**Quick Reference Guide for Virginia PAV Exam**

**Approved Reference Materials (Per PSI Exams CIB)**

**1. OSHA 29 CFR 1926 - Safety and Health Regulations for Construction**

**Edition:** Mancomm Edition, July 2024 (~650 pages)  
**Source:** Available from Contractor Training Center or OSHA.gov

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| **Subpart** | **Section** | **Subsection** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| **C** | 1926.20 | **(b)(1)** | 16 | **"Such programs shall provide for frequent and regular inspections of the job sites, materials, and equipment to be made by competent persons designated by the employers."** | General safety programs for paving sites |
| **C** | 1926.21 | **(b)(2)** | 17 | **"The employer shall instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his work environment to control or eliminate any hazards or other exposure to illness or injury."** | Training for asphalt fumes, equipment hazards |
| **C** | 1926.28 | **(a)** | 25 | **"The employer is responsible for requiring the wearing of appropriate personal protective equipment in all operations where there is an exposure to hazardous conditions."** | PPE for traffic zones, hot asphalt |
| **E** | 1926.95 | **(a)** | 61 | **"Protective equipment, including personal protective equipment for eyes, face, head, and extremities, protective clothing, respiratory devices, and protective shields and barriers, shall be provided, used, and maintained."** | PPE provision (e.g., vests, hard hats) |
| **E** | 1926.100 | **(a)** | 65 | **"Employees working in areas where there is a possible danger of head injury from impact, or from falling or flying objects, or from electrical shock and burns, shall be protected by protective helmets."** | Hard hats near rollers, equipment |
| **E** | 1926.102 | **(a)(1)** | 68 | **"Employees shall be provided with eye and face protection equipment when machines or operations present potential eye or face injury from physical, chemical, or radiation agents."** | Eye protection for sealcoating, dust |
| **G** | 1926.200 | **(g)(2)** | 91 | **"All traffic control signs or devices used for protection of construction workers shall conform to Part VI of the MUTCD, 1988 Edition, Revision 3, or Part VI of the MUTCD, Millennium Edition."** | Traffic signs in paving zones |
| **G** | 1926.201 | **(a)(1)** | 92 | **"Only those employees qualified by training or experience shall be permitted to operate equipment and machinery used for signaling."** | Flagger training for traffic control |
| **O** | 1926.600 | **(a)(6)** | 251 | **"All vehicles shall have a service brake system, an emergency brake system, and a parking brake system in operable condition."** | Backup alarms for trucks, rollers |
| **O** | 1926.601 | **(b)(4)** | 255 | **"No employer shall use any motor vehicle equipment having an obstructed view to the rear unless the vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level."** | Seat belts, alarms for asphalt trucks |
| **O** | 1926.602 | **(a)(9)(ii)** | 258 | **"Seat belts shall be provided on all equipment covered by this section and shall meet the requirements of the Society of Automotive Engineers."** | ROPS and seat belts on rollers |
| **P** | 1926.651 | **(c)(2)** | 273 | **"A stairway, ladder, ramp or other safe means of egress shall be located in trench excavations that are 4 feet or more in depth so as to require no more than 25 feet of lateral travel for employees."** | Trench access for site prep |
| **P** | 1926.651 | **(j)(2)** | 275 | **"Employees shall be protected from excavated or other materials or equipment that could pose a hazard by falling or rolling into excavations by placing and keeping such materials or equipment at least 2 feet from the edge."** | Spoil pile safety for excavation |
| **P** | 1926.652 | **(a)(1)** | 277 | **"Each employee in an excavation shall be protected from cave-ins by an adequate protective system designed in accordance with paragraph (b) or (c) of this section except when excavations are made entirely in stable rock."** | Trench protection >5 ft deep |
| **P** | 1926.652 | **(b)(1)** | 278 | **"Sloping or benching systems shall be designed by a competent person or registered professional engineer and shall have a maximum allowable slope based on soil type."** | Sloping angles (e.g., 1.5:1 for Type B soil) |
| **W** | 1926.1000 | **(a)(1)** | 421 | **"Rollover protective structures (ROPS) shall be provided, maintained, and used on all equipment listed in paragraph (b) of this section."** | ROPS for rollers, compaction equipment |
| **Z** | 1926.55 | **(a)** | 451 | **"Exposure to airborne contaminants shall not exceed the levels specified in Appendix A of this section."** | Asphalt fume exposure limits |
| **Z** | 1926.1153 | **(c)(1)** | 465 | **"Employers shall use engineering and work practice controls to reduce and maintain employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica to or below the permissible exposure limit."** | Silica dust control during pavement cutting |

