

EMISSIONS TESTING BILL OF RIGHTS

- (1) **Sale of Service or Goods:** You have no obligation to purchase any goods or services from Emissions Test Centers as a condition of receiving an emissions test.
- (2) **Emissions Testing Hours:** Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and Saturday 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
- (3) **Motorist Test Fee:** \$20.00 (Sales Tax Free)
- (4) **Drive up or Appointment:** You may either make an appointment for a test or drive up to the Test Center of your choice.
- (5) **Illegal Solicitation:** It is illegal to solicit, offer and/or accept a bribe to pass a vehicle. Violators will be prosecuted. To report an incident of bribery, call DMV at 860-263-5333.
- (6) **Prompt Testing:** Every effort is made to complete your test promptly. However, occasionally unexpected delays may occur.
- (7) **Documents You Will Receive:** At the conclusion of your vehicle's test, you will receive a Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR). If your vehicle failed its test, you will also receive an Emissions Repair Form, appropriate fail brochure(s) and a Certified Emissions Repair Facility List. Remember to obtain and approve an estimate prior to having repairs done. If you believe the repair work was done inappropriately or unnecessarily, you may call the DMV Emissions Division at 860-263-5333.
- (8) **Retests:** If your vehicle fails its initial test, your vehicle is entitled to one (1) free retest per test cycle, not per paid test. If your vehicle is eligible, you may request the free retest at any Emissions Test Center, within sixty (60) consecutive calendar days.
- (9) **Challenge Test:** If you question the validity of your vehicle's emissions test, you are entitled to challenge the results, free of charge, within fifteen (15) business days, by calling 860-263-5333. If necessary, DMV will schedule a challenge test for you.
- (10) **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 repair facility or repair the vehicle yourself. However, you must use a Certified Emissions Repair Facility, should you need to apply for a 'Cost' Waiver following a retest failure and qualifying emissions-related repairs. For a full list of Certified Emissions Repair Facilities, visit ctemissions.com or call 1-888-828-8399.
- (11) **Cost Waiver:** The minimum emissions-related repair expense required to be eligible for a waiver, may change from year to year, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For the current qualifying amount, please visit www.ctemissions.com or call 1-888-828-8399. To be eligible, these repairs must be performed at a Certified Emissions Repair Facility. Keep your receipts.
- (12) **Contact Program Administrator:** You may contact the Toll-Free Emissions Test Hotline with any questions, comments or concerns at: 1-888-828-8399, Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM, or visit the ctemissions.com web site for additional program information.
- (13) **Non-Emissions Related DMV Questions:** Contact the DMV directly with questions, comments or concerns that are non-emissions related. You may visit the DMV website at www.ct.gov/DMV or call the DMV Telephone Center, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at 860-263-5700 (within the Hartford area or outside of Connecticut) or 1-800-842-8222 (elsewhere in Connecticut).

My Vehicle Failed the Connecticut Emissions Test!

What Should I do?



**Connecticut
Emissions
Program**

www.ctemissions.com

(888) 828-8399



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My Vehicle Failed the Connecticut Emissions Test! What Should I do?

The Connecticut Emissions Program identifies vehicles that are high emitters, and requires that they be repaired to prevent excessive air pollution. If your vehicle failed its emissions test, it's exceeding the allowable emissions standards for the year in which it was manufactured. Vehicles that fail, need to be repaired and retested, within sixty (60) calendar days, from the date of the initial test. Emissions tests identify the specific area(s) where a vehicle is deficient; however, it does not diagnose the cause of the failure.

Vehicles that fail, 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 may always have your vehicle repaired at a repair 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 (CERF), as these facilities are required to employ Certified Emissions Repair Technicians (CERT), who are trained and certified in special classes which focus on emissions-related failures and repairs. If your vehicle fails a second test, it may qualify for a cost waiver, provided the repairs are performed by a CERT and the expenditure criteria is met.

