

Dubai SIRA Exam

Question Paper — Complete Study Guide

Format · Syllabus · Sample Questions · Pass Tips

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What Is the SIRA Exam?

SIRA stands for Security Industry Regulatory Agency, the Dubai government body responsible for licensing and regulating private security personnel and companies across the emirate. This role was previously handled by Dubai Protective Systems (DPS), which is why some older training materials still refer to it as the "DPS exam."

To legally work as a security guard, CCTV operator, or in most other private security roles in Dubai, you must complete SIRA-approved training and pass the official SIRA written exam. The exam is administered at the SIRA Cadre Training Center (SCTC), after you complete your training course.

Exam Format at a Glance

Detail	Information
Question type	Multiple choice, with some true/false questions
Exam language	English (some centers offer Arabic support)
Exam mode	Written / computer-based, depending on center
Passing criteria	Minimum 60% correct answers
Retake policy	Allowed after a short waiting period
Exam location	SIRA Cadre Training Center (SCTC)

SIRA Exam Syllabus: Topics You Need to Know

1. Role and Responsibilities of a Security Guard

What a guard is there to do — protect people and property, monitor activity, and report to a supervisor.

2. Access Control and Visitor Management

Visitor logs, access cards, badge visibility, key control, and tailgating.

3. Patrol Procedures

Why patrols must be random and irregular, and what a proper patrol checks.

4. Fire Safety

Stages of fire, extinguisher types and color codes, the PASS method, and evacuation basics.

5. First Aid Basics

Working knowledge of basic first response before professional help arrives.

6. Emergency Response

Reacting to fire, medical incidents, suspicious packages, and bomb threats.

7. Communication Skills

Radio communication basics, the phonetic alphabet, and clear professional reporting.

8. Legal Knowledge and Licensing

A guard's legal limits and why working without a valid license is a serious issue.

9. Customer Service and Public Interaction

Respectful, clear communication with the public.

Sample SIRA Practice Questions

These are original practice-style questions modeled on the SIRA syllabus — not reproduced exam questions — designed to help you self-test before the real exam.

1. What does "tailgating" mean in a security context?

- A. Driving too closely behind another vehicle
- B. Entering a secured area by following an authorized person without permission
- C. Waiting outside a gate for a shift change
- D. A type of patrol technique

Answer: B

2. What should a security guard do first upon discovering a small electrical fire?

- A. Try to fix the wiring
- B. Use a water extinguisher immediately
- C. Raise the alarm and use the correct extinguisher type, or evacuate if it's spreading
- D. Ignore it if no one is nearby

Answer: C

3. Why should patrols be conducted at random times rather than a fixed schedule?

- A. It's easier for the guard
- B. Predictable patrols can be anticipated and avoided by wrongdoers
- C. Random patrols save time
- D. There is no specific reason

Answer: B

4. In radio communication, why is the phonetic alphabet used?

- A. To sound more professional
- B. To avoid confusion between similar-sounding letters, especially over poor signal
- C. It's a legal requirement for all conversations
- D. To keep messages private

Answer: B

5. What is the minimum score typically required to pass the SIRA written exam?

- A. 40%
- B. 50%
- C. 60%
- D. 75%

Answer: C

How the SIRA Exam Fits Into Getting Your License

- 1 Register for SIRA-approved training, through your employer or independently at a licensed training center.
- 2 Complete training — typically five to seven days, covering the full syllabus.
- 3 Sit the written exam at the SIRA Cadre Training Center.
- 4 Pass with 60% or above to qualify for certification.
- 5 Submit your application with required documents (passport, Emirates ID, medical fitness certificate, certificate of good conduct).
- 6 Receive your SIRA license, valid for two years before renewal is required.

Tips to Pass on Your First Attempt

- Don't skip topics — access control and legal knowledge come up as often as fire safety.
- Practice with mock questions daily rather than one long cramming session.
- Focus on understanding why a procedure exists, not just memorizing terms.
- Work on spoken English if it isn't your first language.
- Ask your instructor about your weak areas before exam day.
- Get a full night's sleep before the exam — fatigue affects recall more than most expect.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the SIRA exam pass mark?

The official minimum passing criteria is 60% and above, per SIRA's published course information.

How many questions are in the SIRA exam?

The paper is multiple choice with some true/false questions, covering the full syllabus. Exact count can vary by training center.

What happens if I fail?

You can generally retake the exam after a short waiting period. Some centers offer a refresher session first.

Is the exam only in English?

Generally yes, since English communication is part of the job. Some centers offer Arabic support or translators.

How long is a SIRA license valid?

Typically two years, after which renewal is required.

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