ANYEXAM · CHEAT SHEET

Series 7 Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

125 Scored questions	**3h 45m** Time limit	**72%** Passing score
$395 Exam fee	**FINRA** Governing body	

Series 7 at a Glance

- 125 scored questions, plus 10 unscored pretest questions — 135 total questions administered.
- 225 minutes (3 hours 45 minutes) of testing time.
- Passing score: 72%.
- Exam fee: $395. The SIE fee is a separate $100.
- FINRA qualification exam fees across the program range from $90 to $450.

Pacing Math (memorize this)

- 225 minutes ÷ 135 questions ~ 1 minute 40 seconds per question. Every question — scored or pretest — consumes clock time, so pace against 135, not 125.
- 72% of 125 scored questions = 90 correct answers. You can miss 35 scored questions and still pass.
- Pretest questions are indistinguishable from scored ones and are not identified on the screen, so treat all 135 as if they count.
- Halfway checkpoint: aim to be at roughly question 67 with about 112 minutes remaining.

The Two-Exam Structure (do not get this wrong)

- The Series 7 is a co-requisite exam: candidates must pass both the Series 7 and the SIE to obtain the General Securities registration qualification.
- FINRA Rule 1220: an individual seeking to register as a General Securities Representative must pass the SIE and the General Securities Representative qualification examination.
- SIE: 75 scored questions, 70% to pass, $100. Note the passing bar differs from the Series 7's 72%.
- Total minimum outlay for the pair: $395 + $100 = $495 in exam fees.
- Because it is a co-requisite (not strictly a prerequisite), passing order is not the gating factor — holding both passes is.

Exam Blueprint

- The exam content is organized around four major job functions. Study by job function, not by product silo — questions are framed around what a representative actually does with a customer.
- Since only four functions carve up 125 scored questions, no function is small enough to skip; a single neglected function can put the 90-correct threshold out of reach on its own.

Registration Rules to Memorize

- FINRA Rule 1210: each person engaged in the investment banking or securities business of a member shall be registered with FINRA as a representative or principal. No exam pass, no permitted activity.
- A member firm shall have at least two officers or partners registered as General Securities Principals. Watch for exam distractors offering one, three, or four.
- Rule number pairing to keep straight: 1210 = the registration requirement; 1220 = the registration categories and which exams each requires.

Numbers Cheat Table

- 125 — scored questions, Series 7
- 10 — unscored pretest questions
- 135 — total administered
- 225 — minutes
- 72 — Series 7 passing percent
- 90 — scored correct answers needed (inference from 72% × 125)
- 75 / 70 / $100 — SIE questions / passing percent / fee
- $395 — Series 7 fee
- 2 — minimum General Securities Principals at a member firm
- $90–$450 — FINRA exam fee range

Common Confusions

- 72 vs. 70: 72% is the Series 7 bar; 70% is the SIE bar. Questions that mix the two exams' figures are a classic trap.
- 125 vs. 135: your score is computed on 125; your time budget must cover 135.
- Fee stacking: the $395 Series 7 fee does not include the SIE — budget both.

Official sources

- Kaplan Financial Education — Kaplan Series 7 Exam Prep & Study Packages: https://www.kaplanfinancial.com/securities/series-7
- Achievable — Achievable FINRA Series 7 Exam Prep: https://achievable.me/exams/finra-series-7/prepare/
- Knopman Marks Financial Training — Knopman Marks Series 7 Course Packages: https://knopman.com/courses/series-7/

Free practice questions for this exam: anyexam.org/practice/exams/securities/series-7