

Department of Veterans Affairs Compliance Inspector Exam

Instructions: Please select the best answer for each of the following questions. Each question is worth two points and a minimum score of 70 is required to pass. This is an open book exam which references material covered in the following Chapters of VA Manual M26-12, Revised: Chapter 6, Chapter 7, and Appendix A. Your Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) representative can provide you with a PDF copy of this document or it may be accessed online at http://www.benefits.va.gov/WARMS/M26_12.asp.

1. What is the purpose of a compliance inspection for Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) and Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) projects administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)?
 - a. To ensure the builder receives payment for work completed to date.
 - b. To verify compliance of individual construction phases, or turn-key construction, in which SAH or SHA grant funds are being disbursed to a builder.
 - c. To ensure that all local or state building codes have been met.
 - d. To ensure that the builder is not getting too far ahead in the project.
 - e. All of the above.
2. True or False: The compliance inspection is used to certify that the project has been constructed in accordance with the VA approved plans and specifications, including SAH minimum property requirements (MPRs) and recommended adaptations (RAs).
3. Which qualification(s) must be met before an individual can be appointed to the VA fee panel as a VA Compliance Inspector (CI)?
 - a. At least 3 years of construction related experience.
 - b. Possession of a valid business license in the area of jurisdiction.
 - c. Satisfactory Credit Alert Interactive Voice Response (CAIVRS) screening results.
 - d. An active inspector license, if required by the state of jurisdiction.
 - e. All of the above.
 - f. A, C and D only.
4. True or False: A builder who is actively working on a SAH construction project can be appointed as a CI for another project because he/she is very familiar with the SAH construction requirements.

5. The minimum number of required inspections for new construction or a remodeling project that includes an addition is _____
 - a. three or less.
 - b. a minimum of three.
 - c. a minimum of four.
 - d. four or more.

6. How is a new, compliance inspection assignment officially communicated to the CI?
 - a. The SAH Agent calls the CI to inquire about the CI's availability.
 - b. The SAH Agent sends a brief email advising the CI of an upcoming assignment.
 - c. The SAH Agent sends a VA system-generated CI assignment letter via mail or email.
 - d. All of the above.

7. Which of the following construction documents will the CI rely upon in order to complete a compliance inspection?
 - a. The approved plans and specifications.
 - b. The approved scope of work, contract, and description of materials (materials list)
 - c. The MPR waivers.
 - d. Change orders and associated construction documents describing changes to the project.
 - e. All of the above.

8. Once the SAH, or SHA grant is approved, how are changes to the project communicated to the CI?
 - a. In a conversation with the builder at the job site.
 - b. On a VA approved change order signed by the parties of the original construction agreement.
 - c. In a telephone call from the SAH Agent.
 - d. None of the above.

9. At each stage of the construction project, as determined by the inspection schedule, what must the CI certify based on his/her inspection?
 - a. The project has been constructed in accordance with the VA-approved plans and specifications.
 - b. There are no construction deficiencies in the project.
 - c. There are no deviations or unauthorized substitutions in the project.
 - d. All of the above.

10. Which of the following is a responsibility of the CI?
 - a. Compare the actual work completed to the VA approved plans and specifications?
 - b. Measure critical dimensions and adapted components to ensure adherence to SAH MPRs and RAs.
 - c. Observe the materials used by the builder to ensure consistency with the description of materials (materials list).
 - d. Provide digital photographs for each inspection of the areas affected by the construction.
 - e. All of the above.

11. Which of the following is NOT a responsibility of the CI?
 - a. Report the specific stage of construction and whether or not the work for that specific stage is complete and compliant.
 - b. Advise if a re-inspection of non-compliant items is required.
 - c. Verify that permits were obtained and/or a Certificate of Occupancy was issued.
 - d. Ensure that the project is being completed within budget.

12. True or False: The CI also acts as a code inspector and is responsible for ensuring the project meets local, state and/or national building code requirements.

13. What should the CI do if he/she notices items during the inspection that could cause an issue during a building code inspection?
 - a. Ignore it because it is not the CI's responsibility.
 - b. Inform the local building code inspector to ensure the builder doesn't get away with it.
 - c. Inform the SAH Agent and builder so the issues may be addressed.
 - d. B and C only.

14. True or False: During a compliance inspection, the CI notes that some finish materials differ from what is indicated in the VA approved construction documents. It is acceptable to overlook this discrepancy if the Veteran and builder both report to the CI that they have agreed with the change.

15. On which VA form does the CI report the results of the compliance inspection?
 - a. VA Form 26-1852
 - b. VA Form 29-8636
 - c. VA Form 26-1839
 - d. VA Form 26-1858

16. What must the CI indicate and provide in a complete Compliance Inspection Report (CIR)?
 - a. The stage of construction that was inspected and the condition of construction.
 - b. Digital photographs of the construction phase or project.
 - c. An invoice indicating inspection stage, property address, amount charged for the inspection, and any claims for mileage reimbursement exceeding the accepted norm.
 - d. All of the above.

17. How does the CI certify that the CIR is true and accurate?
 - a. Sign and date the CIR or complete it electronically using the system-generated CIR.
 - b. Have VA Form 26-1839 notarized.
 - c. Advise the SAH Agent in an email that the CIR is certified.
 - d. All of the above.

18. True or False: If only minor, non-compliant items (e.g. items that will not prohibit MPR compliance or do not affect the structural integrity of the project) are noted during a compliance inspection, the CI may inspect these items at the next regular inspection versus requiring a re-inspection.

