

Candidate Information Bulletin

Site Safety Manager License Examinations

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The NYC Department of Buildings (“Department”) has contracted with CPS HR Consulting (CPS HR) to develop and administer license examinations for various construction trades. Information in this candidate information bulletin is important for you to know and is relevant to every step of the examination process. It is your responsibility to read, know and understand this bulletin. You will be held accountable for the information contained within.

License Requirements

Site Safety Manager

The Site Safety Manager Certification authorizes the holder of this NYC license to ensure compliance with the site safety plan and all safety requirements, as specified in chapter 33 of the New York City Building Code.

To obtain a Site Safety Manager Certification, you must meet all the following qualifications prior to applying for the certification:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years old;
- Be able to read and write the English language;
- Be fit to perform the work authorized by the license;
- Have good moral character so as not to adversely impact your fitness to perform the duties and responsibilities of a Site Safety Manager;
- Have completed a Department-approved 40-hour Site Safety Training Course within the one (1) year prior to application; and
- Possess a valid Site Safety Training (SST) Supervisor Card.

Applicants must also meet one (1) of the following levels of experience:

1. Have three (3) years of experience as a New York State Licensed Professional Engineer or Registered Architect, within the five (5) years prior to application, **either**
 - supervising workers engaged in the construction or demolition work subject to a site safety plan at major buildings in New York City; **or**
 - providing site safety oversight during the construction or demolition work subject to a site safety plan at major buildings in New York City, including conducting site safety risk assessments, developing or implementing the site safety hazard control measures, managing site safety operations, or performing inspections to verify compliance.
2. Hold a Certified Safety Professional (CSP) certification from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) and have three (3) years of experience, within the five (5) years prior to application, **either**
 - supervising workers engaged in the construction or demolition of major buildings in New York City; **or**
 - providing site safety oversight during the construction or demolition of major buildings in New York City, including conducting site safety risk assessments,

developing or implementing the site safety hazard control measures, managing site safety operations, or performing inspections to verify compliance.

3. Have three (3) years of experience serving as a NYC-certified Site Safety Coordinator during the construction or demolition of major buildings in New York City, within the five (5) years prior to application.
4. Have four (4) years of experience serving as a NYC-registered Concrete Safety Manager during the construction or demolition of major buildings in New York City, within the seven (7) years prior to application.
5. Hold a Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST) certification from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) and have four (4) years of experience, within the eight (8) years prior to application, **either**
 - o supervising workers engaged in construction or demolition work subject to a site safety plan at major buildings in New York City; **or**
 - o providing site safety oversight during the construction or demolition work subject to a site safety plan at major buildings in New York City, including conducting site safety risk assessments, developing or implementing the site safety hazard control measures, managing site safety operations, or performing inspections to verify compliance.
6. Have five (5) years of experience supervising workers full-time in the construction or demolition work subject to a site safety plan at major buildings in New York City, within the eight (8) years prior to application
7. Have eight (8) years of experience as a NYC Department of Buildings enforcement official, within the ten (10) years prior to application. Four (4) of those years of experience must include inspection of the construction or demolition of major buildings in New York City.
8. Completed an 18-month on-the-job site safety manager training program under the direct supervision of a certified site safety manager during the construction or demolition of major buildings in New York City, within the two (2) years prior to application. The supervising site safety manager must register the trainee with the Department prior to the commencement of the training program and certify the trainee's satisfactory completion of the training program at its conclusion.
9. Completed a site safety manager apprenticeship program approved by the New York State Department of Labor.

To successfully qualify for the Site Safety Manager license, candidates must first pass a written examination. The Department has approved the examination content outline for the Site Safety Manager written examination. The pass point listed for the written examination reflects the minimum competency required by Site Safety Managers to successfully perform their job duties in a responsible manner that protects the public from harm.

Submitting Your Examination Application

Before you can schedule your examination with CPS HR Consulting, you must submit a **typed** examination application and fee to the Department. Applications that do not include the examination fee will be returned to the applicant. Corresponding license examination applications can be found on the Department's website at <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/industry/applications-forms.page>. Any false statement on your application will result in you being deemed ineligible to take the corresponding license examinations and may result in severe civil and criminal penalties.

