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Certified smog test near me

Launch service Department website Contact You can search by Station Name, County, City, Postal Zip-Code, or BAR Field Office area. Select the "STAR Certified Stations" box when searching for a STAR certified station. Phone: 800-952-5210 Frequently Asked Questions Where can I find more FAQs regarding Finding a Smog Station? STAR Stations

STAR stations must meet specified performance standards established by BAR. Some STAR stations are licensed to perform only tests, while others are licensed to perform both tests and repairs. BAR directs a portion of the vehicle fleet to STAR-certified stations for inspection and certification. These are known as "directed vehicles." Additionally, vehicles that fail inspection at very high emissions levels must also receive certification from a STAR-certified station. These vehicles are identified as "gross polluters." Smog Check Station Types and Services The Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) licenses or contracts with several different types of Smog Check facilities. The various stations are designed to provide consumers with multiple options to meet their needs. The station is required to post a sign on the services it performs. Test-Only Stations Test-Only stations are licensed by the state to perform Smog Check inspections, but not repairs, on vehicles. Related services Look Up Auto Repair Dealer License Topics DMV/Auto, Keywords Car, drive, driving, Emissions, Smog Check, Smog Station, Transport, Transportation, Vehicle, Smog. What is the difference with a regular smog station and a STAR smog station? You received your DMV renewal notice and discovered it says "Smog Certification Required at a STAR Station". No need to panic. All this means is that the DMV has chosen your vehicle to be inspected at a STAR certified smog station which is monitored closely by the BAR and must conform to high standards established by the Bureau of Automotive Repairs. Some STAR stations are only authorized to perform smog inspections. These stations are known as STAR Test Only stations. Other STAR certified smog centers can perform smog inspections as well as smog check repairs. These smog stations are known as STAR Test & Repair stations. Both STAR stations are allowed to perform regular and STAR smog checks. STAR Test Only Centers are only authorized to perform smog inspections and are not allowed to perform smog check repairs. STAR Test & Repair Stations are authorized to perform STAR smog inspections, as well as repair and certify all vehicles. If the DMV is asking for "Smog Certificate Required at a STAR station" you can visit either of these smog test center types. STAR certified smog station duties and responsibilities STAR Test Only Center - Smog test only centers are authorized by the State of California to perform both Regular and Test Only smog inspections. They are not allowed to perform any smog repairs. A Test Only center's main obligation is to perform a non-bias and accurate smog inspection. They are certified to inspect all DMV required vehicles. STAR Test & Repair (CAP) - STAR Test & Repair stations are authorized by the Bureau of Automotive Repairs to perform, along with smog check repairs, regular smog inspections and test only smog checks. A STAR Test & Repair station is the only type of smog check center which can inspect, repair and certify any and all vehicles. These stations are participants of the State's Consumer Assistance Program and are inspected by the State of California monthly. STAR Test & Repair stations may also perform smog repairs on vehicles participating in the Consumer Assistance Program. How are vehicles selected for STAR smog check? The State of California uses the following three strategies to determine whether a vehicle is STAR station designated or not: Gross polluters (vehicles which have failed a previous smog inspection with very high emission readings) High Emitter Profile vehicles. These are vehicle types designated by the Bureau of Automotive Repair as having high chances of failing the smog inspection. A random sample of all vehicles registered in California and being driven on public roadways. If your vehicle has been selected to undergo a STAR smog check don't be alarmed. Simply locate a convenient STAR certified smog station and proceed with the inspection. The smog technician conducting the test can inform you of any serious issues. There are several hundred STAR smog stations throughout California and you can find one in your area using our STAR Smog Station Locator. How much does a STAR smog check cost? STAR smog stations, as with all smog stations, are independently owned and operated businesses. The owners of these smog test centers or test & repair stations have to right to choose the amount they will charge consumers for their services. Except for an \$8.25 State Certificate fee, STAR Test Only centers and STAR Test & Repair stations will have different prices, typically between \$29.95 and \$59.95 plus state fee. Find a STAR station by using our smog station and coupon search tool. Select "STAR Smog Station" from the drop down list, enter your zipcode and go. Does your state require vehicle emissions testing (smog checks)? Smog check engine repairs are one of the many services offered at select Firestone Complete Auto Care stores throughout the country. And unlike smog test only stations, which don't offer repair services, Firestone Complete Auto Care can repair your car to ensure it meets vehicle emission testing standards in your state. During an emissions test, a certified mechanic will assess your vehicle's tail pipe emissions and measure the amount of hydrogen, oxygen, carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide present. Emissions testing and smog checks take approximately one hour. The test ensures that