

# Emission Program Information for Gasoline Vehicles

EC-002 (REV: 10/2020)

## When to Test

Emission inspections are required for many original vehicle registrations and for each annual renewal. Your mailed renewal notice will indicate whether a test is required. Emission inspection stations in Nevada are privately owned (decentralized program) and are licensed by the Department.

## Vehicles Requiring a Test

All gasoline-powered motor vehicles except for motorcycles and mopeds require an emission test if they are:

- Based in Clark or Washoe County.
- 1968 model year or newer.
- New vehicles, on their first and second registration, are exempted. An emissions test is required upon the vehicle's third registration cycle. A registration cycle is defined as a 12-month period. *(Please see Hybrid info below)*

## Emission tests are valid for 90 days

You must have a valid test to complete any original registration or renewal if the vehicle requires a test as listed above. This includes reinstatement of a suspended registration.

Nevada used car dealers must issue a valid emission test "when required" for any vehicle they sell. For private transactions, the test is the buyer's responsibility.

## Exempt Vehicles

The following vehicles are exempt from emission testing:

- New motor vehicles (except hybrids) on their first and second registration;
- Hybrid vehicles newest five model years. *Effective 10/01/07*
- Vehicles registered as a "Replica"
- 1967 or older;
- Motorcycle or moped;
- Vehicles based in the Goodsprings area of Clark County.
- Vehicles based in the Crystal Bay, Empire, Nixon, Wadsworth, Incline Village and Sutcliffe areas of Washoe County.
- All other Nevada counties. **Please call the emission control office nearest you if not sure whether a check is required in your area.**
- Vehicles operating on a dedicated alternative fuel (propane, compressed natural gas, methane, butane). Bifuel vehicles designed to operate on either gasoline or an alternative fuel must receive an emission test while operating on gasoline.
- Transfer of ownership/registration if the last test was conducted within 90 days before the transfer;
- Transfer of ownership between husband and wife; anytime within one year.
- Transfer of ownership/registration between companies whose principal business is leasing vehicles if there is no change in the lessee or operator of the vehicle;
- Vehicles registered as an Old Timer, Classic Rod or Classic Vehicle and driven 5,000 miles or less per year.

## Test Locations

You can take your vehicle to any authorized emission inspection station licensed by the State of Nevada. Look for an Official white and blue sign issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, which identifies authorized stations.

## Test Fees

The Department establishes a maximum fee based on an annual survey of shop labor rates of authorized stations. Each station is required to display the total fees charged and the station's hours of operation.

## Types of Tests

Nevada uses On-Board Diagnostics (OBDII) testing for 1996 and newer light duty gasoline powered vehicles.

The emission inspector will connect an analyzer to the OBD computer in your vehicle. Data sent from your vehicle's OBDII computer to the emission analyzer will indicate if the emission control systems are operating properly and within prescribed limits.

Light duty gasoline powered vehicles older than 1996 and all 1968 and later model heavy-duty gasoline powered vehicles are tested with a two-speed idle test. The emission inspector will test your vehicle at approximately 2,500 rpm and at idle speed.

## Visual Inspections

Certain emission control devices on light duty gasoline powered vehicles older than 1996 and all 1968 and later model heavy-duty gasoline powered vehicles receive a visual inspection for tampering. The emission devices inspected (if required by the manufacturer) are:

- Gas cap
- Air injection system
- Exhaust gas recirculation system
- Catalytic converter
- Fuel inlet restrictor

Every gasoline-powered vehicle that receives an emission test is visually inspected for exhaust smoke and crankcase blow-by.

## Your Vehicle Passed!



All emission test records for gasoline powered vehicles are transmitted real time from the emission analyzer to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Once your vehicle has passed the emission inspections, you may renew your existing vehicle registration at participating emission control stations, on the Internet, by telephone, by mail or in person at a DMV full-service or express office. Renewal transactions for gasoline-powered vehicles can also be done using the self-service kiosk machines at DMV full-service, express offices and other participating

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locations. For a listing of participating locations please refer to the DMV website.

If you renew at an Emission Inspection Station, by Internet or telephone, your registration is updated instantly. The decal and registration slip are printed and placed in the mail within two business days.

First-time Nevada registrations and license plates can be obtained only at full service DMV Offices.

## Your Vehicle Didn't Pass?

If your vehicle failed the initial emission test, you must repair the vehicle and obtain an after-repair emission test. Repairs can be made by any facility that you choose. If you prefer, you may make the repairs yourself. **It is very important to review the waiver information in this brochure for restrictions in your county.** Vehicles unable to meet their emission standard will require a waiver issued by DMV prior to registration. **Please note that specific criteria must be followed for a vehicle to be eligible for an emissions waiver.**

Fee discounts, "No Pass – No Pay" options and similar promotions are not mandated by State law and are offered at the discretion of individual emission stations. Note: After the operator of a motor vehicle requests an initial inspection, the emission inspector must test the vehicle in accordance with State Regulations and in the condition that it is received. Pre-testing is not permitted.

## Waiver: Washoe County Residents

An application for a waiver must include receipts from a 2G Licensed Authorized Station showing that at least \$200 has been spent on parts other than a catalytic converter, fuel inlet restrictor, air injection system, or on labor other than emission testing if the repairs evidenced by the receipt were directly related to the deficiency in emissions. Waivers cannot be issued for work performed at a shop not licensed as a 2G Authorized Station.

For vehicles that are repaired by owners, the application must include receipts or other evidence that at least \$200 has been spent on parts other than a catalytic converter, fuel inlet restrictor or air injection system purchased with 14 days after the initial emission test.

Waivers **will not** be issued in Washoe County to:

- Smoking Vehicles – The vehicle **must be** repaired with no limit on cost
- Vehicles eligible for warranty coverage.
- Vehicles with tampered or missing emission control devices.

## Waiver: Clark County Residents

An application for a waiver must include receipts from a Licensed Authorized Station showing that at least \$450 has been spent on parts other than a catalytic converter, fuel inlet restrictor, air injection system or on labor other than emission testing if the repairs evidenced by the receipt directly relate to the deficiency in emissions. **If the vehicle is not repaired at an authorized station, it will**

**not be eligible for a waiver regardless of the cost incurred.**

Waivers **will not** be issued in Clark County to:

- Smoking Vehicles – The vehicle **must be** repaired with no limit on cost.
- Vehicles eligible for warranty coverage
- Vehicles with tampered or missing emission control devices.

If your vehicle fails the initial emission test and you:

- Have performed repairs pursuant to your county's requirements
- Have met your county's minimum financial criteria required to obtain a waiver as listed in this brochure' and
- Your vehicle still fails the re-inspection emission test.

Bring your vehicle, both failed certificates and receipts of all repair work to the Department of Motor Vehicles Emission Control test Lab to request a waiver.

## For Further Questions

Please contact the Department of Motor Vehicles Emission Control Office nearest you. The locations of the emission control offices in Reno and Las Vegas are listed below:

### Las Vegas

DMV Emission Test Lab  
2621 East Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104  
(702) 486-4981  
Southern Region

### Reno

DMV Emission Test Lab  
9155 Double Diamond Pkwy  
Reno, Nevada 89521  
(775) 684-3581  
Northern Region