Note: All Special Examination Arrangement requests **MUST** be submitted with the application to be accepted. Please submit professional documentation of your disability with your application to help us determine the necessary testing arrangements.

Examination Fee

The fee for the written examination is \$525. **The fee is nonrefundable** and does **not** include the background investigation fee or the license issuance fee for your license after you pass the examination and background investigation.

You must pay through the License Exam Application/Payment function on the DOB NOW Public Portal. You do not have to have a DOB NOW account to be able to access this function, this option is available to everyone. When you open the "License Exam Application/Payment" bar, click "New Payment", select "Site Safety" under "License Type" and fill out the information as requested.

When you have filled out the form, click "Create" and the system will prompt you to pay the \$525.00 fee via eCheck or Credit Card.

Scheduling Your Examination

After your examination application with the Department has been accepted, you will receive a notice via email that you may schedule your licensure examination. This notice will provide the information you need to schedule your examination, including a link to the scheduling website.

Important: For best results, access the link from a desktop or laptop computer. Please avoid accessing the link and scheduling from a smartphone. The scheduling website is optimized for desktop/laptop browser use.

Once you receive the email notifying you that you are eligible to take the corresponding license examination, you are responsible for scheduling an appointment to take the examination.

You may only test one time per notification of eligibility. Each time you fail, you must reapply with the Department.

Important: You have six (6) months from your examination application date to take the examination. If you have not taken the written examination within six (6) months, you will need to reapply through the Department and pay the corresponding examination fee.

The examinations are administered by CPS HR's partner, *Pearson Vue*, at one of their several convenient test centers in and around the City. You may schedule via the Internet by clicking on the link found in your eligibility confirmation email. When registering for your examination, you will be provided with a list of available test locations and availability options. You will be able to choose the center that is most convenient for you.

To Schedule an Examination Online

After scheduling the examination, you will receive a confirmation email with appointment details. Visit the CPS HR website at [FAQ \(cpshr.us\)](http://FAQ(cpshr.us)) for more information.

If you have any questions regarding the scheduling process or experience any difficulty using the website, please contact CPS HR Consulting at 855-224-6977.

If You Need to Cancel an Examination Appointment

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your **cancellation notice is received two (2) calendar days before the scheduled examination date**. For example, for a Monday appointment, the cancellation notice would need to be received on or before the previous Saturday. The website link to cancel your appointment will be provided in your examination scheduling confirmation email. Please note that you may also use the automated system, 24 hours a day in order to cancel and reschedule your appointment. ***If you do not cancel or reschedule your examination two (2) calendar days in advance, you will have to submit another examination application and pay an additional fee.*** Cancellations do not extend the original six (6) month deadline to take an examination. It is your responsibility to ensure that you take the examination within the six (6) month period of eligibility.

If You Missed or Were Late to Your Appointment

If you do any of the following, your application will be invalid, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled, and you will forfeit your examination fee:

- Do not cancel your appointment at least two calendar days before the scheduled examination date.

- Do not appear for your examination appointment.
- Arrive after examination start time.
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

Examination Site Emergency Closings

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. *Pearson Vue* personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible. You may also check the status of your examination schedule by visiting the *Pearson Vue* website at <https://home.pearsonvue.com/test-taker.aspx>.

Special Examination Arrangements

All examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and every reasonable accommodation will be made in meeting a candidate's needs. Applicants with disabilities or those who would otherwise have difficulty taking the examination must fill out the form located at <https://link.cpshr.us/DOBADAFORM> and email to nycdob@cpshr.us.

Note: All Special Examination Arrangement requests **MUST** be submitted with the application to be accepted. Please submit professional documentation of your disability with your application to help us determine the necessary testing arrangements.

ESL (English is Your Second Language)

Please note that a language barrier is not considered a disability. In order to meet the license requirements, applicants must be able to read and write in the English Language pursuant to Section 28-401.6 of the NYC Administrative Code.

