

# PRACTICE EXAM 10 — NASCLA MARYLAND — QUESTIONS 1-55

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**Instructions: 55 questions total. Recommended time limit: 150 minutes. Passing threshold: 70% (39 of 55 correct). Open book — the NASCLA Maryland reference may be consulted.**

1. Federal law requires employers to verify the identity and employment authorization of every newly hired employee within the United States by completing:

- A. Form I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification within three business days of the start date
- B. Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement at the end of each calendar year worked
- C. Form 1099-NEC Nonemployee Compensation by January thirty-first of the following year
- D. Form W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number prior to the first day worked

2. E-Verify, the federal electronic employment-eligibility verification system, is:

- A. Required of every Maryland private employer regardless of employer size or industry
- B. Available only to federal government agencies and federal prime contractors directly
- C. A voluntary federal program for most employers, but required for certain federal contractors
- D. Permitted only in states that have not enacted their own employment verification statute

3. OSHA's 10-hour construction outreach training course is most commonly required by:

- A. The federal OSHA agency for every construction worker entering any Maryland jobsite
- B. Owners, prime contractors, or state laws as a condition of working on certain projects

- C. The Maryland Home Improvement Commission for every MHIC license applicant statewide
- D. The U.S. Department of Defense for every construction worker on any project type

4. Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act prohibits employment discrimination by covered employers on the basis of:

- A. The employee's prior workers' compensation claim history alone among the listed bases
- B. The employee's voluntary participation in a recognized labor organization or union
- C. The employee's choice to relocate from another state for the job in question
- D. Race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in any term or condition of employment

5. Maryland law requires employers to report the hiring of each new employee to the State New Hire Registry within:

- A. Twenty days of the employee's first day of work, including rehires and seasonal hires
- B. Sixty days of the employee's first day of work, except for short-term seasonal workers
- C. Ninety days of the employee's first day of work, regardless of the wage or hour level
- D. One hundred eighty days of the employee's first day of work for any new employees

6. A drug-free workplace policy adopted by a Maryland contractor:

- A. Is automatically required of every Maryland-licensed home improvement contractor by statute
- B. Is generally voluntary but may be required on certain federal contracts under the Drug-Free Workplace Act
- C. May not include workplace testing under any circumstances allowed in Maryland law
- D. Must be approved by the Maryland Department of Labor before the policy may take effect

7. Form I-9 documentation for each employee must generally be retained by the employer for:

- A. The first thirty days following the employee's hire date and no longer thereafter
  - B. Six months from the employee's first day of work for the company on payroll
  - C. Three years after the date of hire, or one year after termination, whichever is later
  - D. Ten years after the employee separates from employment regardless of any other factor
8. A new employee provides federal income tax withholding information to the employer on:
- A. IRS Form 1099-NEC issued by the prior employer's payroll department at separation
  - B. IRS Form 941 filed quarterly with the Internal Revenue Service directly each quarter
  - C. IRS Form W-2 issued at the end of each calendar year of earnings to the employee
  - D. IRS Form W-4 completed by the employee at hire and updated as needed thereafter
9. A new Maryland employee designates state withholding allowances using:
- A. The federal Form W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number on file with the IRS
  - B. Maryland Form 502 Resident Income Tax Return signed by the calendar year's end
  - C. A Maryland-specific worksheet maintained internally by the employer's payroll department
  - D. Maryland Form MW 507 Employee's Maryland Withholding Exemption Certificate
10. Employers must report federal payroll taxes (income tax withholding and FICA) on:
- A. IRS Form 940 Annual Federal Unemployment Tax Return submitted in late January
  - B. IRS Form 941 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return filed each calendar quarter
  - C. IRS Form 1099-MISC submitted in February of the following calendar year worked
  - D. IRS Form W-3 Annual Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements submitted in March
11. Federal unemployment tax (FUTA) is reported by the employer on:

- A. IRS Form 940 Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment Tax Return filed each year
- B. IRS Form 941 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return filed each calendar quarter
- C. IRS Form 944 Employer's Annual Federal Tax Return filed only by very small employers
- D. IRS Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement filed for each employee in early February