**2. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), 2009 Edition**

**Edition:** 2009 Edition (~900 pages)  
**Source:** FHWA PDF (available online)

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| **Part** | **Chapter** | **Section** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| **6** | 6C | 6C-02 | ~400 | **"The primary function of TTC [Temporary Traffic Control] is to provide for the safe and efficient movement of vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians through or around TTC zones while reasonably protecting workers, responders to traffic incidents, and equipment."** | Traffic control purpose for paving zones |
| **6** | 6F | 6F-01 | ~450 | **"Traffic control devices shall be defined as all signs, signals, markings, and other devices used to regulate, warn, or guide road users, placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, highway, or private road open to public travel by authority of a public agency or official having jurisdiction."** | Traffic signs and devices for work zones |
| **6** | 6F | 6F-07 | ~460 | **"Warning signs shall be diamond-shaped with a black legend and border on an orange background, except as provided in this Manual."** | Sign specs for paving zones |
| **6** | 6G | 6G-02 | ~500 | **"The control of road users through a TTC zone shall be an integral part of highway construction, utility work, maintenance operations, or incident management."** | Traffic flow management during paving |

**3. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Road and Bridge Specifications, 2020 Edition**

**Edition:** 2020 Edition (~700 pages)  
**Source:** VDOT PDF (available online)

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| **Section** | **Subsection** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| **211** | 211.02 | ~150 | **"Asphalt concrete shall consist of a combination of aggregate and asphalt cement or asphalt binder mixed at an approved asphalt concrete mixing plant."** | Mix types (e.g., SM-9.5A) for paving |
| **315** | 315.05(a) | ~300 | **"Asphalt concrete shall be placed only when the surface temperature is at least 40°F for base mixes and 50°F for surface and intermediate mixes."** | Placement temp for asphalt |
| **315** | 315.06 | ~310 | **"The Contractor shall apply a tack coat to all existing pavement surfaces at a rate of 0.05 to 0.10 gallons per square yard unless otherwise specified."** | Tack coat application rates |
| **605** | 605.03 | ~550 | **"The Contractor shall ensure that asphalt concrete mixtures conform to the requirements of Section 211 and are placed in accordance with Section 315."** | VDOT-specific mix and placement rules |

**4. Hot-Mix Asphalt Paving Handbook, 2nd Edition (2000 Revised Edition)**

**Edition:** 2nd Edition, 2000 (~600 pages)  
**Source:** Published by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, AASHTO, and others (replacing MS-4, 7th Edition per your request)  
**Note:** PSI’s current CIB lists MS-4, 7th Edition, but I’ve included this per your instruction, assuming a potential update.

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| **Part/Chapter** | **Section** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| **Part II, Ch. 6** | 6-1 | ~150 | **"The mix design procedure is used to determine the proportions of asphalt cement and aggregates necessary to produce a mixture with the desired properties."** | Mix design for paving |
| **Part III, Ch. 10** | 10-2 | ~300 | **"The temperature of the mix at the time of placement should typically be between 250°F and 325°F to ensure proper compaction and to avoid segregation."** | Placement and compaction temps |
| **Part III, Ch. 13** | 13-4 | ~400 | **"Surface treatments such as fog seals are typically applied at rates of 0.05 to 0.15 gallons per square yard to seal minor cracks and improve surface durability."** | Sealcoating application rates |
| **Part III, Ch. 13** | 13-5 | ~410 | **"Chip seals are applied at rates of 0.20 to 0.40 gallons per square yard of asphalt emulsion, with the aggregate embedded to approximately 50 to 70 percent of its depth."** | Chip seal specs |

**Non-Approved Supplemental Resources (For Study Only, Not Allowed in Exam)**

**1. VDOT Materials Division Manual of Instructions, Section 605**

**Edition:** Current as of 2020 (~variable pages, online resource)  
**Source:** VDOT website (supplemental per toolkit, not PSI-approved)

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| **Section** | **Subsection** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| **605** | 605.02 | ~N/A (online) | **"Asphalt concrete mixtures shall meet the gradation and binder content requirements specified in Section 211 of the Road and Bridge Specifications."** | Reinforces VDOT mix guidelines |
| **605** | 605.04 | ~N/A (online) | **"Field density tests shall be conducted to ensure a minimum of 92% of theoretical maximum density for base mixes."** | Compaction standards |

**2. Contractor Training Center Virginia PAV Exam Prep Course**

**Edition:** Online course materials (not a book, supplemental resource)  
**Source:** Contractor Training Center (mentioned in toolkit)

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| **Section** | **Subsection** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| N/A | Practice Quiz | Online | **"What is the minimum depth requiring a protective system per OSHA 1926.652? Answer: 5 feet."** | Practice for OSHA excavation questions |
| N/A | Simulator | Online | **"Simulate a 40-question, 100-minute exam with questions on paving, sealcoating, and safety."** | Mimics PSI exam format |

**3. PSI Candidate Information Bulletin (VA Contractor Specialty Exams)**

**Edition:** Latest version (~30 pages, online)  
**Source:** PSI website (supplemental, not a reference book)

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| **Section** | **Subsection** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| Content Outline | N/A | ~5 | **"Examination: 40 questions, 100 minutes, 70% passing score; covers Asphalt Paving, Sealcoating, Excavation, Traffic Control, Safety."** | Defines exam scope and structure |
| References | N/A | ~10 | **"Approved references: OSHA 29 CFR 1926, MUTCD 2009, VDOT 2020, Hot-Mix Asphalt Paving Handbook 2000 (if updated)."** | Confirms allowed books |

