

Clean Truck Check (HD I/M) Program Regulation Fact Sheet



The Heavy Duty Inspection and Maintenance Program (HD I/M) became effective on January 1, 2023 and is the first heavy-duty vehicle smog check program. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) announced the program moving forward will be referred to as the Clean Truck Check.

The program applies to all diesel and alternative fuel vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of over 14,000 pounds, including all out-of-state and out-of-country vehicles.

What is Required in 2025?

Fleets will complete two compliance tests and pay their annual compliance fee.

Fleets can submit their *first* compliance test outside of the 90 day window to qualify for the first compliance testing deadline. However, subsequent compliance tests must be conducted and passed within the 90 day compliance testing window.

Agricultural vehicles are subject to annual compliance requirements. Please refer to the definition on Page 5.

Determining Compliance Year Start

Vehicles registered in California must submit a passing compliance test by the day and month of a vehicle's DMV registration expiration date.

Vehicles registered outside of California will conduct compliance tests based on the last digit of the VIN with some exception for vehicles previously registered in California.

Fleets can submit a passing compliance date within 90 days prior to a vehicle's compliance deadline.

Please refer to the Compliance Testing Deadlines Section for more information.

Enforcement

If a vehicle owner fails their Clean Truck Check compliance, they will receive a Notice of Violation (NOV) and must bring the vehicle into compliance within a specified time frame in order to avoid a fine.

If a fleet owner or operator receives a NOV for a vehicle that does not operate in California, please contact the enforcement division's email or phone number listed on the violation to resolve the issue.

What is a NST?

CARB has deployed roadside emissions monitoring devices that will identify high emitter vehicles operating in California.

If you receive a Notice to Submit to Testing (NST) from CARB, the vehicle owner must submit a passing compliant test to CARB within 30 days.

On Board Diagnostic (OBD) Compliant Vehicles

An OBD-equipped vehicles means one of the following:

- Model year 2013 and newer diesel engines
- Model year 2013 and newer diesel hybrid engines
- Model year 2018 and newer alternative fuel engines
- Model year 2018 and newer alternative fuel hybrid engines

OBD-equipped vehicles must complete OBD compliance test.

An OBD test is performed using an approved testing device such as a scan tool, which will collect information to validate the vehicle's emission system is operating properly.

A compliance test must be performed and submitted to CARB by a credential tester.

Non-OBD Equipped Vehicles

A non-OBD equipped vehicle (vehicle with a 2012 or older model year engine) must conduct an SAE J1776 smoke opacity test and a vehicle emissions control equipment inspection with an approved credentialed tester.

The vehicle emissions control equipment inspection form can be found on the [Clean Truck Check website](#).

Non-OBD alternative fuel vehicles such as propane, CNG, and LNG are exempt from the testing requirements.

On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) Devices

While older vehicles require a smoke opacity test and a visual inspection, vehicles with model year 2013 and newer diesel engines and model year 2018 and newer alternative fuel engines are required to submit On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) data instead.

OBD equipped vehicles must conduct tests using [CARB approved OBD Test Devices](#).

How Do I Remain Compliant with CARB?

To perform tests yourself:

Obtain a Tester ID # by successfully completing the [free online training session from CARB](#).

Next, purchase the testing system from an approved CARB vendor:

Telematic Devices

- [Zonar Systems](#)
 - First and only telematics device approved by CARB that continuously and automatically performs emissions checks
 - This device supports the 9-pin SAE J1939 diagnostic port.
- [Geotab, Inc.](#)
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
 - Contact cleantruckcheck@geotab.com for more information.
- [Pacific Track](#)
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
 - Contact sales@pacifictrack.com for more information.

Plug-in Devices

- [Silver Snap-Tool software](#) (runs on your Windows laptop with Win 10/11 with Intel or AMD processor).
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
 - \$500 for the Silver Snap-Tool license (one-time fee) and \$504 for use of the cloud service (annual fee)
- [HEM DAWN OBD Inspector](#) (runs on iPhone and iPad)
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
 - The Mini Streamer hardware purchase costs \$395 (one-time fee)
 - The software license costs \$995 (one-time fee including first year) and a yearly renewal costs \$500
- [Noregon Systems LLC: Truck Checkup](#) (USB or Wireless)
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
- [DG Technologies](#)
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
 - The software costs \$495 per year and/or \$1340 for the hardware testing kit.
- [Opus Inspection, Inc.](#)
 - This device supports both 9-pin SAE J1939 and 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.
 - The CleanTruck OBD Device Kit costs \$4,995.

To start testing:

Create a "Credentialed Tester Account" in the [CTC-VIS](#) to submit and review test results.

Out-of-State Motor Carrier Compliance Deadlines

Motor carriers operating vehicles with non-California based apportioned plates or registration based outside of California will conduct compliance tests based on the last number of the vehicle's VIN.

Compliance testing is expected to begin January 1, 2025 and will require a vehicle to be tested twice in 2025. Fleets can submit a compliance 90 days in advance to your compliance deadline.

The deadline to submit a compliance tests is based on the last digit of your vehicles VIN.

NEW: Please be aware that an out-of-state registered vehicle's compliance testing deadlines may not be calculated on the last digit of the VIN moving forward.

Previously registered vehicles in California that are now registered outside of the state will no longer follow compliance testing deadlines based on the last digit of the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

If a vehicle was ever registered with the California DMV, the CTC database will use the established California DMV registration expiration date to calculate the vehicle's compliance deadlines.

Please refer to your CTC-VIS account for a vehicle's correct vehicle compliance due date.