12. A Maryland worker injured on the job who wishes to pursue workers' compensation benefits must generally:

- A. Wait twenty-four months before filing any claim with the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission
- B. File a written claim only with the federal Department of Labor in Washington, D.C.
- C. Notify the employer as soon as practicable and file a claim with the Maryland WCC
- D. Receive all initial medical treatment privately before any workers' compensation claim may be filed

13. A MOSH compliance officer arriving at a Maryland construction site to conduct an inspection:

- A. Must be denied entry until the contractor's legal counsel arrives at the site personally
- B. May enter without identification or any explanation of the purpose of the visit at all
- C. Has no statutory authority to inspect any private construction site in Maryland by law
- D. Generally has authority to enter, present credentials, hold an opening conference, and inspect

14. An employer that receives an OSHA or MOSH citation and wishes to contest it must generally file a notice of contest within:

- A. Fifteen working days of receiving the citation, or it becomes a final order automatically
- B. Thirty calendar days of receiving the citation, with an automatic extension on request
- C. Sixty calendar days of receiving the citation, regardless of the gravity of the violation
- D. Ninety calendar days of receiving the citation, with no extensions available by statute

15. OSHA's Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) standard requires the use of energy control procedures during:

- A. All routine inspection of any electrical equipment, regardless of energization state present
- B. Service or maintenance activities where the unexpected start-up of equipment could injure
- C. Any non-electrical mechanical adjustment of fixed equipment by trained service personnel
- D. Every routine task performed by maintenance workers during the regular operating shift

16. Under NFPA 70E, the "limited approach boundary" for energized electrical conductors:

- A. Marks the distance within which infrared cameras may be used safely on energized equipment
- B. Designates the area in which only marketing brochures may be reviewed by visitors freely
- C. Establishes the radius within which any worker may pass without any safety training at all
- D. Defines the closest approach allowed for unqualified persons absent specific protections

17. OSHA's welding, cutting, and brazing standards in construction require:

- A. The use of all welders to be at least twenty-one years of age or older for safety reasons
- B. Welding may proceed only when sound levels at the source are below the OSHA action level
- C. Fire prevention measures including removal of combustibles or use of fire watch and shielding
- D. Approval from the local fire marshal before any individual welding cut is made on the site

18. OSHA's concrete and masonry standards at 29 CFR 1926 Subpart Q require, among other things, that formwork:

- A. Be designed, fabricated, erected, supported, braced, and maintained to safely support loads
- B. Be removed within twelve hours of the concrete pour regardless of curing conditions
- C. Be constructed entirely of metal materials with no wooden components ever permitted
- D. Be inspected daily by a Maryland-licensed professional engineer at the project site

19. OSHA's steel erection standard at 29 CFR 1926 Subpart R requires that:

- A. All workers wear bright orange clothing during the entire steel erection sequence on site
- B. Steel erection not begin until the controlling contractor provides written notification of adequate concrete strength
- C. All steel members be coated with rust-inhibiting paint before installation on the structure
- D. Crane operators be certified by a state agency rather than any nationally accredited body

20. OSHA's demolition standards require that, before demolition begins, the contractor:

- A. Notify each adjoining property owner by certified mail with a copy of the demolition plan
- B. Submit detailed engineering calculations to the Maryland Department of Labor for review
- C. Conduct an engineering survey of the structure by a competent person to determine its condition
- D. Post a five thousand dollar performance bond with the local fire department for emergency use

21. Under OSHA's Cranes and Derricks in Construction standard, an operator of a covered crane must:

- A. Be certified or qualified by an accredited body, audited testing organization, or employer program
- B. Be a current member of the International Union of Operating Engineers in good standing
- C. Pass an annual physical examination performed only by an industrial occupational physician
- D. Be over twenty-five years of age and hold a Maryland commercial driver's license at all times

22. Under OSHA, slings used for rigging on a construction project must be:

- A. Painted bright yellow with the manufacturer's name visible from at least ten feet away
- B. Replaced after every individual lift performed regardless of any visible wear conditions
- C. Manufactured only of steel chain materials, since synthetic or wire-rope slings are prohibited
- D. Inspected for damage and removed from service when the sling shows specified damage criteria

23. When manually lifting a heavy material on the construction site, an OSHA-trained worker should:

- A. Use the back muscles, keep the load far from the body, and twist while lifting the object
- B. Bend at the knees, keep the load close to the body, and lift using the legs and core
- C. Use only one hand at a time to maintain a free hand for personal balance during the lift
- D. Avoid asking any other worker for help, since two-person lifts always create more hazards

