

Your Exam Content Outline

The following outline describes the content of one of the Vermont insurance examinations. The outlines are the basis of the examinations. The examination will contain questions on the subjects contained in the outline. The percentages indicate the relative weights assigned to each part of the examination. For example, 10 percent means that 6 questions will be drawn from the section on a 60-question exam, 10 will be drawn on a 100-question exam and 15 will be drawn on a 150-question exam.

Vermont Producer's Examination for Personal Lines Insurance Series 14-39

100 questions – Two-hour time limit

1.0 Insurance Regulation 8%

1.1 Licensing

- Process (4800; 4813f)
- Types of licensees (4791)
 - Resident (4800(3)(A))
 - Nonresident (4800(3)(B); 4813h)
 - Temporary (4800(3)(D)(ii); 4813k)
- Maintenance and duration
 - Renewal and expiration (4798)
 - Address change (4800(3)(F))
 - Assumed business name (4813j)
 - Reporting of actions (4813o)
 - Continuing education requirements (4800a; Reg 2000-2 Sec 4)
- Disciplinary actions
 - Denial of license (4800(3)(E))
 - Cease and desist order (3661)
 - Suspension, revocation or nonrenewal (4804; 4806)
 - Penalties (3661(2); 4804(d))

1.2 State regulation

- Commissioner's general duties and powers (4726; 4804)
- Company regulation
 - Certificate of authority (3368)
 - Unfair claim settlement practices (4724(9); Reg 79-2 Sec 1-7)
 - Policy forms (3541)
 - Examination of records (3565)
 - Producer appointment (4798(c); 4813l)
 - Termination of appointment (4798(d); 4813m)
- Producer regulation
 - Acting without a license (4793; 4813c)
 - Shared commissions (4796)
 - Trust accounts — anti-commingling (Reg 95-1; 4724(12))
 - Controlled business (4795)
 - Duties (4813c)
- Unfair trade practices (4724)
 - Misrepresentation (4724(1, 11, 13))
 - False advertising (4724(2))

- Defamation (4724(3))
- Boycott, coercion and intimidation (4724(4))
- False financial statements and entries (4724(5))
- Illegal inducement (4724(6))
- Unfair discrimination (4724(7))
- Rebating (4724(8))
- Failure to maintain complaint record (4724(10))
- Failure to act as fiduciary (4724(12); Reg 95-1)
- Unsuitability (4724(16))
- Nondisclosure of fees or charges (4724(14))
- Consumer privacy regulation (IH-2001-01)

1.3 Federal regulation

- Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 USC 1681–1681d)
- Fraud and false statements (18 USC 1033, 1034)

2.0 General Insurance 7%

2.1 Concepts

- Risk management key terms
 - Risk
 - Exposure
 - Hazard
 - Peril
 - Loss
- Methods of handling risk
 - Avoidance
 - Retention
 - Sharing
 - Reduction
 - Transfer
- Elements of insurable risks
 - Adverse selection
 - Law of large numbers
 - Reinsurance

2.2 Insurers

- Types of insurers
 - Stock companies
 - Mutual companies
 - Fraternal benefit societies
 - Lloyd's associations
 - Risk retention groups
- Private versus government insurers
- Admitted versus nonadmitted insurers
- Domestic, foreign and alien insurers
- Financial status (independent rating services)
- Marketing (distribution) systems

2.3 Producers and general rules of agency

- Insurer as principal
- Producer/insurer relationship
- Authority and powers of producers
 - Express
 - Implied
 - Apparent
- Responsibilities to the applicant/insured

2.4 Contracts

- Elements of a legal contract
 - Offer and acceptance
 - Consideration
 - Competent parties
 - Legal purpose
- Distinct characteristics of an insurance contract
 - Contract of adhesion
 - Aleatory contract
 - Personal contract
 - Unilateral contract
- Legal interpretations affecting contracts
 - Ambiguities in a contract of adhesion
 - Reasonable expectations
 - Indemnity
 - Utmost good faith
 - Representations/misrepresentations
 - Warranties
 - Concealment
 - Fraud
 - Waiver and estoppel

3.0 Property and Casualty Insurance Basics 15%

3.1 Principles and concepts

- Insurable interest
- Underwriting
 - Function
 - Loss ratio
- Rates
 - Types
 - Loss costs
 - Components
- Hazards
 - Physical
 - Moral
 - Morale
- Negligence
 - Elements of a negligent act
 - Defenses against negligence
- Damages
 - Compensatory — special versus general
 - Punitive
- Absolute liability
- Strict liability
- Vicarious liability
- Causes of loss (perils)
- Named perils versus special (open) perils
- Direct loss
- Consequential or indirect loss
- Blanket versus specific insurance

- Basic types of construction
- Loss valuation
 - Actual cash value
 - Replacement cost
 - Functional replacement cost
 - Market value
 - Agreed value
 - Stated amount
 - Valued policy

3.2 Policy structure

- Declarations
- Definitions
- Insuring agreement or clause
- Additional/supplementary coverage
- Conditions
- Exclusions
- Endorsements