Taking Your Examination

Your examination will be given by computer at a *Pearson Vue* testing center. Scores are based on the number of questions you answered correctly. You will not be given credit for any question answered incorrectly or left blank. There is no penalty for guessing, so be sure to mark an answer for each question.

Arrival

On the day of the examination, you should arrive at least thirty (30) minutes before your scheduled examination appointment. This extra time is for sign-in, identification verification, and familiarizing you with the examination process.

If you arrive late, you may not be admitted to the examination site, and you will forfeit your examination fee.

Required Documentation at Examination Site

Upon arrival, you will be required to present two forms of identification in order to take your examination.

The first form of identification must be a **current and valid, government-issued identification with a photo**. In addition, it must contain your signature and the name on the identification must match the name you used to register for your examination. Acceptable forms of identification that meet these standards include the following:

- State Issued Driver's License
- State Issued Identification Card
- Current, US Government Issued Passport
- U.S. Government Issued Military Identification Card
- U.S. Permanent Resident card with a photo ("Green Card")

The second form of identification may be any non-expired identification **with a photo**.

If you arrive at the test center without IDs that meet the above requirements, you will not be permitted to test, and you will have to pay an additional examination fee.

At the test site, you must complete the Candidate Information Collection and Candidate Attestation documentation processes.

Taking the Examination by Computer

You do not need any computer experience or typing skills to take the examination by computer. If you would like to view a demonstration of the system before your scheduled test time, please visit: <https://wsr.pearsonvue.com/demo/>

Examination Review

CPS HR Consulting, in cooperation with the Department, will be consistently evaluating the examinations being administered to ensure that the examinations accurately measure competency in the required knowledge areas. While taking the examination, examinees will have the opportunity to provide comments on any questions by using the comments button. These comments will be analyzed by CPS HR Consulting examination development staff. CPS HR Consulting does not respond to individuals regarding these comments but be assured that all substantive comments are reviewed.

Testing Regulations

To ensure that all candidates are tested under equal and favorable conditions, the regulations and procedures outlined below will be observed. Failure to follow these procedures may result in disqualification from licensure.

CPS HR Consulting reserves the right to audiotape and videotape any written examination session.

Please note that the following security procedures will apply during the examination:

- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination center.
- You are not permitted to bring any visitors to the test facility (e.g., children are not allowed in the examination area).
- Copying or communicating examination content is a violation of security regulations and may result in the cancellation of your examination results and/or legal action taken under copyright laws.

Personal Items

We recommend that you do not bring any unnecessary personal items to your examination appointment as storage may not be available.

- **Personal preparatory aids, notes, books, calculators, highlighters, pens, and pencils are not permitted. You will have access to an online calculator for all written exams. Scratch paper, pens, and pencils will be provided for you as necessary.**

- Electronic equipment (e.g., cellular telephones, smartwatches, smart glasses/eyewear*, cameras, tape recorders) are not permitted in the testing areas.
 - *If you require prescription eyewear to be able to effectively complete the exam and your only available pair of glasses are “smart” (i.e., able to be connected to electronic networks), then your examination will be cancelled and rescheduled for a later time, pending your remaining testing eligibility and approval from NYC DOB.
- No hats, scarves, or other non-essential garments are allowed in the testing center.
- Pocket items beyond keys or a wallet are not permitted in the testing center.
- Other personal items (e.g., purses, briefcases, backpacks) are not permitted in the testing center.

Breaks

Once you have been seated and the examination begins, breaks are not permitted. You may leave the examination center only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the proctor. In this case, you must also sign out/in on the roster, and you will not receive extra time to complete the examination.

Misconduct or Disruptive Behavior

Candidates who engage in any kind of misconduct, disruptive, or offensive behavior may be dismissed from the examination. Such behavior includes giving or receiving help, sharing supplies, taking part in an act of impersonation, removing test materials or notes from the testing room, using rude or offensive language and behavior that delays or interrupts testing.

Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance, 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 Department, and you may be denied licensure.

Weapons

Weapons are not allowed at the testing center.

