IMPORT CUSTOMS REGULATIONS/
PREPARATIONS FOR THE CUSTOMS BROKER EXAM

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

Introduction to Import Regulations
Preparation for the Customs Broker Exam
Those activities involving transactions with CBP concerning the entry and admissibility of merchandise, its classification and valuation, the payment of duties, taxes, or other charges assessed or collected by CBP upon merchandise by reason of its importation, and the refund, rebate or drawback of those duties, taxes, or other charges. Customs business also includes the preparation, and activities relating to the preparation, of documents in any format and the electronic transmission of documents and parts of documents intended to be filed with CBP in furtherance of any other CBP business activity, whether or not signed or filed by the preparer.

Private individuals, partnerships, associations or corporations licensed, regulated and empowered by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assist importers and exporters in meeting Federal requirements governing imports and exports. Brokers submit necessary information and appropriate payments to CBP on behalf of their clients and charge them a fee for this service.

Brokers must have expertise in the entry procedures, admissibility requirements, classification, valuation, and the rates of duty and applicable taxes and fees for imported merchandise.

There are approximately 11,000 active licensed Customs brokers in the United States.
BROKER REQUIREMENTS

Must be a U.S. citizen
Must be at least 21 years of age
Must be of good moral character as determined by an FBI background check
Must establish evidence of knowledge of laws, regulations, and procedures, and bookkeeping, accounting, and all other appropriate matters to render valuable service to importers and exporters by obtaining a passing grade of 75 percent of better on the Customs broker’s exam.
Must complete and submit the appropriate application forms and pay applicable fees within three years of the date of notification of passage of the examination.

CUSTOMS BROKER EXAM

80 multiple-choice questions
4 Hours
Twice a year – first Monday in April and October
Covers:
- The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)
- Title 19, Code of Federal Regulations
- Specified Customs Directives
- Customs and Trade Automated Interface Requirements document (CATAIR)
Any reference but no electronics
Cost $200
REFERENCE MATERIAL

Harmonized Tariff System of the US:
http://usitc.gov

19 Code of Federal Regulations:
http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov  (Browse: Title 19)

The Customs and Trade Automated Interface Requirements

Customs Directives

EXAM MATERIALS

Tariff Schedule  Two Pencils
straightedge  Previous Exams
19 CFR 100-199  Keyword Search
Directives  Timeframe Search
7501 Instructions  Form Listing
Calculator  Trade Agreement Listing
EXAM SECTIONS

- Customs Broker
- Fines and Penalties
- Bonds
- Warehouse
- Drawback
- Scenario
- Quota
- Miscellaneous

Classification
Valuation
Powers of Attorney
Trade Agreements
Broker Compliance
Antidumping/Countervailing Duty
General

QUESTION FREQUENCY
MOST-TESTED MATERIAL

Harmonized Tariff Schedule
19 CFR 111 Customs Brokers
19 CFR 152 Classification and Appraisement of Merch
Instructions 7501
19 CFR 141 Entry of Merchandise
19 CFR 10 Articles Contionally Free, Reduced Rate
19 CFR 134 Country of Origin Marking
19 CFR 159 Liquidation of Duties
19 CFR 191 Drawback
19 CFR 24 Customs Financial Procedure
19 CFR 181 NAFTA
19 CFR 12 Special Classes of Merchandise
19 CFR 102 Rules of Origin
19 CFR 113 Customs Bonds
19 CFR 142 Entry Process
19 CFR 146 Foreign Trade Zones

Directive 3550-079A
CATAIR
19 CFR 19 Customs Warehouses,
19 CR 144 Warehouse and Rewarehouse Entries
19 CFR 162 Inspection, Search and Seizure
19 CFR 171 Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures
19 CFR 18 Transportation in Bond and Transit
19 CFR 143 Special Entry Procedures
19 CFR 163 Recordkeeping

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Section 1: Classification

1. Select the classification for a hand-operated mechanical floor sweeper, not motorized, with a
plastic handle and cover. The sweeper contains an internal trash receptacle that is filled as
the sweeper is pushed across the roam and the brushes cause the trash to be swept into the
receptacle. What is the correct classification of the floor sweeper?

A. 8419.89.2000
B. 8419.89.3000
C. 8419.89.7000
D. 9603.90.8040
E. 9603.90.8050

2. What is the correct classification of men’s woven dress shirts of 65% cotton, 35% Jute, and
one color in warp and filling?

A. 6305.00.0000
B. 6205.20.1000
C. 6205.20.2016
D. 6205.20.2021
E. 6205.20.2028

3. The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is somewhat, meaning it
contains various notes in addition to those notes used at the international level. Which of the
following notes are not legally binding in the United States?

A. Section notes
B. Chapter notes
C. Additional U.S. Notes
D. Statistical Notes
E. General Notes
STUDENT APPLICATION

Two working at local freight forwarders
Brokers at three companies
Compliance managers at two companies
Customs audit research

Thank You