3.3 Common policy provisions

- Insureds — named, first named, additional
- Policy period
- Policy territory
- Cancellation and nonrenewal
- Deductibles
- Other insurance
 - Nonconcurrency
 - Primary and excess
 - Pro rata
- Limits of liability
 - Per occurrence (accident)
 - Per person
 - Split
 - Combined single
- Restoration/nonreduction of limits
- Coinsurance
- Vacancy or unoccupancy
- Named insured provisions
 - Duties after loss
 - Assignment
 - Abandonment
- Insurer provisions
 - Liberalization
 - Subrogation
 - Salvage
 - Claim settlement options
 - Duty to defend
- Third-party provisions
 - Standard mortgage clause
 - Loss payable clause
 - No benefit to bailee

3.4 Vermont laws, regulations and required provisions

- Vermont Property and Casualty Insurance
 - Guaranty Association (3611–3626)
- Renewal notice (3882)
- Cancellation and nonrenewal (3879–3881; 3883)
- Consent to rate (4688(f); Reg 85-1 Sec 1–9)
- Loss payment (3868; Reg 79-2 Sec 6, 8)
- Discrimination (3861)

Coinsurance (3961–3968)
Required provisions (4203)

4.0 Dwelling ('02) Policy 5%

4.1 Characteristics and purpose

4.2 Coverage forms – Perils insured against

Basic
Broad
Special

4.3 Property coverages

Coverage A – Dwelling
Coverage B – Other structures
Coverage C – Personal property
Coverage D – Fair rental value
Coverage E – Additional living expense
Other coverages

4.4 General exclusions

4.5 Conditions

4.6 Selected endorsements

Special provisions – Vermont (DP 01 44)
Automatic increase in insurance (DP 04 11)
Broad theft coverage (DP 04 72)
Dwelling under construction (DP 11 43)

4.7 Personal liability supplement

5.0 Homeowners ('00) Policy 25%

5.1 Coverage forms

HO-2 through HO-6

5.2 Definitions

5.3 Section I – Property coverages

Coverage A – Dwelling
Coverage B – Other structures
Coverage C – Personal property
Coverage D – Loss of use
Additional coverages

5.4 Section II – Liability coverages

Coverage E – Personal liability
Coverage F – Medical payments to others
Additional coverages

5.5 Perils insured against

5.6 Exclusions

5.7 Conditions

5.8 Selected endorsements

Special provisions – Vermont (HO 01 44)
Limited fungi, wet or dry rot, or bacteria coverage
– Vermont (HO 04 02)
Permitted incidental occupancies (HO 04 42)
Earthquake (HO 04 54)
Scheduled personal property (HO 04 61)
Personal property replacement cost (HO 04 90)
Home day care – Vermont (HO 23 45)
Business pursuits (HO 24 71)
Watercraft (HO 24 75)
Personal injury (HO 24 82)

6.0 Auto Insurance 28%

6.1 Laws

Vermont Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility and
Insurance Laws (RL 23 Sec 800–943)
Required limits of liability (RL 23 Sec 801)
Required proof of insurance (Bul 77)
Vermont Automobile Insurance Plan (4241–4246)
Eligibility
Liability limitations
Physical damage coverage limitations
Uninsured/underinsured motorist (RL 23 Sec 941)
Definitions
Required limits of liability
Bodily injury
Property damage
Cancellation/nonrenewal
Grounds (4223)
Notice (4224–4226)
Notice of eligibility in assigned risk plan
(4227)
Binders (RL 23 Sec 942)
Surcharges (4671–4675)

6.2 Personal ('05) auto policy

Definitions
Liability coverage
Bodily injury and property damage
Supplementary payments
Exclusions
Medical payments
Uninsured motorist/underinsured motorist
coverage
Coverage for damage to your auto
Collision
Other than collision
Deductibles
Transportation expense
Exclusions
Duties after an accident or loss
General provisions
Selected endorsements
Amendment of policy provisions – Vermont
(PP 01 72)
Towing and labor costs (PP 03 03)
Extended non-owned coverage (PP 03 06)
Miscellaneous type vehicle (PP 03 23)
Joint ownership coverage – Vermont
(PP 03 80)

7.0 Farm Coverage 2%

7.1 Farm property coverage forms ('03)

Coverage A – Dwellings
Coverage B – Other private structures
Coverage C – Household personal property
Coverage D – Loss of use
Coverage E – Scheduled farm personal property
Coverage F – Unscheduled farm personal property
Coverage G – Other farm structures

Mobile agricultural machinery and equipment
coverage form

Livestock coverage form

7.2 Farm liability coverage forms ('06)

Coverage H — Bodily injury and property damage
liability

Coverage I — Personal and advertising injury
liability

Coverage J — Medical payments

7.3 Cause of loss (basic, broad and special)

7.4 Exclusions

7.5 Other provisions

Additional coverages

Conditions

Definitions

Limits

8.0 Other Coverages and Options 10%

8.1 Personal umbrella policy (DL 98 01)

8.2 National Flood Insurance Program

"Write your own" versus government

Eligibility

Coverage

Limits

Deductibles

8.3 Other policies

Boatowners