24. OSHA requires that floor holes, including skylight openings, on a construction site be:

- A. Painted a fluorescent green color with no other physical protection necessary on site
- B. Covered only after the workday ends, since open holes during work hours support productivity
- C. Covered, guarded, or otherwise protected to prevent workers and materials from falling through
- D. Marked with caution tape twelve inches above the floor level and left otherwise uncovered

25. OSHA requires wall openings from which an employee could fall to be:

- A. Protected by guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems
- B. Closed off with caution tape and marked with reflective signage during work hours only
- C. Plywood-covered without any other protective system used at the construction site
- D. Left open during the daytime to allow for efficient material handling and movement

26. OSHA requires the use of eye and face protection when workers perform operations such as:

- A. Sweeping the building interior with a clean broom and bagging the swept debris collected
- B. Carrying lumber from the supply truck to the framing area on the building site daily
- C. Reviewing the construction drawings in the field trailer with a foreman at the table
- D. Welding, cutting, grinding, chipping, or otherwise operating with potential flying debris

27. OSHA's respiratory protection standard requires that an employer provide respirators when:

- A. Any worker on the site personally requests respiratory protection at any point in the day
- B. Workers are exposed to airborne contaminants exceeding the permissible exposure limit
- C. The contractor's safety budget for the project includes any line item for personal protective gear
- D. Outdoor work is performed in any zone where high humidity is recorded at any time

28. OSHA requires hearing protection when an employee is exposed to noise at or above:

- A. An eight-hour time-weighted average of ninety decibels (the OSHA permissible exposure limit)
- B. A continuous noise level of forty decibels at the worker's hearing position during the shift
- C. Any noise level exceeding sixty decibels at any time during the eight-hour shift
- D. Only noise levels that the worker subjectively reports to be annoying during the day

29. OSHA Form 300, the Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses, is used by employers to:

- A. File quarterly federal payroll tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service in Washington
- B. Document the contractor's MHIC license fee payments throughout the calendar year worked
- C. Record each work-related recordable injury or illness occurring during the calendar year
- D. Submit a request for federal workers' compensation benefits from a federal trust fund

30. An employee injury is generally OSHA-recordable when it results in:

- A. A first aid treatment limited to washing a minor cut and applying an adhesive bandage on site
- B. A near-miss event in which no injury or property damage of any kind actually occurred
- C. The worker simply going to the company nurse's office for an over-the-counter pain reliever
- D. Death, days away from work, restricted work, transfer, medical treatment beyond first aid, or loss of consciousness

31. A Maryland builder selling a new single-family home to a consumer must generally provide the buyer with:

- A. A signed waiver of all warranty rights before settlement of the home sale closes formally
- B. A written warranty meeting the requirements of Maryland's New Home Warranty laws
- C. Only an oral statement that the dwelling meets all applicable building code requirements
- D. A federal HUD certification stating that the home meets every federal accessibility standard

32. Under Maryland Real Property Article §10-203, a new home warranty from a "vendor" of a newly constructed dwelling covers, at minimum:

- A. The dwelling against defects in materials and workmanship for a stated statutory period
- B. Only the foundation walls and the roof framing system for the entire life of the structure
- C. Solely the interior finishes such as paint, trim, flooring, and cabinetry on the home
- D. Only the exterior siding system and the gutters installed on the original dwelling itself

33. A residential real estate seller in Maryland must provide each buyer with:

- A. A federal lead paint title insurance binder issued by an underwriter recognized by HUD
- B. A bond payable to the buyer in the amount of ten percent of the contract sales price
- C. A federal flood insurance policy regardless of the location of the home in the state
- D. A property condition disclosure or disclaimer statement on the Maryland-prescribed form

34. The Maryland Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Act establishes development restrictions:

- A. Throughout the entire state of Maryland regardless of distance to any body of water
- B. Only along the Atlantic Ocean coastline in Worcester County, Maryland directly
- C. Within one thousand feet of tidal waters and tidal wetlands of the Chesapeake Bay and tributaries
- D. Only on properties within the city limits of Baltimore City within Maryland's boundaries

