

What if my vehicle fails the first retest after repairs have been performed at a Certified Emissions Repair Facility?

If your vehicle fails after it has been repaired at a Certified Emissions Repair Facility, you may meet the specific criteria and conditions for one of the following waivers:

- **Cost waiver**, if you meet the minimum expenditure requirement on the related emissions repairs.
- **Economic hardship waiver**, which lets you submit documentation to the DMV indicating that your annual income is below state and federal poverty guidelines.
- **Functional diagnosis waiver**, if you have a documented reason from the manufacturer (on its letterhead) indicating why the vehicle is failing or cannot pass an emissions test, along with validation from a DMV inspector that no additional repairs are required.

What if I question the accuracy of the emissions test?

You are entitled to challenge the results of your emissions test within 15 business days. Please contact the motorist hotline for additional details.



Emissions Testing Bill of Rights

You have the following rights under the Connecticut Emissions Program:

1. **Sale of Service or Goods:** You have no obligation to purchase any goods or services from an emissions test center as a condition of receiving an emissions test.
2. **You Choose Where to Have Your Vehicle Repaired:** You do not need to have your vehicle repaired where it was tested. You may obtain emissions repairs from any service center or repair the vehicle yourself.

However, if you are applying for a cost waiver following a retest failure, you must use a Certified Emissions Repair Facility for qualifying emissions-related repairs. A list of certified facilities and additional information detailing what to do if your vehicle fails its emission test can be found at ctemissions.com.
3. **Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR):** When your emissions test is complete, you will receive a Vehicle Inspection Report. If your vehicle fails its test, you will receive an emissions repair form and a list of Certified Emissions Repair Facilities. It is recommended that you obtain and review a repair estimate before authorizing any repairs.
4. **Retests:** If your vehicle fails its initial test, your vehicle is entitled to one (1) free retest per test cycle. If your vehicle is eligible, you may request the free retest at any emissions test center within sixty (60) consecutive calendar days of the initial test.
5. **Cost Waiver:** The repair expense limits are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and may vary annually. Detailed information regarding waivers can be found at ctemissions.com.
6. **Emissions Testing Hours:** Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
7. **Motorist Test Fee:** \$20.00 (no sales tax)
8. **Drive-up or Appointment:** You may drive up to any test center you choose. Some test centers offer testing by appointment.
9. **Prompt Testing:** Every effort is made to complete your test promptly. However, occasional delays may occur.
10. **Questions?** If you have any questions or comments, please contact the toll-free emissions test hotline at **(877) 469-2884** or visit ctemissions.com.



Visit ctemissions.com to sign up for email and text reminder notifications.



**Connecticut
Emissions
Program**

ctemissions.com
(877) 469-2884

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What to Do If Your Vehicle Fails a Connecticut Emissions Test



**Connecticut
Emissions
Program**



**DEPARTMENT OF
MOTOR VEHICLES**

ctemissions.com
(877) 469-2884

What you need to know

Next steps after a failed Connecticut emissions test

If your vehicle failed its emissions test, that means it is exceeding the allowable emissions standards for the year in which it was manufactured. It should be diagnosed by a professional automotive repair technician to determine the underlying reason(s) for the failure and to identify the repairs necessary to correct the problem(s). You must have it repaired and retested within **60 calendar days** from the date of the initial test.

You may always have your vehicle repaired at a facility of your choice, or you may make the repairs yourself. However, the State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) highly recommends that you have the repairs performed at a **Certified Emissions Repair Facility**, as these facilities employ **Certified Emissions Repair Technicians**, who are trained and certified in emissions-related failures and repairs.

If your vehicle fails a second test, you may qualify for a cost waiver, provided the repairs are performed at a **Certified Emissions Repair Facility** and certain cost criteria are met.

Why did my vehicle fail the emissions test?

Depending on the model year, weight, and driveline configuration of your vehicle, there are several reasons why your vehicle may have failed, shown in the table below.

Vehicle Model Year	Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)	Gas or Diesel?	All-Wheel Drive or Traction Control?	Possible Test Failure	Possible Reason(s) for Failure
1997	< 14,001 lbs.	Diesel	NA	On-board Diagnostic Test (OBD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malfunction Indicator Light (“Check Engine Light”) is on, indicating an emissions-related malfunction • The OBD system may not be operating correctly • The Diagnostic Link Connector (DLC) is damaged, inaccessible, or missing • The catalytic converter is missing
1996 or newer	< 14,001 lbs.	Gas	NA	On-board Diagnostic Test (OBD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malfunction Indicator Light (“Check Engine Light”) is on, indicating an emissions-related malfunction • The OBD system may not be operating correctly • The Diagnostic Link Connector (DLC) is damaged, inaccessible, or missing
1996 or older	NA	Diesel	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loaded Mode Diesel (LMD) Test or • Modified Snap Acceleration (MSA) Test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emitting excessive levels of smoke
1995 or older	< 14,001 lbs.	NA	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) Test • (Tailpipe test that simulates driving at 25 mph using dynamometer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emitting excessive levels of air pollutants, such as hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, or nitrogen oxides • Leaky gas cap, releasing excessive amounts of fuel vapors into the air • The catalytic converter is missing
1995 or older	> 14,001 lbs.	NA	Yes	Two-Speed Idle Test (TSI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emitting excessive levels of hydrocarbons and/or carbon monoxide • Leaky gas cap, releasing excessive amounts of fuel vapors into the air • The catalytic converter is missing

What information should I receive from the testing center?

If your vehicle fails its emission test, you should receive the following:

- **Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR)**
- **Special brochures** with details on next steps
- A list of **Certified Emissions Repair Facilities**. No matter which one you choose, please keep all of your repair receipts.

What information should I receive when making emissions repairs after a failed test?

You should receive an **Emissions Repair Data Form (ERDF)**, which should be:

- Completed by the Certified Emissions Repair Technician who performed the repairs to your vehicle
- Completed by you if a noncertified repair facility made the repairs
- Presented at the time of your retest. If it is not presented, you will be turned away and your vehicle will not be tested.



Are retests free?

Your vehicle is eligible for one free retest per test cycle at any test center. If your vehicle fails the free retest, you will pay the normal \$20.00 emissions test fee for each subsequent test.

Remember, after the initial failure, you will have 60 calendar days to have the vehicle repaired and retested.

Please note: If you purchased a used vehicle from a private owner and the vehicle previously failed its emissions test before you took ownership, your vehicle will not be eligible for a free retest.

What if my vehicle is retested after the initial 60-day period?

If your vehicle is retested after the initial 60-day retest period, you will pay the following:

- another **\$20.00 emissions test fee** and
- a **\$20.00 late fee** issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

Please note: If your vehicle's registration is due for renewal, it will only be renewed if your vehicle passes its emissions retest and all emissions-related late fees have been paid.