

Strategies for Answering Questions on the RPF and RFT Registration Exams

These strategies should serve as a general guide for candidates writing the RPF or RFT registration exams. Answers to questions on the RPF and RFT registration exams should:

1. **Demonstrate your knowledge and ability to provide professional recommendations or advice.** This will require interpreting the information in the question and applying your special knowledge and expertise in the formulation of your answer.
2. **Ensure your argument and/or reasoning is expressed using an analytical approach.** For example, identify the problem, provide the necessary background, analyze any options and provide discussion, recommendations and conclusions that answer the question. Your ability to communicate your arguments effectively is important to your practice as a professional and the board of examiners wants to see you demonstrate this skill in the exam.
3. **Make explicit reference to laws, policies, theories or other authorities relevant to the development of your arguments and/or opinions.** It is also important that the application of technical knowledge in your answer to the question be accurate and appropriate. Paraphrase all pertinent legislation or policy contained in your answer.
4. **Reference all information contained in your answer that has been copied directly from another source.** Answers, or parts of answers, that have been copied from another source that have not been referenced properly will not be accepted. For example, if you cited the following argument in your answer: “Understanding how and when species respond to habitat change is relevant to sustaining viable populations in managed forest ecosystems”¹ and you derived this from (Dykstra, P.R., 2004), then this should be indicated in a footnote as illustrated below. A full reference is seldom needed, but recognizing and crediting original work where it is due is essential.

¹ Dykstra, P.R. (2004), *Thresholds in Habitat Supply: A Review of the Literature*, <http://www.citbc.org>