	<b>50</b>

This section may be taken only through PSI



Abbreviations used in the Plumbing Code refer to standards or specifications issued by the organizations listed below:

**ASHRAE** American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers  
**AWWA** American Water Works Association  
**ANSI** American National Standards Institute  
**AHAM** American Home Appliance Manufacturers  
**ASTM** American Society for Testing Materials  
**ASME** American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
**CS** Commercial Standards  
**PS** Product Standards  
**FS** Federal Specifications  
**IAPMO** International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials  
**UPC** Uniform Plumbing Code  
**UL** Underwriters Laboratory  
**WQA** Water Quality Association  
**ICBO** International Conference of Building Officials  
**ASSE** American Society of Sanitary Engineers  
**CABO** Council of American Building Officials  
**UMC** Uniform Mechanical Code  
**UBC** Uniform Building Code  
**SMACNA** Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors of North America  
**CISPI** Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute  
**OSPSC** Oregon State Plumbing Specialty Code  
**OSPB** Oregon State Plumbing Board  
**BCD** Building Codes Division  
**OPCC** Oregon Plumbing Code Change Committee

#### REFERENCE LIST

##### **Backflow:**

- *Cross-Connection Control Manual*, Environmental Protection Agency, 2003
- *Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code*, International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, 2011
- *ORS 447 - Plumbing; Architectural Barriers*, 2011
- *OAR 808 - Landscape Contractors Board*

## SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

The following questions are offered as examples of the types of questions you will be asked during the course of the examination. They are intended primarily to familiarize you with the style and format of questions you can expect to find in the examinations. The examples do NOT represent the full range of content or difficulty levels found in the actual examinations.

### **LAWS, RULES and BUSINESS PRACTICE**

1. The bond and insurance requirements are a required condition for the:
  - A. Landscape construction professional
  - B. All employees of the landscape contracting business
  - C. Landscape contracting business
  - D. Certified employees of the landscape contracting business
2. "LLC" is a commonly used acronym for:
  - A. Limited Liability Company
  - B. Licensed Landscape Contractor
  - C. Limited Landscape Construction
  - D. Liability Limits on Construction
3. When a properly licensed landscape construction professional working for a licensed landscape contracting business installs a backflow assembly the business must:
  - A. Have an owner of the business inspect the work when it is completed
  - B. Obtain a plumbing permit before the assembly is installed
  - C. Obtain a plumbing permit before the assembly is pressurized
  - D. Have the assembly properly inspected by a journeyman plumber
4. Which of the following is NOT considered a physical hazard:
  - A. A combustible liquid
  - B. A compressed gas
  - C. An explosive material
  - D. An un-compressed inert gas
5. When performing landscape work in Oregon all work over \$2,000 must be done in conformance:
  - A. With a written contract
  - B. To industry standards set out in the OLCA guidelines
  - C. To standards set by the State Building Code Division
  - D. To standard set by the State Landscape Contractors Board

**Answers for Laws, Rules & Business Practice:**  
1(C) 2(A) 3(B) 4(D) 5(A)

### **PLANTS & TURF**

1. Which of the following deciduous shrubs is noted for the display of its berries?
  - A. *Pyracantha coccinea*
  - B. *Ilex aquifolium*
  - C. *Symphoricarpos albus*
  - D. *Mahonia repens*



2. Which of the following shrubs would be best in a sunny bed with reflected heat?
- A. Skimmia japonica
  - B. Ilex cornuta
  - C. Cytisus Praecox
  - D. Fatsia japonica

**Answers for Plants & Turf:**  
1(C); 2(C).

### HARDSCAPING

1. The 3-4-5 triangle measuring technique is used for:
- A. locating distance between postholes
  - B. figuring infill requirements
  - C. determining right angles
  - D. determining the slope of a specific grade
2. What is the best slope for the tread of a concrete step?
- A. 3.5%
  - B. 10%
  - C. 5%
  - D. 1%

**Answers for Hardscaping: 1(C); 2(D)**

### DESIGN, GRADING AND DRAINAGE

1. If a spot elevation reads 5.5 at point A and the second elevation reads 4.2 at point B, what is the elevation differential?
- A. 9.7 inches above absolute elevation
  - B. 9.7 feet elevation differential
  - C. 1.3 feet
  - D. 1.3 inches
2. The percentage of slope is calculated by:
- A. First determining the rate of inclination
  - B.  $\text{Percent} = \text{length} / 3.1416$  averaged to nearest 2 decimals
  - C. The formula  $\text{rise} / \text{run} = \text{slope}$
  - D. The formula  $3.1416 / \text{length}$  averaged to the nearest 2 decimals

**Answers for Design, Grading and Drainage:**  
1(C); 2(C)

### IRRIGATION

1. The velocity of flow through the service line should not exceed what velocity?
- A. 3 to 5 fps.
  - B. 5 to 7.5 fps.
  - C. 7.5 to 10 fps.
  - D. 10 to 15 fps.
2. Unions may be placed:
- A. anywhere in the irrigation piping system
  - B. only downstream of the backflow device
  - C. only upstream of the control valve
  - D. only downstream of the control valves.

**Answers for Irrigation:**  
1(B); 2(A).

### BACKFLOW

1. The type of backflow prevention device to be used is determined by the:
- A. anticipated degree of hazard
  - B. cost of the device
  - C. expected life of the device
  - D. size of the piping to which the device is attached

**Answer for Backflow:**  
1(A)





All examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Applicants with disabilities or those who would otherwise have difficulty taking the examination may request exam accommodations.

Candidates who wish to request exam accommodations because of a disability should fax this form and supporting documentation to PSI at (702) 932-2666.

Requirements for exam accommodation requests:

You are required to submit documentation from the medical authority or learning institution that rendered a diagnosis. Verification must be submitted to PSI on the letterhead stationary of the authority or specialist and include the following:

- Description of the disability and limitations related to testing
Recommended accommodation/modification
Name, title and telephone number of the medical authority or specialist
Original signature of the medical authority or specialist

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Legal Name:

Last Name First Name

Address:

Street City, State, Zip Code

Telephone: ( ) - ( )
Home Work

Email Address:

Check any exam accommodations you require (requests must concur with documentation submitted):

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Extended Time (Additional time requested: )
Large-print written examination
Other
ESL Accommodation (Self Declared). If English is not your primary language and you are taking the exam in English, you may request additional time. If Spanish is not your primary language and you are taking the exam in Spanish, you may request additional time.

Table with 2 columns: Examination Sections for Landscape Construction Professional and TIME ALLOWED INCLUDING ADD'L TIME. Rows include sections like Laws, Rules and Business Practice, General A: Plants & Turf, General B: Hardscaping, General C: Design, Grading and Drainage, Irrigation, Backflow, and Short Sections for Practical Skills Test Option Only.

- Complete and fax this form, along with supporting documentation, to (702) 932-2666 or email it to examaccommodations@psionline.com.
After 4 days, PSI Exam Accommodations will email you confirmation of approval with instructions for the next step.

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