35. Construction within a designated FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) generally requires that:

- A. The structure be elevated only six inches above the surrounding grade at the lot line
- B. The lowest floor be elevated to or above the base flood elevation (BFE) for the area
- C. The construction be completed using only treated lumber on all exposed exterior surfaces
- D. The contractor obtain a separate federal flood construction permit from FEMA's regional office

36. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides:

- A. Federal flood insurance to property owners in participating communities meeting the floodplain standards
- B. Free federal grant funding for any home damaged by any precipitation event without limitation
- C. Tax-exempt status for any construction project performed within designated coastal counties
- D. Federally guaranteed loans to all Maryland residents seeking to rebuild homes after a flood

37. The Maryland Stormwater Management Act of 2007 requires that new development:

- A. Be limited to no more than two acres of land disturbed at any one construction phase
- B. Be approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers prior to any earthwork or grading
- C. Use only impervious materials in driveways and paved areas serving the new structure
- D. Use environmental site design (ESD) to the maximum extent practicable on the property

38. A Maryland construction project disturbing five thousand square feet or more generally requires:

- A. A separate federal Clean Air Act conformity determination by U.S. EPA Region 3 staff
- B. A bond payable to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources before any earthwork
- C. An approved erosion and sediment control plan from the local soil conservation district
- D. A signed agreement with the homeowner association to plant fifty trees on the property

39. Construction work that impacts a Maryland nontidal wetland generally requires:

- A. A wetlands permit from the Maryland Department of the Environment under nontidal wetlands law
- B. Approval from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Pacific Division
- C. A wetlands mitigation deposit of fifty thousand dollars with the Maryland Comptroller's office
- D. Only verbal acknowledgment from the adjoining landowner and from any tenants on site

40. The Maryland Forest Conservation Act applies to:

- A. Only those properties located within designated state forest lands managed by DNR directly
- B. Specified land disturbance activities of forty thousand square feet or more, with exceptions
- C. Only residential additions within five hundred feet of any visible mature standing tree
- D. Only federal projects performed on Maryland public lands by federal agencies and contractors

41. Construction and demolition debris generated in Maryland is generally regulated under:

- A. The federal Resource Recovery Act of nineteen seventy-five as administered by EPA Region 3
- B. The Maryland Office of the State Comptroller's solid waste accounting branch directly
- C. The federal Toxic Substances Control Act regardless of the type of debris generated
- D. Maryland Department of the Environment regulations covering acceptable disposal facilities

42. The National Electrical Code (NEC), as referenced in Maryland's residential building standards, is published by:

- A. The American National Standards Institute as Standard ANSI-3 every three calendar years
- B. The U.S. Department of Energy under federal building efficiency standards every five years
- C. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as NFPA 70 and updated on a three-year cycle
- D. The Maryland Public Service Commission in its biennial electrical safety regulation update

43. Plumbing work in most Maryland jurisdictions is regulated under a locally adopted version of:

- A. The Maryland State Plumbing Specification, which is independent of any model code or standard
- B. The International Plumbing Code (IPC) as adopted with state and local amendments
- C. The Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) as published by IAPMO and adopted by every state
- D. The National Standard Plumbing Code (NSPC) as adopted only by Maryland counties

44. Gas piping and fuel-gas appliance installation in Maryland is typically regulated under a locally adopted version of:

- A. The Maryland State Fuel-Gas Standard, which is independent of any model code or standard
- B. The International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC) as adopted with state and local amendments
- C. The federal pipeline safety regulations administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation
- D. ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section IV as adopted by the State of Maryland

45. Heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning equipment installation in Maryland is generally governed by a locally adopted version of:

- A. The Maryland Mechanical Construction Standard, which is fully independent of any model code
- B. The Underwriters Laboratories Mechanical Equipment Code as adopted by the State Fire Marshal
- C. The Manufacturer's Code of Practice issued by the Air Conditioning Contractors of America
- D. The International Mechanical Code (IMC) as adopted with state and local amendments

46. Maryland has adopted, with state amendments, a version of the energy code based on:

- A. The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as adopted statewide with amendments
- B. The American Society for Testing and Materials Standard E-241 for energy performance
- C. The federal Department of Energy Building Energy Code published by EPA each year
- D. The Maryland Solar Standard issued by the Maryland Energy Administration each five years

