

Best Practices

1. Study by Topic:

- **read for comprehension**, not speed (at least 2-3 hours per chapter; more for securities)
- take notes
- watch videos at the end of each chapter (*if available*)
- review “Connecting the Dots” (*securities only*)
- print and study Key Facts

2. Use additional study tools to reinforce concepts: OnDemand Videos, Flash Cards, Study Guide, Tip Sheet, and Learn as You Go!

3. Chapter Quizzes: **2-3 consecutive quizzes** with a passing score for each chapter

- use available learning-mode tools: rationales and Review Content
- review missed questions

4. Simulate Your Exam: **2-3 consecutive passes** with scores close to 80%

- attempt *only* when you have completed Study by Topic reading and passed all chapter quizzes
- take your time and complete the entire exam for most accurate results
- complete a *Focused Review* and *Focused Exam* between attempts
- strive for improvement and consistency in exam scores (overall and by chapter)

5. Readiness Exam (*securities only*): **2-3 consecutive passes** with scores close to 80%

6. Guarantee Exam: **try to pass on the first try** + improved second score

- attempt *only* when you feel that you’ve mastered all the concepts in the course
- take your second guarantee exam a couple of days before your state or qualification exam

7. **Continue reviewing** course material until the day of exam!

Pitfalls

Avoid these common study mistakes:

1. Not spending enough time studying the material:

- all of the information presented in the course is potentially testable. Give yourself enough time to build a solid foundation of concepts
- **Important:** questions on your state or qualification exam will be different from your practice questions, so make sure you learn the material in the study course

2. Overutilizing assessment tools:

- memorizing questions
- going in and out of quizzes and exams without completing
- not allowing time to review the course material between quiz/exam attempts

3. Not following the recommended study path:

- skipping reading sections and/or chapter quizzes
- not allowing time for focused review and remediation based on practice exam results
- not achieving required thresholds for each tier of exams