



Pennsylvania Notary Exam Practice

25 Free Life & Health Practice Questions

Complete these practice questions to prepare for your notary public licensing exam. Each question includes the correct answer and explanation for immediate feedback.

General Information

1. Can a notary notarize a document in which they have a direct financial or beneficial interest?

- A) Yes if they disclose it
- B) No it is a conflict of interest
- C) Yes if no fee is charged
- D) Only for family members

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

A notary cannot notarize a document if they have a direct financial or beneficial interest in the transaction.

Notarial Acts

2. To identify a signer using "Satisfactory Evidence," what is required?

- A) A driver's license only
- B) A credible witness or identifying documents
- C) The signer's verbal assurance
- D) A utility bill

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

Satisfactory evidence means the absence of information leading the notary to believe ID is false, and relies on proper ID cards or credible witnesses.



3. What must a notary do before performing a Jurat?

- A) Verify ID only
- B) Administer an oath/affirmation and witness the signature
- C) Just witness the signature
- D) Just stamp the document

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

For a Jurat, the signer must sign in the notary's presence and take an oath or affirmation.

4. What is required for an Acknowledgment?

- A) The signer must sign in front of the notary
- B) The signer must personally appear and acknowledge the signature
- C) The notary must read the document
- D) Two witnesses must be present

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

For an acknowledgment, the signer must personally appear and acknowledge they signed the document (signature can be pre-signed).

Misconduct and Fines

5. If a notary is convicted of a felony, what happens to their commission?

- A) Probation
- B) Fine only
- C) Revocation or Suspension
- D) Nothing if off-duty

✓ **Correct Answer: C**

Felony convictions are grounds for denial, revocation, or suspension of the commission.

Notarial Acts



6. What type of power of attorney copy can a notary certify?

- A) Any copy
- B) Only a copy of the original
- C) Only a court certified copy
- D) Only an electronic copy

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

A notary can certify that a copy of a power of attorney is a true and correct copy of the ORIGINAL power of attorney.

7. What does 'Satisfactory Evidence' mean?

- A) The notary knows the person
- B) The notary believes the person is honest
- C) Absence of doubt + ID documents or credible witness oaths
- D) A government issued ID only

✓ **Correct Answer: C**

Satisfactory Evidence means the absence of information leading to doubt, plus specified ID documents or credible witness oaths.

8. Who is a 'Subscribing Witness'?

- A) The notary public
- B) A person who proves the principal signer's identity
- C) The principal signer
- D) Any witness to a crime

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

A subscribing witness appears on the principal's behalf to prove the principal signed the document.

9. Can a subscribing witness be identified by another subscribing witness?

- A) Yes
- B) No they must be identified by a credible witness known to the notary
- C) Yes if they have ID
- D) No they must be known personally by the notary

✓ **Correct Answer: B**



The subscribing witness must be identified by a credible witness who is PERSONALLY KNOWN to the notary.

Notary Public Commission

10. Can a notary seal be oval shaped?

- A) Yes
- B) No it must be rectangular or circular
- C) Only if 2 inches wide
- D) Only for electronic notarization

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

The seal must be circular or rectangular.

General Information

11. Is a notary considered to have a direct financial interest if acting as an agent or employee?

- A) Yes always
- B) No if they are just an employee/agent/escrow
- C) Yes if they get a commission
- D) Only if they are the lender

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

A notary does NOT have a direct financial interest if acting in the capacity of agent, employee, insurer, attorney, escrow, or lender.

Notary Public Commission

12. When can a notary surrender their seal to an employer?

- A) Upon termination



- B) Never
- C) If the employer paid for it
- D) If the employer demands it

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

The seal is the exclusive property of the notary and shall not be surrendered to an employer.

Notarial Acts

13. Does a signer need to sign the document in front of the notary for an Acknowledgment?

- A) Yes always
- B) No they can acknowledge a pre-signed signature
- C) Only for deeds
- D) Only for wills

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

For an acknowledgment, the signer can sign beforehand but must acknowledge the signature to the notary.

14. Does a signer need to sign the document in front of the notary for a Jurat?

- A) Yes always
- B) No
- C) Only if requested
- D) Depends on the document

✓ **Correct Answer: A**

For a Jurat, the signer MUST sign in the notary's presence.

15. Is a Social Security Card acceptable identification?

- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Yes if signed
- D) Yes with a birth certificate

✓ **Correct Answer: B**



A Social Security Card is NOT valid identification.

16. How many credible witnesses are needed if the notary does NOT know the witnesses?

- A) One
- B) Two
- C) Three
- D) None allowed

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

Two credible witnesses are required if the notary does not personally know the witness.

Notary Public Commission

17. Is the notary bond an insurance policy for the notary?

- A) Yes covers all liability
- B) No it protects the public
- C) Yes covers legal fees
- D) Yes covers fines

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

No, the bond is designed to protect the public, not the notary.

Misconduct and Fines

18. What is the penalty for forgery?

- A) Infraction
- B) Misdemeanor
- C) Felony
- D) Civil fine only

✓ **Correct Answer: C**

Forgery is a felony.



19. Is changing a document after it has been notarized considered forgery?

- A) Yes
- B) No it is just a correction
- C) Only if the signer complains
- D) Only for deeds

✓ **Correct Answer: A**

Falsifying or altering a document with intent to defraud is forgery.

20. Can a notary's employer seize their journal?

- A) Yes if they paid for it
- B) No never
- C) Yes if the notary is fired
- D) Yes for auditing

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

The journal is the exclusive property of the notary and shall not be surrendered to an employer.

Notarial Acts

21. Is a Consular ID acceptable?

- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Only for visas
- D) Only if recent

✓ **Correct Answer: A**

A valid consular identification document is acceptable.

General Information



22. Do you need to read and write English to be a notary?

- A) No
- B) Yes
- C) Only read
- D) Only write

✓ **Correct Answer: B**

The handbook implies English proficiency is needed for the exam and duties, but strictly speaking 'legal resident' and '18' are top requirements. However, advertising rules imply English is the official language.

Notarial Acts

23. How many journals can a notary keep active at once?

- A) One
- B) Two
- C) As many as needed
- D) One per employer

✓ **Correct Answer: A**

A notary shall keep ONE active sequential journal at a time.

24. Must the venue on the certificate match the county where the notary filed their bond?

- A) No it matches where the act occurs
- B) Yes always
- C) Yes unless in a different state
- D) No it matches the signer's residence

✓ **Correct Answer: A**

The venue reflects the county where the notarization physically takes place, not where the bond is filed.

25. What types of documents can be acknowledged?

- A) Most documents signed by a person
- B) Only deeds



C) Only sworn statements

D) Only court papers

✓ **Correct Answer: A**

Acknowledgments are used for many instruments like deeds, contracts, powers of attorney.