

Where can I find a Certified Emissions Repair Facility in Connecticut?

If your vehicle fails its emissions test, you will receive a listing of **Certified Emission Repair Facilities** from the test center with your Vehicle Inspection Report. There is also a list of facilities at ctemissions.com.

What else should I know?

- A late fee is assessed if a vehicle is tested more than **30 calendar days** after its due date, or after **60 calendar days** from its first failure date.
- **If you purchase a vehicle from a Connecticut dealer**, the vehicle must be emissions compliant at the time of sale.
- **If you purchase a vehicle from a private party**, the vehicle must be emissions compliant at the time you register it.
- To find out if the vehicle you're buying is in compliance, visit ctemissions.com and enter the VIN or call **(877) 469-2884**.



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 **1-888-828-8399** or visit ctemissions.com.



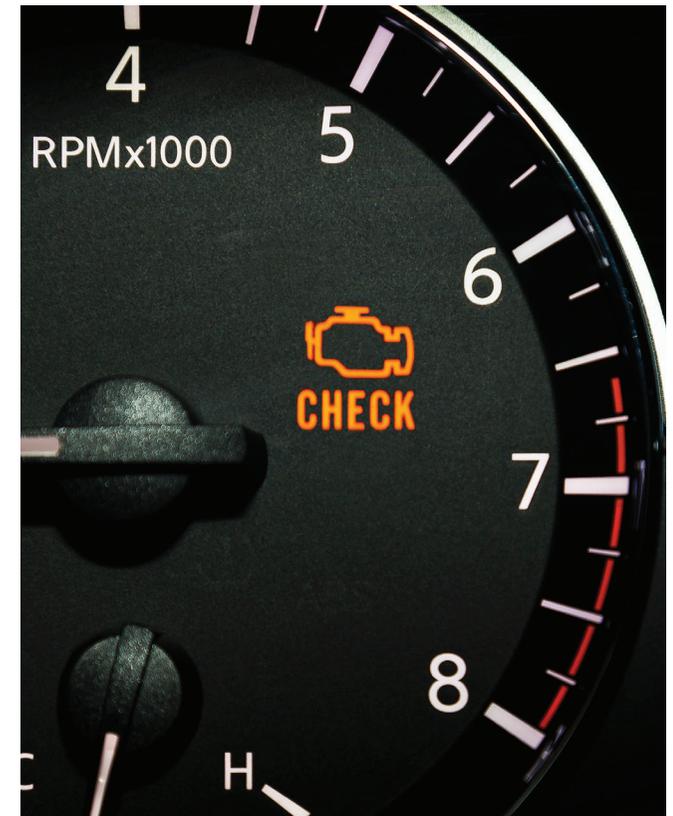
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Connecticut
Emissions
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Understanding the On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) Test



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DEPARTMENT OF
MOTOR VEHICLES

ctemissions.com
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What you need to know

The On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) Test

Most vehicles from model year 1996 and later have standardized computer systems that monitor the electronic sensors of engines and emission control systems while the vehicle is operating to ensure that they are working correctly.

The OBD test evaluates emissions during normal operation conditions. It can lead to earlier detection of vehicle problems, helping motorists to avoid costly repairs and improve vehicle emissions.

What is the purpose of the Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL)?

The Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL) turns on to alert the driver to poor performance, high emissions, or poor fuel economy. More commonly known as the check engine light, the MIL is usually represented by the symbols here.

During normal operation, the MIL will turn on for a few seconds at ignition and turn off once the engine is running. However, if the light remains on, that means the OBD system has detected a problem(s) with the engine, transmission, or emissions control system. Please don't ignore this, because **if the MIL remains on when the vehicle undergoes an emission test, the vehicle will FAIL.**



What does it mean when my vehicle's Malfunction Indicator Light remains on?

When a vehicle's MIL remains on, the OBD system has detected an emissions problem. The OBD captures the issue and stores a record of it in the vehicle's computer memory, which a qualified technician can then use to diagnosis the problem.

Sometimes the OBD system will automatically turn the MIL off. For example, if a gas cap is not properly tightened after refueling, the OBD system may detect vapor leakage and turn on the MIL. Once the gas cap is tightened, light will go off.

What should I do when the Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL) remains on?

You should have the vehicle serviced as soon as possible by a qualified auto mechanic, such as a **Certified Emissions Repair Technician**. Timely diagnosis may save you money, because:

- Small problems can be identified before they become major expenses.
- A faulty component may be covered by the vehicle's emission warranty.
- Test results allow a Certified Emissions Repair Technician to accurately pinpoint problems, avoiding costly diagnostic fees.

What does it mean when the Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL) is flashing?

A flashing MIL means your vehicle's engine has a significant issue and may cause the catalytic converter to overheat and start a fire. **You should stop driving the vehicle and have it diagnosed by a qualified technician as soon as possible.**

What are the most common reasons why a vehicle may fail the OBD test?

- MIL remains on while vehicle is running.
- OBD monitors are not ready (this can happen when the battery has been disconnected).
- OBD connector is missing, damaged, or inaccessible.
- MIL does not operate or OBD system is not functioning correctly.
- There is a communication failure between the OBD and the emissions analyzer.

Why did my vehicle fail its OBD readiness test?

If your vehicle previously required an emissions repair, your vehicle must be driven in a certain drive trace to reset the monitors. Ask your Certified Emissions Repair Technician or whoever serviced your repairs for information about your vehicle's drive trace. Failure of the readiness test could also mean your vehicle's OBD system was not ready to examine the emissions control system because the required number of monitors had not completed their analysis yet.

Sample Test Data: Readiness Monitors Status

Air Condition System: NOT SUPPORTED

Catalyst: NOT READY

EGR System: READY

Evaporative System: READY

What does "not ready" mean?

In most cases, it means a disconnected battery or an "off" MIL. **Please note:** Disconnecting your battery, replacing a defective or low voltage battery, or clearing the OBD computer prior to testing will result in failing an emissions test.

If my vehicle failed for readiness, what should I do?

Normally, a week of combined highway and city driving (drive-cycles) will reset the OBD monitors and allow an OBD test to be completed.

- Drive the vehicle at least three separate times, turning it on/off.
 - One drive-cycle should be local in-town driving;
 - One drive-cycle should be highway driving; and
 - One drive-cycle should be after the vehicle was unused for a period (e.g., overnight).
- Have the gas tank 1/4 to 3/4 full.
- Drive smoothly and avoid rapid acceleration.

Also keep in mind:

- If the vehicle fails for "unset readiness" at retest, the required number of monitors must be ready.
- If the vehicle initially failed for a catalyst-related Diagnostic Trouble Code, the catalyst monitor must be ready when retested.
- If problems continue, some car manufacturers may be able to reset the monitors with their diagnostic computer.
- You may have a CERT perform drive-cycle conditioning to get your vehicle ready for an OBD test. Ask if there is a cost for this service.