your vehicle is not emitting harmful pollutants into the air. If a vehicle fails an emissions inspection, it may indicate that something is wrong with your vehicle's emissions control system and an engine repair service might be needed. A Firestone Tire and Auto Service Professional can perform a diagnostic test if your car failed a smog test, and determine exactly what's going on under the hood. Ready to make an appointment for your vehicle? We're open seven days a week and are available for all your car repair and maintenance needs, including emissions and smog check engine repair. All of or our services are backed with our guarantee to be fixed right and right on time - that's the Firestone way, and the reason we service more than 40,000 vehicles across America every day. Quick Facts About Car Emissions Testing and Inspections A smog check is a vehicle emissions inspection that tests a car's exhaust system to ensure it meets specific environmental standards. Electric cars are always exempt from smog tests since they do not produce tailpipe emissions. The price of a vehicle inspection can vary depending on the state and the type of inspection. If you just purchased a used car or moved to a new state, you need to know the requirements for vehicle emissions tests and inspections. For your existing vehicle, you might need these annually.In the United States, requirements vary by state. For example, some states require an inspection and a smog check, while others require one and not the other, or none. Our guide will provide an overview of car emissions tests and inspections in the U.S. to help you stay prepared. We will go over: Use our jump-ahead links below to skip to the requirements for your area. Why Do Cars Need Inspections? Let's start by understanding the purpose of car inspections. In short, many states implement these regulations to ensure that vehicles stay safe to drive and meet specific environmental standards. As cars age, they can develop safety hazards and become more polluting. Though it depends on which state you live in, certain cars must undergo annual inspections to identify potential problems and ensure that they are still safe to drive. They might also require emissions testing. These checks can help keep our air clean. What Is a Smog Check? A smog check is a vehicle emissions inspection that tests a car's exhaust system to ensure it meets specific environmental standards. This emissions test is required in some states but not all. Cars produce air pollution when they burn gasoline or diesel fuel. Pollution can contribute to respiratory problems and other health concerns. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Emissions of pollutants into the air can result in changes to the climate." Smog checks help reduce air pollution by ensuring gas and diesel vehicles meet emissions standards. If a car does not pass a smog check, the owner may need to make auto repairs or replace parts to get the vehicle to meet the standards. What Cars Need an Emissions Test? Depending on the state, smog checks may or may not be required. The age of the car could be a factor. For example, vehicles in California that are in the 1975 model or newer generally need a smog check unless they make the list of exempt vehicles, which we will explore later in this article. The only cars that are always exempt from smog checks are electric vehicles since they do not produce emissions. Other vehicles may be exempt, depending on the state. For example, certain hybrid cars, alternative fuel cars, and motorcycles are exempt from smog checks in California. What States Require an Emissions Test? Currently, 29 states require an emissions test to register a vehicle or renew an existing registration. Some states, including Colorado and Idaho, require emissions tests for residents in certain counties or regions, but the check is not mandatory throughout the entire state. Additionally, some states that do not require an emissions test may still order drivers to complete other safety or VIN inspections before applying for or renewing registration. Which States Don't Have Emissions Tests? The following states do not require emissions testing for vehicle registrations or annual tag renewals: Alabama Alaska Arkansas Florida Hawaii Iowa Kansas Kentucky Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Montana Nebraska North Dakota Oklahoma South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Washington West Virginia Wyoming How to Know if You Need an Emissions Test. Check with your local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office for a detailed explanation of vehicle testing requirements. Testing information is available on its website. You can also call or stop by the local office to speak with a representative and confirm the requirements. Some states require an emissions test annually. Others mandate a test less frequently or based on the age of the car, vehicle weight, and other variables. The tests are typically valid for one year, but the validity period may vary from state to state. Always confirm these regulations and state in compliance to avoid any fines or penalties. Note that some states, like California, keep logs of a car's smog check and inspection history. So, if you're considering buying a used car, you may be able to request this information from the seller or look it up online. Related: Car Title Guide: Everything You Need to Know Where Can I Get My Car Inspected? You must visit a licensed inspection station to get your car's emissions test. Depending on your region, this can be a standalone emissions testing center, a repair shop, or a dealership. The technician will connect your car to the emissions testing machine when you arrive for the test. This device measures pollution levels emitted from the exhaust, and it confirms whether the vehicle complies with the state's standards. When