

Advice for taking the Master Hunter exam

The Master Hunter exam was created by WDFW and the Master Hunter Advisory Group (MHAG). The exam consists of 100 questions from the study materials. There are 25 questions from the Master Hunter Handbook, 25 questions from the Excerpt from the Game Management Plan July 2015 – June 2021, 25 questions from the hunting regulations (big game and small game), and 25 questions from the Hunter Education Online Study Guide. A passing score is at least 80 correct answers.

If you pass the exam and complete the rest of the requirements, you will be joining a group of highly qualified and ethical hunters who are committed to give back to our hunting heritage.

The examination is intended to be challenging and difficult. Only about 25 percent of applicants taking the exam, pass on their first attempt.

Here are some tips to help you prepare:

- **Study all materials.** Simply stated, you will not pass without significant study.
 - The study materials can be found online or by selecting the below links:
 - [Master Hunter Handbook](#)
 - [Excerpt from the Game Management Plan July 2015 – June 2021](#)
 - [Washington’s Big Game Hunting Seasons and Rules pamphlet](#)
 - [Washington’s Migratory Waterfowl and Upland Game Seasons and Rules pamphlet](#)
 - [Washington Hunter Education Online Study Guide](#)
- To help understand what kinds of questions are on the exam, you can take the 25-question practice exam: [Master Hunter practice exam](#).
- The test encompasses knowledge of all game animals (Big game, small game, and birds) and hunting equipment types.
- Schedule your examination date and continuously study up through that date. By studying and then scheduling a date you may forget some of the information while waiting for their exam date. Once you start studying, stick with it. “Start and stop” study is not as effective.
- Arrive at your test location early, prepared, well-rested, and alert. Attempt to take the test in the a.m. hours when your brain and body are most relaxed.
- The test is strictly timed at 70 minutes. If the test must be read to you, it is your responsibility to make advance arrangements with the test proctor.
- If you encounter a question that is too difficult to answer quickly, skip to the next question and come back to it.
- For multiple choice questions, try to quickly eliminate obviously incorrect answers. Doing this allows you to focus on the answers more likely to be correct. Select the best available answer.
- It's to your benefit to answer all questions even if you're not certain of the correct answer. Unanswered questions are marked "incorrect."

What happens if you do not pass?

If you do not score 80 percent or better on the initial exam, continue your studies, focus on questions you know you missed, and plan to retake the exam. In past years, almost 75 percent of applicants did not pass on their first attempt. Each applicant has two chances to pass the exam.