In 2025 and beyond, a vehicle's compliance deadline will fall under the following month:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July

Here's a timeline of the semi-annual tests within the 90 day window that must be conducted in 2025:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
First Compliance Deadline									
January 31 - April 30	March 2 - May 31	April 1 - June 30	November 2 - January 31	November 30 - February 28	December 31 - March 31	January 31 - April 30	March 2 - May 31	April 1 - June 30	November 2 - January 31
Second Compliance Deadline									
August 31 - October 31	September 1 - November 30	October 2 - December 31	May 2 - July 31	June 2 - August 31	July 2 - September 30	August 31 - October 31	September 1 - November 30	October 2 - December 31	May 2 - July 31

CA Based Registered Vehicles Compliance Testing Deadlines

Compliance testing requires a vehicle to submit and pass a compliance twice a year. Fleets will be required submit a passing compliance test by the vehicle's registration expiration date, which is the compliance deadline.

Fleets can submit a compliance 90 days in advance to the compliance deadline. Below is an example of the twice a year compliance months fleets will need to submit compliance tests.

DMV Registration Expiration Month	January	February	March	April	May	June
Compliance Deadline Month(s)	January July	February August	March September	April October	May November	June December

DMV Registration Expiration Month	July	August	September	October	November	December
Compliance Deadline Month(s)	January July	February August	March September	April October	May November	June December

Submitting Non-OBD Test Results to CARB

The Credentialed Tester who performed the vehicle compliance test must email the following information to CARB:

- Send email to non-obd-test-submission@arb.ca.gov
- Subject line must contain only the VIN
- Attach the completed and signed [Vehicle Emissions Control Equipment Inspection Form](#)
- Scan, upload, and attach the smoke test opacity strip or electronic test results
- CARB will send an autoreply to the HD I/M Tester confirming receipt of the Non-OBD Vehicle Compliance Test Email

CARB will send a confirmation email within 72 hours to the credentialed tester verifying the result of the Non-OBD Vehicle compliance test.

Credentialed testers must conduct a Visual Emissions Control Equipment Inspection (visual inspection) on heavy duty vehicles without on-board diagnostic (OBD) systems.

Credentialed Tester Training

Clean Truck Check credentialed tester certification is valid for two years from the date of the successfully completing all requirements. Only credentialed testers can submit data to CARB.

Credentialed Testers must create a “Credentialed Tester Account” in the CTC-VIS in order to submit and review test results. PDFs will no longer be provided by email and now appears in the tester’s and vehicle owner’s CTC-VIS account

Tester training is available on the [Clean Truck Check website](#).

Five-Day Pass

Vehicle owners are eligible for a temporary pass once per calendar year that allows operation of a vehicle in California for five consecutive calendars without the vehicle being compliant with the Clean Truck Check program if there is no outstanding enforcement. A vehicle owner must submit a request by emailing hdim@arb.ca.gov.

Please refer to CARB’s [webpage](#) for information that must be included in the request. Vehicle operators must keep a copy of the 5 day request in the vehicle at all times while operating in California during the specified time.

Freight Contractor and Facility Requirements

Any freight contractor shall only contract with compliant vehicles or fleets. Any freight facility must ensure that only compliant vehicles enter and operate on their property. Facilities must maintain records of all vehicles that enter the facility property that are not compliant with the smog check program.

Parts Unavailability Time Extension

A vehicle owner must submit the following information from at least one repair facility to a referee to be recommended for a compliance time extension due to an unavailability of parts:

1. The repair(s) that is needed to correct the vehicle's non-compliance issue.
2. The part(s) needed to repair the compliance issue.
3. What part(s) needed to repair the compliance issue are unavailable.
4. The reason(s) as to why the part(s) are unavailable.
5. An estimate as to when the parts are expected to become available.
6. Repair facility contacted in an effort to complete the needed vehicle repairs:
 - Business name.
 - Business address.
 - Business contact information.
8. Evidence of an effort to contact repair facilities after the noncompliance issue was first identified.

Enforcement

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will block registration on California-based vehicles that have not demonstrated compliance. Non-compliant vehicle owner's will be subject to fines comparable to the Truck & Bus Rule.

CARB has deployed roadside emissions monitoring devices that will identify high emitter vehicles operating in California. If a motor carrier receives a Notice to Submit to Testing (NST) from CARB, the registered vehicle owner must submit a passing compliant test to CARB within 30 days.

Agricultural Vehicle Requirement

"Agricultural vehicle" means a vehicle or truck-tractor trailer combination owned or operated by a farming business and used exclusively in agricultural operations to transport agricultural products to the first point of processing and does not include vehicles that do not directly support farming operations, such as personal use vehicles.

- First point of processing refers to the location where harvested crops, bees, fowl, fish, livestock, animals, or their products, such as wool, milk, or eggs, are first altered from their original state, or the first location where unaltered products are packaged and prepared for transportation.
- A first point of processing may include packinghouses, slaughterhouses, cotton gins, nut hullers/shellers and processors, dehydrators, lumber mills, feed and grain mills, and biomass facilities. For some crops, the first point of processing may be in the field, such as chipping wood.
- A first point of processing is not a location of the product's final use and does not include distribution centers, wholesale and retail sales locations where the first processing of a product does not occur, livestock auction houses, and subsequent locations where processing, canning, or similar activities occur after departing a first point of processing location.

Agricultural vehicles must be reported in the CTC-VIS and submit an attestation form in order to qualify. Please refer to CARB's [webpage](#) for more information.

Compliance Questions

If you have compliance questions about Clean Truck Check program, please reach out to CTA Staff:

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