Why did my vehicle fail?

Why your vehicle specifically failed, depends on the model year, weight and driveline configuration of your vehicle.

If your vehicle is a **1996 or newer, gasoline-powered vehicle, or a 1997 diesel-powered vehicle**, that has a Gross Vehicle Weigh Rating (GVWR) that is less than 8,501 LBS, it may fail the On-board Diagnostic (OBD) Test for the following reasons:

- ⇒ Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL), also known as the "Check Engine Light", is illuminated indicating an emissions-related malfunction.
- ⇒ The OBD system itself maybe inoperative;
- ⇒ The Diagnostic Link Connector (DLC) is damaged, inaccessible or missing; or
- ⇒ The catalytic converter is missing.

If your vehicle is a **1995 or older, and has a GVWR, that is less than 8,501 LBS**, it may fail the Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) Test (this is a tailpipe test that simulates driving at 25 MPH using the dynamometer) for the following reasons:

- ⇒ Your vehicle is emitting excessive levels of one or all of the major air pollutants, such as hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide or nitrogen oxides;
- ⇒ Your vehicle's gas cap is leaking, allowing excessive amounts of fuel vapors to escape into the atmosphere; or
- ⇒ Your vehicle's catalytic converter is missing.

If your vehicle is a **1995 or older, all-wheel drive vehicle, or limited by traction control, or a vehicle that has a GVWR that is over 8,500 LBS**, it may fail the Two Speed Idle (TSI) Test (a tailpipe test with no drive mode simulation), for the following reasons:

- ⇒ Your vehicle is emitting excessive levels of one or both of the major air pollutants hydrocarbons and/or carbon monoxide;
- ⇒ Your vehicle's gas cap is leaking, allowing excessive amounts of fuel vapors to escape into the atmosphere; or
- ⇒ Your vehicle's catalytic converter is missing.

If your vehicle is a **1996 or older diesel-powered**, it may fail either the Loaded Mode Diesel (LMD) or Modified Snap Acceleration (MSA) opacity test for the following reason:

- ⇒ Your vehicle is emitting excessive levels of particulate matter (smoke).



If my vehicle fails, what should I receive from the Test Center?

You should receive the following items:

- ⇒ A **Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR)**;
- ⇒ A List of **Certified Emissions Repair Facilities (CERF)**;
- ⇒ An **Emissions Repair Data Form (ERDF)**; and
- ⇒ Appropriate fail brochures.



The ERDF must be completed by the CERT who performed the repairs to your vehicle, or by you, acknowledging that a non-certified repair facility made the repairs to your vehicle. You must present the ERDF at the time of the retest. If it is not presented at that time, you will be turned away, and your vehicle will not be tested. Also, please be sure you keep all of your repair receipts.

How many free retests is my vehicle eligible to receive?

Your vehicle is eligible for one free retest, per test cycle, at any test center. If your vehicle fails the free retest, each subsequent test will be subject to the \$20.00 emissions test fee. Remember, after the initial failure, you will have sixty (60) calendar days to have the vehicle repaired, and retested.

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

What if I have the vehicle retested after the 60 days?

If you have your vehicle retested after the initial 60-day retest period, you will be required to pay another \$20.00 emissions test fee. Your vehicle will also be assessed a \$20.00 late fee, by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

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

What if my vehicle fails the first retest after repairs have been performed at CERF?

There are three (3) different types of waivers that you may explore if your vehicle fails after it has been repaired at a CERF: Cost, Economic Hardship, and Functional Diagnosis. However, each type of waiver has specific criteria and conditions that cannot be thoroughly covered in this brochure. Thus, please contact the Connecticut Emissions Program's motorist hotline at 1-888-828-8399, for more details.

What if I question the accuracy of the test?

If you question the validity of your vehicle's emissions test, you are entitled to challenge the results, free of charge, within fifteen (15) business days. Please contact the motorist hotline at 1-888-828-8399, for further details.