47. Accessibility requirements in covered Maryland projects are generally based on:

- A. Only the Maryland Department of Disabilities recommended accessibility guidelines for builders
- B. Voluntary Maryland Universal Design suggestions for single-family residential construction
- C. The Maryland Accessibility Code (MAC), based on the ICC A117.1 standard with amendments
- D. ANSI Z535 safety signage standards as adopted by the Maryland Occupational Safety Board

48. The federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III generally applies to:

- A. Single-family detached residential dwellings owned and occupied by the homeowner directly
- B. Places of public accommodation and commercial facilities, including new construction and alterations
- C. Public sidewalks in residential neighborhoods built by private home improvement contractors
- D. The interior of private residential garages used solely by the homeowner for personal vehicles

49. Under the IECC, the prescriptive minimum R-value for ceiling insulation in a typical Maryland climate zone (CZ 4) is generally:

- A. R-13 for the entire ceiling area regardless of any other insulation present in the assembly
- B. R-19 for the entire ceiling area regardless of any other insulation present in the assembly
- C. R-30 for the entire ceiling area regardless of any other insulation present in the assembly
- D. R-49 or higher for the entire ceiling area under the prescriptive insulation table

50. Air sealing of the building thermal envelope under the IECC:

- A. Is required to limit infiltration to a tested level (e.g., 3 ACH50 in many climate zones)
- B. Is recommended but not required and is enforced only on commercial buildings statewide
- C. Is required only on roof assemblies, not on walls, floors, or fenestration penetrations
- D. Is satisfied by installing one layer of housewrap on the exterior wall sheathing only

51. Attic ventilation in a vented attic assembly under the IRC is generally required to provide net free ventilating area of at least:

- A. One one-hundredth of the attic floor area, divided equally between high and low vents only
- B. One fiftieth of the attic floor area, divided equally between high and low vents only
- C. One one-hundred-fiftieth of the attic floor area (or 1/300 with proper baffles and balanced vents)
- D. One one-thousandth of the attic floor area regardless of any other vent design factor

52. Under the IRC, footings for one- and two-family dwellings generally must extend below the frost line, which in much of Maryland is set at a depth of approximately:

- A. Twelve inches below finished grade in every Maryland county and jurisdiction uniformly
- B. Thirty inches below finished grade in many Maryland jurisdictions (varies locally)
- C. Sixty inches below finished grade in every Maryland county and jurisdiction uniformly
- D. Ninety inches below finished grade in every Maryland county and jurisdiction uniformly

53. Concrete used for footings, foundation walls, and slabs in residential construction under the IRC is generally required to have a minimum 28-day compressive strength of:

- A. One thousand pounds per square inch (1,000 psi) for all residential footings and slabs
- B. Sixteen hundred pounds per square inch (1,600 psi) for all residential footings and slabs
- C. Two thousand pounds per square inch (2,000 psi) for all residential footings and slabs
- D. Twenty-five hundred pounds per square inch (2,500 psi) or more, depending on the application

54. Asphalt shingle roof coverings under the IRC are generally permitted on roof slopes of:

- A. Two units vertical in twelve units horizontal (2:12) or steeper, with double underlayment below 4:12
- B. One unit vertical in twelve units horizontal (1:12) or steeper for any single underlayment
- C. Three units vertical in six units horizontal (3:6) or steeper regardless of underlayment thickness

D. Six units vertical in twelve units horizontal (6:12) or steeper, since lower slopes are prohibited

55. Foundation waterproofing or damp-proofing is generally required under the IRC for:

- A. Only above-grade interior basement walls finished with painted gypsum board surfaces
- B. Only foundations supporting wood-frame buildings of three or more stories above grade
- C. Foundation walls that enclose interior spaces and floors below grade in the structure
- D. Only those foundation walls that exceed twelve feet in height above the footing line

## **PRACTICE EXAM 10 – NASCLA MARYLAND – EXPLAINED ANSWER KEY**

**1. A** — Federal law requires every employer to complete Form I-9 verifying identity and employment authorization within three business days of the employee's first day of work. Section 1 must be completed by the employee no later than the first day; Section 2 (employer review of documents) must be completed within three business days, and failure to comply exposes the employer to civil penalties.