Important: Before an examination begins, the test center administrator will perform an inspection to ensure candidates are not in violation of any of the above rules and collect any materials that violate the rules.

Exam Security

All test questions are the copyrighted property of the Department. It is forbidden under federal copyright law to copy, reproduce, record, distribute or display these test questions by any means, in whole or in part, without the Department’s written permission. Doing so may subject you to

severe civil and criminal penalties, including up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine for criminal violations.

By registering for the exam, you agree to comply with all testing regulations required by NYC DOB and/or NYC DOB's authorized contractors administering the Licensing Exam(s). Furthermore, you agree without limitation that you will help maintain exam security by not: cheating; providing or accepting improper assistance; using unauthorized materials that are in any way related to the licensing requirements; allowing other persons to use any of your licensing exam answers or personal registration information; disclosing, publishing, reproducing, or transmitting any confidential information, in any form, to any third party (including those who have also taken the test); requesting any other individual to disclose any test or any part thereof to you; bringing in or taking out any materials from the examination area without permission; nor any other unauthorized behavior that violates exam security. **Failure to comply may result in fines; civil action; denial, suspension, or revocation of license; indefinite ban from seeking a license; or any other action that NYC DOB view as appropriate.**

Examination Results

For written examinations, the Proctor will give you a printed score report immediately following completion of the examination. The report indicates overall score and grade and whether you passed or failed. Proctors do not have any information about these tests or scoring methods.

Whether you pass or fail, you will receive a printed score report following completion of the examination. The Department requires you to submit the original pass score report as part of the submission of your background investigation documents.

Duplicate Score Reports

You can get a duplicate score report through your personal *Pearson Vue* web account any time after completing the examination.

Obtaining Licensure

If you pass, you are required to submit, in person, a Background Investigation Questionnaire and all required documents within one (1) year of passing the examination to the Department's Licensing & Exams Unit. Prior to submitting the Background Investigation Questionnaire, you **must** meet all the requirements from one (1) of the categories of experience listed under License Requirements. Please refer to the Department website for information regarding submission of background investigation documents. If you successfully pass the background investigation, you will receive notice of qualification from the Department. Upon receipt of the notice, you must contact the Department's Licensing & Exams Unit to schedule an appointment to obtain the license. You have one year from the receipt of the notice of qualification to appear and furnish to

the Department all requested original forms, documents, and fees. Failure to do so will result in the denial of the license and will require a re-examination and reapplication.

If you have any questions regarding the application or the application process, please contact the Department of Buildings' Licensing & Exams Unit at www.nyc.gov/buildings or email LicenseExams@buildings.nyc.gov.

Retaking the Examination and the Appeals Process

Retaking an Examination

If you fail the examination, you must wait fourteen (14) days before re-applying for the examination. You may retake the examination, when available, up to three (3) times within a six (6) month period. Each time you wish to take the examination, you must reapply through the Department and pay the full examination fee. Candidates who fail the written test three (3) times within six (6) months must wait six (6) months before applying again to take the written test.

Release of Score Information

Examination scores are released only with the candidate's written consent. In order for CPS HR Consulting to release a score to the Department, the candidate must give CPS HR Consulting consent. You will be asked for consent when scheduling the written examination before the examination is administered. Your consent is required before you can schedule the examination. If you do not consent, you will not be able to schedule the examination and you will not be reimbursed for the examination fees.

Appeals Process

CPS HR Consulting's goal is to provide quality examinations and a pleasant testing experience for candidates. If you are dissatisfied with either and believe CPS HR Consulting can correct the problem, please use the comment forms available during your written examination administration. Your comments will be reviewed.

If you fail the written examination by five (5) percentage points or fewer, you may submit an appeal. The appeal must state the title of the license examination, your name, return address, the date of the test, and a detailed statement of the grounds for appeal. Your appeal must be received no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification of failure to pass the license examination. An appeal form can be found at the CPS HR website: <https://link.cpshr.us/DOBAppealForm>.

