

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air

Why are emissions tests important?

Washington's air isn't perfect. Sometimes, it's just plain dirty. But by "Emission Checking" your vehicle, you're helping to keep pollution out of our air. Thanks for doing your part!

Most air pollution in our state is from motor vehicles. In parts of Clark, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane counties, the

Emission Check Program reduces pollution by identifying the most polluting vehicles and requiring proper repairs.

Emission Checks are required every two years for those vehicles in the emission check areas. You'll know an emission check is required if you see it on your renewal notice.

Who needs a test?

Vehicles newer than five years and older than 25 years do not need to be tested. The chart below shows when different model years need testing.

| Year | Model years requiring a test |
|------|--|
| 2009 | 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 |
| 2010 | 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 |
| 2011 | 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 |
| 2012 | 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 |

Kinds of Tests

Gas Cap Test:

All vehicles must have a gas cap test. Be sure any missing gas caps are replaced before coming for a test.

Gasoline Vehicles:

Gasoline vehicles will receive either a tailpipe test or an on-board diagnostic (OBD) test. Most 1996 and newer vehicles get the simpler OBD test.

Tailpipe Test:

This test also has two varieties:

1. two-speed idle
2. ASM on a dynamometer

The ASM test closely mimics actual driving and reflects how clean or dirty your vehicle is.

On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) Test:

The OBD test checks a set of computers (called on-board diagnostic) to see if your own vehicle says it's running properly. The test results show the problems through a series of codes.

Your personal technician is especially trained to translate those codes and repair your vehicle accordingly.

Diesel Vehicles:

These vehicles may be tested in two different ways. Both tests measure smoke density. The test station staff will help you with the process.

If Your Vehicle Fails

What if my car fails the test?

If your vehicle fails the test, it needs to either pass the test or be waived from further testing before it can be licensed. You will be given

a copy of the Emission Check Vehicle Repair Guide that includes where to find Authorized Emission Specialists (AES) and a repair waiver checklist.

While anyone may repair the vehicle, we recommend that you have the vehicle diagnosed and repaired by an Authorized Emission Specialist. These technicians have been trained in the diagnosis and repair of failing vehicles and their repair shops are familiar with the Emission Check Program requirements and are equipped to perform the necessary repairs.

What do I do if my vehicle can't be repaired?

Your vehicle may be eligible for a waiver if it has failed a retest and you have spent at least \$150 on diagnosis and repairs performed by an Authorized Emission Specialist. Repairs done before the test or by someone other than an Authorized Emission Specialist will not count toward a waiver.

Waivers can **only** be granted for vehicles repaired by an Authorized Emission Specialist (AES). They are not available for vehicles with removed, altered, or inoperative emission control systems.

Things to Know Before You Go

Your checklist:

- Don't make repairs before the first test.
- The test fee is \$15, payable by cash, check, VISA, Mastercard, or Discover. No bills larger than \$50, please.
- Make sure your vehicle is fully warmed up before the test. Shortly before the test, drive for 15 minutes on the freeway. In cold weather, drive longer.
- When you're in line don't shut off the engine unless the staff tells you to do so.
- For safety reasons, don't bring pets or passengers. You may not be able to test.
- Prepare to get out of your vehicle.
- Test station may reject your vehicle from testing under certain conditions.
- Test in the middle of the month – lines are usually shorter.
- Oversized vehicles should use a station printed in **bold** on the station list.
- Drivers of some vehicles may be asked to disengage four-wheel drive or traction control systems before testing.
- While anyone can take your vehicle for the test for you, only the legal or registered owner can receive a waiver.

Vehicle Emission Inspection

No appointments available.

*For vehicles longer than 30 feet, use stations in **bold**.*

Clark County

W. Vancouver (360-574-3731) 14110 N.W. 3rd Ct
E. Vancouver (360-254-2173) 1121 N.E. 136th Ave

King County

Auburn (253-939-1225) 3002 "A" St. S.E.
Bellevue (425-644-1803) 15313 S.E. 37th St.
North Seattle (206-362-5173) 12040 Aurora Ave. N.
Redmond (425-882-3317) 18610 N.E. 67th Ct
Renton (425-228-6453) 805 S.W. 10th St.
South Seattle (206-624-1254) 3820 6th Ave. S.

Pierce County

Fife (253-926-3277) 4912 Pacific Hwy E.
Puyallup (253-848-6399) 10320 122nd St. E.
Lakewood (253-581-5243) 3003 - 107th St. S.

Snohomish County

Everett (425-347-5711) 1505 112th St. S.W.
Lynnwood (425-771-7614) 19726 64th Ave. W.
Marysville (360-658-1137) 117 Beach Ave.

Spokane County

Valley (509-535-1326) 16309 E. Marietta Ave
Gonzaga (509-482-7724) 920 N. Hamilton St.

OPEN: Monday - Friday, 9:00 to 5:00
Saturday, 9:00 to 1:00
CLOSED: Sundays, state holidays, the day before Christmas and Christmas Day. Severe weather or power outages may prevent or delay testing.

More Information

How do I get my tabs?

Once your vehicle passes a test you can get your tabs online, by mail, or just take your test to a licensing agent and buy your tabs.

For Information

Ask for the Emission Check staff at the following numbers.

Clark and Pierce Counties

1-800-453-4951

King and Snohomish Counties

(425) 649-7021 or 1-800-272-3780

Spokane County

(509) 329-3530

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/program/air/cars/auto/motive_pages.htm

The inspection stations are operated for the state by a private firm. The name of the company is Applus+ and it can be reached at (253) 395-1177.

The Department of Ecology oversees the operation of the test stations and authorizes emission repair specialists.

If you need this publication in an another format, contact the Air Quality Program at 360-407-6800. If you have a hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. If you have a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.