**2. C** — E-Verify is a voluntary federal electronic verification system for most private employers, but it is mandatory for certain federal contractors and subcontractors and for some state and local employers. Use of E-Verify supplements — it does not replace — the Form I-9 verification requirement.

**3. B** — The OSHA 10-hour construction outreach course is not generally mandated by federal OSHA itself but is widely required by project owners, prime contractors, and certain state laws as a condition of working on construction sites. Many general contractors and public agencies require 10-hour cards for all workers and 30-hour cards for supervisors.

**4. D** — Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity), and national origin. The five protected classes apply to hiring, firing, pay, promotion, and other terms and conditions of employment for employers with fifteen or more employees.

**5. A** — Maryland law requires employers to report each new hire to the State New Hire Registry within twenty days of the employee's first day of work. The reporting supports child support enforcement and the detection of unemployment and workers' compensation fraud.

**6. B** — A drug-free workplace policy is generally optional for private Maryland employers, but employers performing covered federal contracts must comply with the federal Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. Many contractors also adopt voluntary policies to support safety, workers' compensation discounts, and DOT-regulated driver compliance.

- 7. C** — Form I-9 must be retained for three years after the date of hire, or one year after the employee's termination, whichever is later. The retention rule lets the employer support the verification on demand by ICE or DOL during the relevant window.
- 8. D** — A new employee provides federal income tax withholding information on IRS Form W-4, which the employee completes at hire and updates whenever filing status, dependents, or other inputs change. The W-4 drives how much federal income tax the employer withholds from each paycheck.
- 9. D** — Maryland Form MW 507 is the employee's Maryland Withholding Exemption Certificate, the state counterpart to the federal W-4. It captures Maryland-specific exemptions, residency, and county of residence so the employer can withhold the correct state and local income tax.
- 10. B** — Employers report federal income tax withheld plus the employer and employee shares of FICA on Form 941, the Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return. The form reconciles withholding by quarter and is paired with periodic deposits made through EFTPS.
- 11. A** — Federal unemployment tax is reported annually on Form 940. FUTA is paid by the employer (employees do not contribute), and the employer takes a credit against FUTA for state unemployment tax paid timely under SUTA.
- 12. C** — A Maryland worker injured on the job should notify the employer as soon as practicable and file a written claim with the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission. The WCC is the agency with original jurisdiction over WC claims in Maryland and adjudicates entitlement and benefit amounts.
- 13. D** — A MOSH compliance officer arriving for an inspection generally has authority to enter, present credentials, hold an opening conference with the employer, conduct a walk-around, and prepare an inspection report. Refusing entry typically triggers an administrative warrant rather than excusing the inspection.
- 14. A** — An employer wishing to contest an OSHA or MOSH citation must file a written notice of contest within fifteen working days of receiving the citation. Failure to file in time renders the citation a final order of the Commission, not subject to further review.
- 15. B** — OSHA's Lockout/Tagout standard applies to service or maintenance activities in which the unexpected energization, start-up, or release of stored energy could injure workers. The standard mandates documented energy-control procedures, isolating devices, locks/tags, verification, and trained authorized employees.
- 16. D** — Under NFPA 70E, the "limited approach boundary" defines the closest distance an unqualified person may approach an exposed energized conductor without specific safety measures. Crossing the boundary requires escort by a qualified person and appropriate PPE.
- 17. C** — OSHA's hot work standards require fire prevention measures, including removing or shielding combustibles, designating a fire watch, and ensuring an extinguisher is at hand. Welding, cutting, and brazing operations cause a significant share of construction-site fires when these controls are missing.