this is complete, you'll receive a passing certificate or failure report, depending on how the car scores. Failure reports will usually outline required repairs or adjustments. Once you have the car fixed, you'll need to take another test to make sure it passes. In Northern Virginia, Rapidpass can check your vehicle as you optionally drive through a roadside testing site. There's no need to stop since two green boxes use ultraviolet and infrared light beams to test the air quality of the passing car, and a camera captures information from the vehicle as it passes through. Upon notification of a clean emissions result, motorists can pay a fee online and move forward with car registration. Can I Get an Emissions Test in Another State? While an emissions test can typically be completed by any certified motor vehicle inspector, you'll need to visit an approved emissions testing site in your home state for registrations and tag renewals. Testing criteria in your state may differ from your neighboring state, so get your vehicle emissions tested where you live. However, some states do have reciprocity with others, meaning the inspection from your current state may be valid if you move to another state requiring an inspection. How Long Does a Smog Check and Inspection Take? Traditional emissions tests and inspections take less than an hour, including the time spent waiting in line. A simple emissions inspection takes less than 15 minutes. In places like Northern Virginia with its Rapidpass system, it takes less than 10 seconds when there's no traffic. However, if your car fails the emissions test or the inspection, you may need to have your vehicle repaired, which can take additional time. Export tip: Have your smog check done earlier in the month to avoid long lines of drivers rushing to get their inspection completed by the end-of-the-month deadline. How Much Does an Inspection Cost? The price of a vehicle inspection can vary depending on the state and the type being done. Smog checks are slightly less expensive than car inspections. However, both are manageable if you don't need repairs. For example, Virginia's Rapidpass system costs \$30 for a smog check. Requirements by State for Inspections Alabama The state does not have emissions check requirements. A safety inspection is not needed for vehicle registration in Alabama. However, a VIN inspection is required when residents register out-of-state vehicles. Alaska In Alaska, you will find no mandatory safety or emissions inspections. The only thing you need to drive is valid car insurance. Certain municipalities previously required inspections, but those mandates were suspended or discontinued. Arizona In Arizona, Phoenix and Tucson metropolitan areas require emissions testing, including if you commute into these areas. Requirements may vary depending on the vehicle type, model year, fuel type, and weight. The biennial inspection is not required for registration outside of the state's largest metro areas. Car safety inspections are not necessary in the state. Arkansas Arkansas has no mandatory safety or emissions inspections. However, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality strongly encourages voluntary emissions testing. That means you can get your car tested for emissions, but it's not mandated. California The state of California enforces some of the strictest smog check requirements in the country. The part of the state you live in will determine which tests your car needs to pass. If you move to the state with a vehicle purchased elsewhere, it must pass a smog check before it can be registered. A visual inspection of your vehicle's identification number is also required. For drivers of newer vehicles, you must pay a smog abatement fee instead of getting a smog inspection for the first eight years that your vehicle is registered. The following vehicles are exempt from smog testing: Electric vehicles A motorcycle Natural gas-powered vehicles over 14,000 pounds Diesel-powered made before 1997 Made before 1975 Less than eight years old If your car fails its smog test, you need a certified state test and repair station (STAR) to remedy the problem, which in some cases may be due to a stolen catalytic converter. Colorado In Colorado, most vehicles need biennial safety inspections. The biggest counties, including Denver, Broomfield, Douglas, and Boulder, also require emissions testing. Newer cars less than eight years old need tests every other year. Vehicles being registered in Colorado from another state must complete a VIN inspection. Connecticut The state of Connecticut performs safety inspections on commercial vehicles. Regular passenger cars, pickup trucks, and motorcycles do not need safety inspections. However, all vehicles registered in Connecticut must pass an emissions test every other year. Additionally, the state requires a VIN verification when registering any car in Connecticut for the first time. Delaware In Delaware, it's essential to complete safety and emissions inspections every two years if your automobile or truck has a gross vehicle weight rating of 8,500 pounds or less. These tests are performed by the DMV; independent inspection reports are not authorized or accepted. Automobiles manufactured before 1968 and diesel vehicles produced before 1997 are exempt. Vehicles in the most recent seven model years are also excluded from these testing requirements. District of Columbia Vehicles in Washington, D.C., must pass safety inspections and emissions tests before registration. While the DMV no longer requires motorcycles or motorized bicycles to pass inspections, all other vehicles must be checked. Vehicle inspections for personal cars remain valid for two years. To expedite emissions testing of previously inspected vehicles, the district provides self-service kiosks open around the clock, seven days a week. Florida Although there