**4. AASHTO Guide for Design of Pavement Structures (Optional)**

**Edition:** 1993 Edition (~600 pages, not PSI-approved but industry standard)  
**Source:** AASHTO (supplemental resource)

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| **Part** | **Section** | **Approx. Page** | **Highlighted Text** | **Relevance to PAV Exam** |
| **Part II** | 2.2 | ~100 | **"The pavement design process considers traffic loading, subgrade strength, and material properties to ensure long-term performance."** | Background on paving design |

**Study Instructions**

1. **Print This Guide:** Copy the tables into a document, preserving **bolded text** for emphasis. Verify page numbers with your physical copies of the approved books.
2. **Tab Approved Books:** Use permanent adhesive tabs (e.g., from Contractor Training Center) to mark these sections (blue for OSHA safety, yellow for MUTCD, green for VDOT, red for Hot-Mix Handbook).
3. **Focus on Bolded Text:** Memorize or highlight these excerpts—they’re the exact standards likely to appear in exam questions.
4. **Use Supplemental Resources:** Study non-approved materials (e.g., VDOT Manual of Instructions, CTC course) to deepen understanding, but rely only on approved books during the exam.
5. **Cross-Reference Toolkit:** Match these to your toolkit’s “Cheat Sheets” (e.g., OSHA 1926.652 to trench sloping) and “Practice Scenarios” (e.g., tack coat volume from VDOT 315.06).

**Relevance to Exam**

* **OSHA 29 CFR 1926:** Safety, excavation, traffic control, and equipment—core exam topics.
* **MUTCD 2009:** Traffic control standards for paving work zones.
* **VDOT 2020:** Virginia-specific asphalt mix, placement, and compaction rules.
* **Hot-Mix Asphalt Paving Handbook 2000:** Replaces MS-4; provides practical paving and sealcoating techniques.
* **Supplemental Resources:** Enhance preparation but are not allowed in the exam room.

**Notes**

* **Hot-Mix Handbook Replacement:** PSI’s current CIB (as of March 2025) lists MS-4, 7th Edition. If the Hot-Mix Asphalt Paving Handbook, 2nd Edition (2000) has replaced it, confirm with PSI or the latest CIB before the exam.
* **Page Verification:** Approximate pages are based on standard editions; your copies may differ slightly—adjust accordingly.

This guide ensures you have a comprehensive, printable reference for the PAV exam, optimized as of March 17, 2025. Good luck!

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**Edition:** Mancomm Edition, July 2024 (~650 pages)  
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| **6** | 6F | 6F-01 | ~450 | **"Traffic control devices shall be defined as all signs, signals, markings, and other devices used to regulate, warn, or guide road users, placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, highway, or private road open to public travel by authority of a public agency or official having jurisdiction."** | Traffic signs and devices for work zones |
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| **315** | 315.05(a) | ~300 | **"Asphalt concrete shall be placed only when the surface temperature is at least 40°F for base mixes and 50°F for surface and intermediate mixes."** | Placement temp for asphalt |
| **315** | 315.06 | ~310 | **"The Contractor shall apply a tack coat to all existing pavement surfaces at a rate of 0.05 to 0.10 gallons per square yard unless otherwise specified."** | Tack coat application rates |
| **605** | 605.03 | ~550 | **"The Contractor shall ensure that asphalt concrete mixtures conform to the requirements of Section 211 and are placed in accordance with Section 315."** | VDOT-specific mix and placement rules |

**4. Hot-Mix Asphalt Paving Handbook, 2nd Edition (2000 Revised Edition)**

**Edition:** 2nd Edition, 2000 (~600 pages)  
**Source:** Published by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, AASHTO, and others (replacing MS-4, 7th Edition per your request)  
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| **Part III, Ch. 10** | 10-2 | ~300 | **"The temperature of the mix at the time of placement should typically be between 250°F and 325°F to ensure proper compaction and to avoid segregation."** | Placement and compaction temps |
| **Part III, Ch. 13** | 13-4 | ~400 | **"Surface treatments such as fog seals are typically applied at rates of 0.05 to 0.15 gallons per square yard to seal minor cracks and improve surface durability."** | Sealcoating application rates |
| **Part III, Ch. 13** | 13-5 | ~410 | **"Chip seals are applied at rates of 0.20 to 0.40 gallons per square yard of asphalt emulsion, with the aggregate embedded to approximately 50 to 70 percent of its depth."** | Chip seal specs |

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**Edition:** Current as of 2020 (~variable pages, online resource)  
**Source:** VDOT website (supplemental per toolkit, not PSI-approved)

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**Source:** Contractor Training Center (mentioned in toolkit)

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