19. Which of the following areas are NOT required to meet VA MPRs?
 - a. Points of ingress and egress
 - b. Primary bathroom
 - c. Primary bedroom/sleeping area
 - d. Kitchen
 - e. None, all of these areas must meet VA MPRs.

20. Unless a waiver is granted, how many MPR compliant points of ingress and egress must an adapted housing unit have?
 - a. one
 - b. two
 - c. three
 - d. four

21. True or False: An ingress and egress point that is proximate to the adapted bedroom/sleeping area may pass through or originate in an area prone to potential fire hazards (e.g. garage, kitchen, laundry room, etc.)

22. Per VA MPRs, all doorways that are adapted ingress and egress routes must have a minimum width of _____.
- 32"
 - 36"
 - 42"
 - 48"
23. True or False: All doorways that are adapted ingress and egress routes must have a beveled threshold with a maximum height of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.
24. Which of the following types of ingress and egress does not satisfy VA MPRs?
- No-step entry
 - Stair glide
 - Vertical platform lift (VPL)
 - Elevator
 - Ramp or walkway
25. Per VA MPRs, what is the minimum usable width of a VPL?
- 36" x 36"
 - 36" x 48"
 - 42" x 48"
 - 48" x 48"
26. True or False: For entries in which the difference between the exterior grade/elevation and the interior/finished floor elevation is 6 inches, a transition is acceptable.
27. True or False: VPLs and elevators must be connected to a continuous power source such as a generator or battery back-up.
28. Per VA MPRs, what is the minimum usable width of an elevator car?
- 36" x 36"
 - 36" x 48"
 - 42" x 48"
 - 48" x 48"

29. Which of the following features must an elevator contain to be MPR compliant?
- A 36" wide entry door/opening.
 - A land line telephone to communicate with emergency personnel.
 - Emergency lighting.
 - All of the above.
 - A and B only.
30. Per VA MPRs, the minimum width of a new ramp or walkway is _____.
- 36"
 - 42"
 - 48"
 - 60"
31. Which of the following is NOT a MPR for ramps and walkways?
- The ramp must have a slope of 8 percent or less.
 - The ramp must have a 5' x 5' platform unhindered by handrails and located at any wheelchair entrance.
 - The ramp must have handrails with a maximum height of 30 inches.
 - The ramp must be constructed in a manner that prevents slipping in wet or icy conditions.
32. True or False: A new ramp may be temporarily installed so that it can be moved as needed by the Veteran.
33. Which of the following materials are acceptable for ramp or walkway construction?
- Concrete
 - Wood
 - Metal
 - Composite materials
 - All of the above.
34. True or False: If the slope of the ramp/walkway is less than 5 percent, a handrail is not required.
35. For handrail free ramps/walkways that are more than 4" above grade and that cannot be constructed in a way to eliminate accidental falling, which feature(s) is/are required?
- A reflective caution strip delineating the edge of the hard surface.
 - Tactile paving to warn the user of a potential hazard.
 - A low curb or guardrail on both sides with a minimum height of 5".
 - All of the above.

36. For ramps/walkways equipped with a handrail, the handrail should be _____.
- a minimum of 28" high.
 - exactly 30" high.
 - no more than 32" high.
 - installed at a height that is convenient to the Veteran.
37. Which one of the following features is required in an adapted bathroom?
- Roll-in shower
 - Accessible sink
 - Accessible toilet
 - Accessible floor area
 - 36" wide entry door
 - All of the above
38. Per VA MPRs, which of the following features is NOT required for a roll-in shower?
- Minimum interior dimensions of 60" x 60".
 - Minimum opening of 36".
 - Non-slip flooring.
 - At least one grab bar per wall placed at a location convenient to the Veteran and capable of supporting the Veteran's weight.
 - At least one hand held shower head.
 - Accessible, thermostatic or pressure-balanced controls.
39. Which of the following types of sinks are considered to be accessible sinks?
- Roll-under
 - Wall hung
 - Pedestal
 - All of the above
40. True or False: Adapted sinks must have a maximum height of 2'-10".
41. Per VA MPRs, which of the following features must an adapted sink have?
- Exposed pipes must be wrapped or covered.
 - A 3' wide under-counter knee space for wheelchairs.
 - A minimum height under the counter of 2'-3".
 - All of the above.
42. True or False: Toilets in the adapted bathroom must have a 48" clear front transfer space AND a 36" clear side transfer space.

43. True or False: Only one grab bar, installed at a location that is convenient to the Veteran, is required at the toilet.
44. True or False: The required maneuvering area (minimum diameter of 5') for an adapted bathroom may extend into the roll-in shower.
45. Per VA MPRs, which of the following best describes the adapted bathroom entry door?
- It must have a minimum opening of 36".
 - It must not intrude on the accessible floor area (i.e. door must swing outward or slide).
 - It must not obstruct wheelchair maneuvering when open.
 - All of the above.
46. Which feature is NOT required in an adapted bedroom/sleeping area?
- 36" wide entry door
 - Sufficient space for maneuvering
 - Accessible flooring
 - Proximate emergency egress
 - Smoke detector
47. True or False: There are no additional ingress and egress requirements for the primary adapted bedroom/sleeping area if the required emergency egress point is proximate rather than direct.
48. True or False: Primary bathroom and primary bedroom/sleeping area MPRs for condominiums and townhouses are the same as single-family, detached dwellings.
49. Condominiums and townhouses located above the first floor require how many ingress/egress points?
- one
 - two
 - three
50. True or False: Recommended adaptations (RAs) for SAH projects must adhere exactly to the suggested specifications of each feature as outlined in Appendix A of the SAH manual.