

Series 65 Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

130 Scored questions	3h Time limit	92 of 130 (71%) Passing score
\$187 Exam fee	NASAA Governing body	

Exam Snapshot

- 130 scored questions
- 180 minutes to complete
- Passing score: 92 of 130 correct (~70.8%)
- Registration fee: \$187

Pacing Formula

$180 \text{ minutes} \div 130 \text{ questions} \sim 1.38 \text{ minutes per question}$. Budget roughly 80 seconds/question and flag-and-move on anything that stalls you past 2 minutes.

Quick Math Check

- Need 92 correct -> can miss up to 38 questions and still pass
- That's a margin of ~29.2% of the exam you can get wrong

Day-of Checklist

- Arrive early; confirm ID matches registration
- Budget the full 180 minutes; don't rush the first 30 questions
- Mark uncertain items and return before time runs out
- Remember: it's 130 scored questions — treat every question as counting

Official sources

- NASAA — Series 65 Exam Overview: <https://www.finra.org/registration-exams-ce/qualification-exams/series65>
- FINRA — Series 66 — Uniform Combined State Law Examination (exam specifications): <https://www.finra.org/registration-exams-ce/qualification-exams/series66>
- NASAA — IAR Continuing Education FAQ: <https://www.nasaa.org/industry-resources/investment-advisers/resources/iar-ce-faq/>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/practice/exams/securities/series-65