

**Certified Floodplain Manager Practice Exam
Answer Key**

- 1) False
- 2) True
- 3) True
- 4) True
- 5) True
- 6) False
- 7) True
- 8) True
- 9) False
- 10) True
- 11) False
- 12) True
- 13) False
- 14) False
- 15) True
- 16) False
- 17) True
- 18) True
- 19) False
- 20) True

- 21) False
- 22) True
- 23) False
- 24) True
- 25) True
- 26) In what part of the Code of Federal Regulations would you find the floodplain management criteria for floodprone areas?
- b) 60.3
- 27) What type of flooding has caused the most deaths?
- b) Flash
- 28) Coastal erosion
- d) Can be aggravated by human development
- 29) Which of the following are beneficial functions provided by floodplains?
- d) All of the above
- 30) Unregulated development in a floodplain can
- d) All of the above
- 31) Hydrostatic pressure on a building
- a) Increases as the water gets deeper
- 32) Under the Unified National Program for Floodplain Management, which of the following can be appropriate floodplain management strategies?
- d) All of the above
- 33) Why was the NFIP created?
- c) To shift the cost of disaster assistance to floodplain residents

- 34) If a community does not regulate new construction to the minimum requirements of the NFIP,
- d) All of the above
- 35) Which of the following agencies are responsible for enforcing the sanctions for non-participation in the NFIP?
- d) All of the above
- 36) When it joins the NFIP, a community promises to
- a) Regulate new development in the floodplain
- 37) Which of the following best describes the base flood?
- c) One percent annual chance flood
- 38) Which of the following best describes the Special Flood Hazard Area?
- c) Base floodplain
- 39) What does an elevation reference mark tell you?
- d) The local NGVD
- 40) Which of the following is used to describe the amount of water that comes downstream during a flood?
- d) Discharge
- 41) What is the best source of base flood elevations for any location along a stream?
- a) Profile
- 42) What is the best source of base flood elevations for any location along the ocean shoreline?
- b) FIRM
- 43) V Zones are floodplains where:
- a) Waves are more than 3 feet above the stillwater flood elevation

- 44) A floodplain map that does not show base flood elevations was prepared by:
- b) An approximate study
- 45) Under the minimum NFIP requirements, how much can flood heights be raised by filling or other development in the flood fringe?
- c) One foot
- 46) Under the minimum NFIP requirements, how much can flood heights be raised by filling or other development in the regulatory floodway?
- a) 0
- 47) Ponding areas are usually designated on a FIRM as:
- b) AH Zone
- 48) How is the floodway shown on the new format Flood Insurance Rate Map?
- c) It's a dark blue/dark grey area with diagonal lines
- 49) A FIRM shows an area as "Zone AO (depth 3')." This means that:
- a) The base flood elevation is three feet above ground level
- 50) Which of the following areas can be considered a "basement" under the NFIP?
- b) A crawlspace with a floor that is below ground level on all sides
- 51) A developer's engineer conducted a study that showed that because of recent bridge replacement and channel improvement work, the base flood elevation for the development site is really two feet lower than shown on the FIRM. The developer wants the official FIRM to reflect this information. What form does he use to request a map change?
- b) MT-2
- 52) A two-foot high floodwall is proposed to protect a house in the regulatory floodway. It will surround the house, 5 - 10 feet out from the house's foundation. The permit applicant says that the house is already an obstruction in the floodway, so the wall won't create a new problem. Do you need a no-rise certification?
- b) Yes, the floodwall will make the existing obstruction larger

- 53) A nursing home is proposed to be constructed on fill in the flood fringe.
- a) The lowest flood must be at or above the BFE.
- 54) A 40-unit residential condominium will be elevated on pilings in an AE Zone. The floor with the condo units will be on beams, one-foot thick. The top of this floor will be 5 feet above the BFE. The area below the condo units will be at grade, 4 feet below the BFE. This lower area will be used only for parking, storage, a condo office, and a recreation room. The office and rec room will be insulated, finished, and carpeted. The base flood elevation is 10 feet NGVD. What is the elevation of the lowest floor?
- a) 6 feet NGVD
- 55) A new beach house will be built 8 feet above grade in an AE Zone. The owner, Mr. Warbucks, wants to enclose a part of the lower area to protect his Rolls Royce from theft and vandalism. Which of the following materials can be used on the enclosure?
- c) All of the above
- 56) We now find that Mr. Warbucks' house is in the V Zone. How large can his enclosed garage be?
- d) None of the above, enclosures are not allowed in V Zones
- 57) A new nonresidential building in a V Zone can be built
- b) Elevated on pilings
- 58) How much fill is allowed in a V Zone?
- d) None
- 59) What agencies need to be notified before a proposal to modify or move a stream channel is approved?
- d) All of the above
- 60) To avoid a challenge of taking, a community should
- a) Base the regulatory standards on the hazard