- 18. A** — Subpart Q requires that concrete formwork be designed, fabricated, erected, supported, braced, and maintained to safely support all vertical and lateral loads imposed during the placement and curing of concrete. Form failures cause some of the most catastrophic incidents in residential and commercial concrete work.
- 19. B** — Subpart R prohibits steel erection from beginning until the controlling contractor provides written notification that concrete in footings, piers, and walls has reached adequate strength based on test results or 75 percent of the specified minimum compressive strength. The rule prevents collapses caused by erecting steel on green concrete.
- 20. C** — OSHA's demolition standard at 29 CFR 1926.850 requires a competent person to conduct an engineering survey of the structure to determine its condition and the possibility of unplanned collapse before demolition begins. The survey shapes the demolition plan and the protective measures used.
- 21. A** — Subpart CC requires crane operators of covered cranes to be certified or qualified through an accredited certifying body, an audited employer program, the U.S. military, or a state/local licensing program meeting OSHA criteria. The certification proves both written and practical knowledge of safe operation.
- 22. D** — OSHA requires that slings be inspected before each use and removed from service if they exhibit specified damage criteria — broken wires, deformed hooks, cuts, heat damage, or missing tags. Damaged slings are a major cause of rigging failures and dropped-load fatalities.
- 23. B** — Safe manual lifting requires bending at the knees rather than the back, keeping the load close to the body, lifting smoothly with the legs and core, and avoiding twisting under load. The technique reduces lumbar stress and prevents the most common worker back injuries.
- 24. C** — Floor holes, including skylight openings, must be covered, guarded by a standard guardrail, or otherwise protected to prevent workers, tools, and materials from falling through. Covers must be capable of supporting at least twice the maximum intended load and marked to identify them.
- 25. A** — Wall openings from which an employee could fall must be protected by guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems under Subpart M. The same fall-protection hierarchy that applies to leading edges applies to vertical openings in walls.
- 26. D** — Eye and face protection is required when performing operations with potential flying particles, molten metal, hot sparks, harmful radiation, or chemical splash, including welding, cutting, grinding, chipping, and drilling. The PPE must meet the ANSI Z87.1 standard for impact and optical performance.
- 27. B** — Respirators are required when worker exposure to airborne contaminants exceeds the permissible exposure limit (PEL), or when no PEL applies but a recognized hazard exists. Use must follow a written respiratory protection program with medical clearance, fit testing, and training.
- 28. A** — OSHA requires hearing protection when an employee's noise exposure equals or exceeds an eight-hour time-weighted average of ninety decibels, which is the OSHA permissible exposure limit. A

separate "action level" of eighty-five dBA TWA triggers the hearing conservation program with monitoring, audiograms, and PPE availability.

**29. C** — OSHA Form 300 (the Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses) is the running record of all recordable injuries and illnesses occurring at the workplace during the calendar year. Covered employers also maintain Form 301 (incident report) and post the Form 300A summary annually.

**30. D** — A work-related injury or illness is OSHA-recordable when it results in death, days away from work, restricted work or job transfer, medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, or a significant work-related diagnosis. Each of these outcomes triggers entry on Form 300.

**31. B** — A Maryland new home builder must provide each consumer-buyer with a written warranty satisfying Maryland's New Home Warranty laws under Real Property Article §10-201 et seq. The statutory framework specifies minimum coverages and durations that the warranty must meet.

**32. A** — Under Maryland Real Property Article §10-203, the new home warranty covers the dwelling against defects in materials and workmanship for the period specified by statute (one year for general defects, two years for systems, and longer for major structural). The warranty runs with the property to subsequent owners during the coverage period.

**33. D** — Maryland law requires a residential real estate seller to provide each buyer with a property condition disclosure or disclaimer statement on the form prescribed by the Maryland Real Estate Commission. The form lets the buyer evaluate known conditions or accept the property "as is" with no representations.

**34. C** — The Maryland Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area Act establishes development restrictions on land within one thousand feet of tidal waters and tidal wetlands of the Bay and its tidal tributaries. The Critical Area program limits impervious surface, density, and disturbance to protect water quality.

**35. B** — Construction in a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area requires the lowest floor (including basement) of a residential structure to be elevated to or above the base flood elevation, with non-residential structures meeting elevation or flood-proofing alternatives. Local floodplain ordinances enforce the rule as part of NFIP participation.

**36. A** — The National Flood Insurance Program provides federally backed flood insurance to property owners in communities that adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances meeting FEMA's minimum standards. Communities that fail to participate render their property owners ineligible for NFIP policies and certain federal disaster assistance.

**37. D** — Maryland's Stormwater Management Act of 2007 requires new development to use environmental site design (ESD) to the maximum extent practicable, treating stormwater on-site through small-scale, distributed practices rather than large end-of-pipe ponds. The policy aims to mimic natural hydrology and protect downstream waters.