once was a time when Florida required both safety and emissions inspections, that's no longer the case. However, drivers need to get a VIN inspection if they're bringing an out-of-state vehicle into Florida for registration. Georgia Georgia law requires vehicles registered in the 13-county Atlanta metropolitan area to complete enhanced smog testing. Automobiles from the most recent three model years are exempt from emissions testing, and vehicles 25 model years or older are exempt from emissions inspection. Other exemptions include motorcycles, RVs, diesel-powered vehicles, and motor homes. Safety inspections are not required. Hawaii Emissions testing is not a requirement in Hawaii. However, all vehicles must pass an annual safety inspection to check essential components, including brakes, horn, headlights, and turn signals. The inspection must be done at an authorized station. Idaho Idaho's Division of Motor Vehicles does not require drivers to have periodic car safety inspections. The state ended its emissions testing requirements for the Boise metropolitan area in 2023. A VIN inspection may be needed before registering a vehicle not previously titled in the state. Illinois Illinois requires annual emissions inspections for qualifying vehicles in the Chicago and East St. Louis metropolitan areas. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency tests automobiles before residents can renew vehicle registration with the secretary of state's office. Indiana Indiana doesn't require vehicles to have safety inspections. However, the state's Bureau of Motor Vehicles requires a VIN inspection on vehicles not previously titled in Indiana. Its every-other-year emissions testing program applies only to vehicles made after 1975 and registered in Lake and Porter counties in Indiana's northwest corner. Iowa No inspection is needed for vehicle registration in Iowa. The state does not mandate safety checks or require emissions testing for passenger cars. Kansas There are no safety or emissions testing requirements in Kansas. However, a VIN inspection is necessary on certain automobiles before they receive a Kansas title and registration. The Kansas Highway Patrol conducts these inspections to verify vehicle ownership when bringing a car into Kansas from another state. Kentucky In most cases, car registration in Kentucky does not require a vehicle inspection. However, motor vehicles brought into Kentucky from another state must pass a sheriff's safety inspection to ensure roadworthiness. Louisiana All vehicles in Louisiana must have an annual safety inspection, which includes checking exhaust systems and emission items. Five parishes around the state capital, Baton Rouge, have an enhanced inspection and maintenance program to help control motor vehicle emissions. Maine Vehicles registered in Maine must pass annual safety inspections. Residents of Cumberland County, which includes the city of Portland, must also have their automobiles tested annually for emissions. Maryland Maryland requires that most used vehicles complete a comprehensive examination at a licensed vehicle safety inspection station before their sale or title transfer. The state's vehicle emissions testing program applies to automobiles registered in 13 counties and the city of Baltimore. Emissions inspections occur every two years. Massachusetts The Massachusetts Vehicle Check program requires all passenger vehicles to pass an annual safety check and emissions test. The comprehensive inspection includes an examination of the car's brakes, tires, horn, and other key safety components. Vehicles less than 15 years old with onboard diagnostic systems must pass an annual emissions inspection. Michigan Michigan vehicle registration does not require an inspection. The state does not mandate car safety checks or emissions testing. Minnesota The Driver and Vehicle Services division in Minnesota does not require safety checks or emissions testing on passenger cars registered in the state. Mississippi Mississippi does not require an inspection to register a car, nor does the state mandate vehicle safety checks or emissions testing. Missouri Missouri's DMV requires passenger vehicles to pass a safety check every other year to assess the condition of their suspension, seatbelts, headlights, and other safety features. Residents of the St. Louis metropolitan area must also have vehicle emissions inspections. Montana Montana does not require car inspections, and motorists can register their automobiles through the state's Motor Vehicle Division without having to perform a safety check or emissions testing. A VIN inspection may be used to confirm ownership. Nebraska Nebraska does not require a vehicle safety inspection or emissions testing to register automobiles. The state may perform a VIN inspection to confirm ownership and record the odometer reading, but there is no physical examination of roadworthiness. Nevada Nevada does not mandate vehicle safety inspections. Annual emissions testing is a requirement for vehicles from model years 1968 and newer in Clark and Washoe counties, or the Las Vegas and Reno areas. New Hampshire Automobiles registered in New Hampshire must pass an annual safety check as part of the state's vehicle inspection program. In addition to the physical inspection needed for all cars, passenger vehicles less than 20 years old require an onboard diagnostics test for early detection of malfunctioning emissions devices. New Mexico New Mexico does not have a statewide vehicle safety inspection requirement. However, an emissions inspection is mandatory for automobiles registered or commuting in Bernalillo County. All motor vehicles up to 10,000 pounds in the county from model years 1990 and newer must pass the test every two years or at a change of ownership. New York The Empire State has a comprehensive inspection program for cars and light