- 61) Kismet City has just been hit by a tornado, wiping out several blocks of a residential neighborhood in the floodplain. People want to rebuild their lives and their homes as quickly as possible. The mayor says he wants to stop reconstruction and construction of new homes in the affected area until the City can find the money to buy them out and convert the area to a park. You tell the mayor that what he wants to do is called
- d) Temporary moratorium
- 62) Boomtown is a rapidly growing suburb on several small streams. Boomtown's city council wants to prevent flood damage as much as possible. What regulatory standard would help Boomtown?
- d) All of the above
- 63) Which of the following requires Federal agencies to meet floodplain development standards similar to the NFIP's?
- b) EO 11988
- 64) Which of the following requires regulation of development in wetlands?
- c) Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- 65) Which of the following is not a responsibility of the local floodplain ordinance administrator?
- d) Tell people to apply for permits
- 66) An application is submitted for a permit for a new house in the floodway. Which of the following is needed with the application?
- a) No rise certification
- 67) Which of the following should be required after the second inspection but before a certificate of use or occupancy is issued?
- a) Elevation certificate

- 68) The most common type of variance requested is to build or rebuild a house without elevating it to or above the base flood elevation. When would such a variance be justified?
- a) If the project would destroy the historic characteristics of a building on a state register of historic structures
- 69) A post-FIRM house was built to the BFE in effect at the time. A restudy has since raised the BFE by three feet. The house was worth \$100,000 last month. Last week it had a fire. It will cost \$60,000 to repair everything. How high must you require the lowest floor to be?
- c) At or above the new BFE
- 70) After a flood, a church group came in and helped uninsured homeowners repair the damage. Which of the following is correct?
- d) None of the above
- 71) Which costs the most for \$10,000 of flood insurance coverage on a post-FIRM building built to the BFE?
- b) Building coverage in the VE Zone
- 72) What can a community do to lower the flood insurance premiums for new construction in approximate A Zones?
- d) All of the above
- 73) Flatville's floodplain is up to one-half mile wide and has low-velocity flooding. Flatville's city council is worried that floodplain development will increase flood heights and affect even more properties. What regulatory standard would help prevent this?
- c) Compensatory storage
- 74) Flatville has an AO Zone, but the FIRM does not specify a flood depth. What is the minimum elevation for the lowest floor of a new house?
- b) 2 feet above grade
- 75) The second most frequent cause of flood deaths is
- b) Electrocutation

- 76) The base flood elevations for coastal studies are derived from the wave runup, or the wave crest elevation, whichever is greater, plus the
- b) Stillwater elevations
- 77) In which of the following cases will the developer of a subdivision in an approximate A Zone not have to conduct a flood study?
- a) the subdivision will have 40 lots and cover 4.5 acres
- 78) Which of these materials is not sufficient to elevate a manufactured home above the BFE?
- c) concrete blocks
- 79) Floodtown has a FIRM with base flood elevations, but no floodway or coastal high hazard area. What NFIP regulations must Floodtown follow?
- d) All of the above
- 80) The Floodtown Town Engineer gives you information that shows the ground to be higher than the BFE. Can you allow a new building at that site without requiring an elevation certificate?
- a) Yes
- 81) A developer wants to build a four-acre shopping center in an unnumbered A Zone in Floodtown. Which of the following would be acceptable sources of base flood elevations?
- d) All of the above
- 82) A developer obtains a CLOMR that shows that when the project is completed, a building site will be above the BFE. When reviewing the application for a permit to build a home on that site,
- c) You require the house to meet all the regular floodplain ordinance requirements
- 83) Which of the following floodplain projects will need a permit?
- c) Adding a second story to a house in a shallow AO Zone

- 84) A developer plans to build in an area that includes a wetland. What work can you permit the developer to do while he waits for the Corps of Engineers' 404 permit?
- b) All compliant work that does not affect the wetland
- 85) Floodtown does not have any floodways mapped for its riverine floodplains. A developer applies for a permit to fill in the area shown on the map. The developer's engineer's study shows that his filling will cause a 0.7-foot rise in flood heights.
- Can you permit the development project:
- a) Yes, the rise is less than the allowable 1 foot rise
- 86) Mrs. Robinson wants to build a 1,600 square foot one-story home on a crawlspace in an AE Zone. How many standard 8" x 16" crawlspace vents will be needed?
- d) 13
- 87) Where will the crawlspace vents need to be in Mrs. Robinson's house?
- a) No more than one foot above the ground
- 88) Mrs. Robinson wants to put her furnace in the crawlspace. Can she?
- b) Yes, as long as it is above the BFE
- 89) The owner of an 800-square-foot mobile home located in a pre-FIRM mobile home park wants to replace it with a 750-square-foot mobile home. Are there any floodplain management requirements?
- b) Yes, the new mobile home must be properly elevated and anchored
- 90) What's the best way for you to avoid being sued by a developer?
- a) Know the regulations and enforce them fully
- 91) Before you accept a permit application as complete, it must include:
- d) All of the above
- 92) An application is submitted to you for a new house on a crawlspace in an AO Zone (depth 2'). Which of the following do you need to make the application complete?
- a) Elevation certificate