- 38. C** — A Maryland construction project disturbing five thousand square feet or more generally requires an erosion and sediment control plan approved by the local soil conservation district. The plan controls runoff and sedimentation during construction and is a condition of the building permit.
- 39. A** — Construction work impacting a Maryland nontidal wetland requires a permit from the Maryland Department of the Environment under the Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act. Federal authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Clean Water Act §404 is often required in parallel.
- 40. B** — The Maryland Forest Conservation Act applies to specified land disturbance activities of forty thousand square feet or more, subject to a list of statutory exceptions. The Act requires a forest stand delineation and forest conservation plan with retention or replacement of forest cover.
- 41. D** — Construction and demolition (C&D) debris in Maryland is regulated by the Maryland Department of the Environment, which sets standards for acceptable disposal facilities, recycling, and certain reportable wastes. Some jurisdictions also impose local recycling requirements on contractors.
- 42. C** — The National Electrical Code is published by the National Fire Protection Association as NFPA 70 and is updated on a three-year revision cycle. Maryland and its local jurisdictions adopt the NEC with state-specific amendments for residential and commercial electrical work.
- 43. B** — Maryland jurisdictions generally use the International Plumbing Code (IPC) framework with state and local amendments for plumbing installations on covered projects. The IPC sets sizing, materials, fixtures, venting, and installation rules for water supply, drain-waste-vent, and storm drainage systems.
- 44. B** — Fuel-gas piping and gas appliances in Maryland are typically governed by a locally adopted version of the International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC), with state and local amendments. The IFGC covers piping materials, sizing, installation, venting, and combustion air for natural gas and LPG systems.
- 45. D** — Maryland jurisdictions typically govern HVAC equipment installation under a locally adopted version of the International Mechanical Code (IMC), with state and local amendments. The IMC covers equipment sizing, ductwork, ventilation, combustion air, refrigeration, and venting requirements.
- 46. A** — Maryland has adopted the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) statewide with state-specific amendments under the Maryland Building Performance Standards. Local jurisdictions enforce the IECC through plan review, inspections, and tested envelope performance.
- 47. C** — Accessibility on covered Maryland projects is governed by the Maryland Accessibility Code (MAC), which is based on the ICC A117.1 standard with Maryland amendments. Covered facilities must also satisfy ADA Title III where applicable to public accommodations and commercial facilities.
- 48. B** — Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act covers places of public accommodation and commercial facilities, including new construction and alterations. ADA Title III generally does not apply to private single-family residences, although accessibility is encouraged through universal design.

**49. D** — Under current editions of the IECC, the prescriptive minimum ceiling R-value for Climate Zone 4 (which covers most of Maryland) is R-49 or higher. The high R-value reflects the cost-effectiveness of attic insulation in reducing winter heat loss and summer heat gain.

**50. A** — The IECC requires the building thermal envelope to be air sealed and tested by blower door, with infiltration generally limited to 3 ACH50 in Climate Zones 3 through 8 — including Maryland's CZ 4. The test verifies that as-built tightness meets the prescribed limit before a certificate of occupancy is issued.

**51. C** — IRC §R806 requires vented attic ventilation of at least 1/150 of the attic floor area, or 1/300 with at least 40 percent of vents in the upper portion and the remainder in the lower portion. Balanced high/low ventilation moves moist air out and limits ice damming and roof-deck damage.

**52. B** — Footings in much of Maryland must extend approximately thirty inches below finished grade to be below the local frost line, although the specific depth is set by the jurisdiction. Footings shallower than the frost line are subject to frost heave that can crack foundations and slabs.

**53. D** — Under IRC Table R402.2, residential concrete must have a minimum 28-day compressive strength of 2,500 psi or higher, with higher strengths required for garage floors, slabs exposed to weather, and foundation walls in severe-weather conditions. Specifying the wrong mix can compromise durability and load-bearing capacity.

**54. A** — IRC §R905.2 permits asphalt shingles on roof slopes of 2:12 or steeper, with double underlayment required for slopes less than 4:12 to manage water intrusion. Slopes below 2:12 require alternative roof coverings such as built-up roofing or membrane systems.

**55. C** — IRC §R406 requires damp-proofing or waterproofing on foundation walls that enclose interior spaces and floors below grade. The level of protection (damp-proofing versus waterproofing) depends on the presence of a high water table, hydrostatic pressure, and soil drainage conditions.