Please review and fill out the Written and Practical Examination Appeal form. Submit your appeal to CPS HR Consulting at nycdob@cpshr.us using the same email address provided to NYC DOB on your [LIC41](#). The Appeals Committee will review your appeal and send you a response (via USPS mail) within sixty (60) days of receipt.

Examination Content Outline

The content outline for the New York City Site Safety Manager written examination is provided below. The examination is closed book and contains 80 multiple-choice questions. The outline lists all topics covered in the examination and the number of questions asked about each topic.

Scope of Examination

The examination assesses a candidate’s knowledge of and experience in applying the NYC Codes, Rules, and Regulations governing safety at construction sites, as well as trade-specific industry knowledge. This knowledge includes, but is not limited to, the use and construction of sidewalk sheds, hoisting and rigging procedures, storage and usage of hazardous materials, scaffolding and ladder usage, protection of pedestrians and adjoining personal property, traffic control and protection, and governmental permits required.

Site Safety Manager Written Examination

# of Questions	Minimum Passing Score	Time Allowed
80	56 (70%)	3 hours

Subject Area	# of Items	References
Construction and Demolition Requirements	24	
Requirements for Construction or Demolition of a Major Building	12	NYC BC Ch. 14, NYC BC Ch. 33; RCNY 3310-01; NYC FC Ch. 9; NYC FC Ch. 33
Administrative Requirements	12	NYC BC Ch. 33; NYC Title 28, Ch. 1 & Ch. 4; RCNY 104-08, RCNY 3310-01
Construction and Demolition Operations	56	
Construction of a Major Building	24	NYC BC Ch. 18, NYC BC Ch. 19, NYC BC Ch. 22, NYC BC Ch. 33, RCNY 3310-01, NYC FC Ch. 33
Alterations of a Major Building	11	NYC BC Ch. 33, NYC FC Ch. 33
Temporary Construction Equipment	13	NYC BC Ch. 33, RCNY 3310-01
Demolition Operations	8	NYC BC Ch. 33

Note: NYC BC = NYC Construction Codes: Building Code. NYC FC = NYC Fire Code. RCNY = Rules of the City of New York.

Reference List

The reference list provided below includes suggested materials that could assist you in preparing for the examination. The examination questions reference NYC Codes, Rules, and Regulations. Please note that the references below may cite portions of other codes, rules, or regulations. You may be tested on information in these additional sources that are applicable to your trade. The knowledge that will be tested in the examinations will be taken from these materials in addition to applied field knowledge of the Site Safety Manager Trade.

This is not an open book examination; candidates are not allowed to bring reference materials into the testing site.

1. *2014 NYC Administrative Code, Title 28, Chapter 1: Administration; Chapter 4: Licensing and Registration of Businesses, Trades and Occupations Engaged in Building Work*, <https://www.nyc.gov/site/buildings/codes/2014-construction-codes-updates.page>.
2. *2014 NYC Construction Codes, Building Code: Chapter 14: Exterior Walls; Chapter 18: Soils and Foundation; Chapter 19: Concrete; Chapter 22: Steel; Chapter 33: Safeguards During Construction or Demolition*, <https://www.nyc.gov/site/buildings/codes/2014-construction-codes-updates.page>.
3. *Rules of the City of New York, Title 1, §104-08 Site Safety Manager and Site Safety Coordinator Certificates; §3310-01: Site Safety*, <https://www.nyc.gov/site/buildings/codes/title-1-rules-of-the-city-of-new-york.page>.
4. *New York City Fire Code, 2014, Chapter 9: Fire Protection Systems; Chapter 33: Fire Safety During Construction, Alteration and Demolition*, <https://www.nyc.gov/site/fdny/codes/fire-code/fire-code.page>.

Contact Information

For questions regarding application status, background investigation, examination application, or licensing fees, contact the Department of Buildings, Licensing & Exams Unit:

Email LicenseExams@buildings.nyc.gov or visit www.nyc.gov/buildings

For questions regarding the administration of the written or practical examination or other general questions about the testing process, contact CPS HR:

Call 855-224-6977 or email NYCDOB@cpsr.us