- 93) A homeowner has substantially improved his house and has steadfastly refused to even apply for a floodplain development permit. Can FEMA help you bring this building into compliance with your ordinance?
- d) No - FEMA has no standing in cases involving local ordinance enforcement
- 94) Granting a variance to build a new house below the BFE will result in:
- d) All of the above
- 95) A surveyor brings a FEMA Elevation Certificate to you and asks for help in filling it out. The building is on a crawlspace in an AO Zone (depth 2'). Your inspection showed that it was properly elevated and has all the required vents. The surveyor asks what number he should enter in Section C, item 1. You tell him:
- d) 8
- 96) Dr. Quinn bought her pre-FIRM property in the AE Zone last month for \$150,000. She wants to add a doctor's office and make other improvements to the building. Her contractor estimates that the project will cost \$70,000. You tell her:
- b) It's not a substantial improvement, so she can build the office at grade
- 97) What is the NFIP community number for Floodville?
- b) 990098
- 98) What happened to Panel 0030 of Flood County's FIRM?
- a) There are no mapped floodplains, so it was not printed
- 99) What cross section is upstream of Site B on the Flood County Panel 038?
- d) B
- 100) How wide is the floodway on the Rocky River just downstream of the Glebe Way?
- d) 111 feet

- 101) Ms. Coleman has a building site that is near Site D on Panel 40. The building official located it on the FIRM 300 feet east of the intersection of Little Drive and Axle Drive. What is the base flood elevation at this site?
- c) 14 feet
- 102) Once Ms. Coleman builds her house, can she receive Federal disaster assistance to rebuild?
- c) Yes, if the local permit office states in writing that the house was not substantially damaged
- 103) Caghey Drive is near Site F on the Flood County FIRM panel 40. Just east of Cagney Drive, there is a white line running parallel to the road in the SFHA. What does this black line mean?
- d) It separates the AE Zone from the VE Zone
- 104) Mr. Smith wants to build a new house near Site B in Flood County. The site is 400 feet upstream of the Glebe Way crossing. What is the base flood elevation at this site?
- b) 10.4
- 105) A permit applicant tells you that his site is 1,000 feet from an intersection. You try to locate the site on the Flood County FIRM, Panel 38. How many inches from the intersection is the site?
- b) 2
- 106) A building was built in Floodville in the Rocky River floodplain in 1983. What kind of building is it?
- c) Pre-FIRM
- 107) RM 38-1 is located near Site A in Floodville. If you wanted to find RM 38-1 on the ground, what would you look for?
- c) A chiseled square

- 108) Mr. McDonald wants to build a farm house near site E in Flood County. The site is 1,100 feet north off the west end of Cedar Hill Road. What is the base flood elevation for this site?
- d) Unknown - it is in an unnumbered A zone
- 109) Mr. McDonald has a survey that shows that his ground is higher than the base flood elevation at his site. You advise Mr. McDonald that if he wants to avoid the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement, he will need to submit a request for a:
- d) Map amendment
- 110) Ms. Lovewater's proposed homesite is near Site C in Floodville. It is 150 feet east of the intersection of Barclay Lane and Good Place on the FIRM. The site is:
- b) In the floodway
- 111) Please choose the number that should be in the Map and Panel Number blank of the Elevation Certificate.
- d) 990090038
- 112) Please choose the suffix below to be entered in the elevation certificate.
- c) D
- 113) Please select the correct FIRM Index Date to be entered on the elevation certificate.
- a) August 19, 1998
- 114) Please select the correct FIRM Panel Effective Date to be entered on the elevation certificate.
- d) August 19, 1998
- 115) Please select the correct Flood Zone to be entered on the elevation certificate.
- c) Zone AE

- 116) Please select the correct Base Flood Elevation to be entered for this structure location.
- c) 10.1
- 117) Please select the correct Top of bottom floor for the elevation certificate.
- b) 3.2
- 118) Please select the next highest floor elevation for the elevation certificate.
- c) 11.3
- 119) Please select the correct lowest adjacent grade for the structure.
- c) 10.5
- 120) Who can sign off as a certifier for this information?
- d) Both A and B