trucks. The annual safety check covers the vehicle's horn, wipers, brakes, and more. For emissions inspection, an onboard diagnostics test is necessary for cars built since 1996. The OBD test is a computerized analysis of the automobile's emissions. North Carolina Passenger vehicles under 30 years old must pass an annual safety inspection before the North Carolina DMV registers the car. A licensed mechanic examines the vehicle's headlights, signals, brakes, steering, windows, tires, and other safety components. Along with the safety check, motorists in 19 North Carolina counties must have an OBD emissions inspection. North Dakota North Dakota does not require vehicle inspections. The state's Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division registers passenger vehicles for North Dakota residents without a safety inspection or emissions test. Ohio Emissions testing is required in seven Northeast Ohio counties around Cleveland. A network of self-service stations makes testing easier for motorists in the Buckeye State. Vehicles four years old and newer are exempt from testing, as are cars older than 25. The frequency depends on the vehicle weight and model year. There is no mandatory safety testing in Ohio. Oklahoma Oklahoma does not require vehicle inspections. Motorists can register a car in Oklahoma with minimal straightforward requirements and no safety or emissions testing. Oregon Oregon does not require vehicle safety inspections. However, residents of the Portland and Medford metro areas must test their vehicles every two years. The OBD test is a computerized analysis of the automobile's emissions. In Portland, automobiles manufactured after 1975 require testing. For vehicles in Medford, the cutoff is 20 years. Pennsylvania Each vehicle in Pennsylvania must pass a basic safety inspection, including the car's horn, wipers, brakes, and more. Significant rust and frame damage must also be repaired before an inspection sticker is issued. Passenger cars in less populated counties are exempt from Pennsylvania's emissions inspection program. Motorists in metropolitan counties are required to have annual inspections. Rhode Island Rhode Island conducts vehicle inspections every two years to help ensure that vehicles on its roadways are safe and environmentally clean. The state's emissions and safety testing program checks exhaust output and the car's major components, such as the brakes, suspension, and tires. South Carolina Automobiles in South Carolina are not required to have inspections. The state's Department of Motor Vehicles registers passenger cars without safety or emissions tests. South Dakota South Dakota doesn't require vehicle inspections. The state's Department of Revenue Motor Vehicle Division registers passenger automobiles without emission or safety certification. Tennessee Vehicle emissions testing is a thing of the past in Tennessee. The Volunteer State ended its inspection program in metropolitan counties in 2022 after the Environmental Protection Agency approved the state's air quality plan. Texas A law in Texas eliminating the requirement for vehicle safety inspections takes effect on Jan. 1, 2025. However, the Texas emissions inspection policy still applies to 17 of the state's 254 counties. Designated counties are in the metropolitan areas of Houston, Dallas, Austin, and El Paso. Bexar County, part of San Antonio's metro area, will require emissions tests in 2026. The emissions requirement applies to gasoline-powered vehicles less than 25 years old. Utah The state of Utah removed the safety inspection requirement for most private automobiles as a prerequisite for registration. Motorists in Cache, Davis, Salt Lake, Utah, and Weber counties must pass emissions requirements. In general, cars with model years less than six years old are required to have an emissions test once every two years. The vehicle's model year determines if inspections occur during an even or odd year. Vermont Vermont enforces its annual emissions inspection and maintenance program for vehicles. Residents can visit one of the 1,100 official inspection stations throughout the state to complete the straightforward emissions test and safety check. Cars 16 years old or newer must undergo these tests. Virginia Virginia requires an annual vehicle safety inspection to help ensure cars have proper equipment that's in working order. Emissions tests are required every other year in the most populated areas of Northern Virginia. Motorists there can use the on-road emissions inspection program, Rapidpass. It allows a motorist to drive through the system to complete their emissions test in less than a second without visiting a testing station. Washington Washington terminated its emission check program in 2020 after 38 years of service. There are no yearly safety inspections in the state, but vehicles still must meet strict Clean Car requirements. All Washington State passenger cars, model years 2009 and newer, must be certified to California emission standards. West Virginia West Virginia requires a safety inspection every 24 months, and it is illegal to operate a vehicle without a valid inspection sticker on the windshield. However, no smog or emissions test is required to register a car in West Virginia. Wisconsin Wisconsin requires biennial onboard diagnostics inspections for registration renewal of all cars from 1996 and newer. You may also need to get an emissions test if the vehicle is kept in one of these seven southeastern Wisconsin counties: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Washington, and Waukesha. Wyoming Wyoming does not require car safety checks or emissions testing. The state's Department of Transportation registers automobiles without a vehicle inspection. Related Articles: Editor's Note: This article has been updated since its initial publication. 282 places in London, ordered by rating: