

# 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 2024?

**NEW:** Fleets no longer have to test their vehicle emission system between July - December 2024, but owners are required to pay the 2024 compliance fee during the periodic testing window.

## Compliance Testing Frequency

**NEW:** Periodic Testing is expected to start on a twice a year basis **January 1, 2025** with the earliest testing window opening October 3, 2024.

Agricultural vehicles are subject to only annual compliance requirements.

## 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.

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

Jump to the Compliance Testing Deadlines Section for more detailed information.

## Online Database Reporting & Fee

Each vehicle must be reported to the [Clean Truck Check Online Database](#) and pay an annual \$30 fee by January 31, 2023.

A compliant vehicle will receive a valid Clean Truck Check compliance certificate. CARB developed a [training video](#) to assist users navigating the database.

## 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.

Owners of vehicles that have been identified as possible high emitters will receive a Notice to Submit to Testing (NST) that directs owners of affected vehicles to submit them to additional testing.

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:

- [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.
- **RECERTIFIED:** [HEM DAWN OBD Inspector](#) (runs on iPhone and iPad)
  - This device supports 16-pin SAE J1979 diagnostic ports.

## What Will This Cost Me?

A complete package is available for less than \$1,600 can be used by multiple testers and on multiple trucks.

The DAWN OBD Inspector pricing is as follows:

- The Mini Streamer hardware purchase is \$395 (one-time fee)
- The software license is \$995 (one-time fee including first year)
- The yearly renewal is \$500

The [Silver Snap-Tool](#) pricing is as follows:

- \$500 for the Silver Snap-Tool license (one-time fee) and
- \$504 for use of the cloud service (annual fee) which includes:
  - Unlimited data submissions to CARB
  - Access to all Silver Snap-Tool updates
  - Technical support

In the next year, CARB expects to approve a telematics based device that will submit data to CARB while operating in the background and will not require a motor carrier to pull a vehicle out of service to submit a test.

CARB cites the most common protocols for Heavy-Duty/Medium-Duty vehicles are SAE J1939 and J1979.

In general, vehicles with Ford/Hino/Isuzu/Volvo engines are using the SAE J1979 (or OBD II) connector, and vehicles with Cummins/Detroit Diesel/Navistar/Paccar engines are using the SAE J1939 connector.

Visit CARB's [Clean Truck Check Certified OBD Test Device's Webpage](#) for more information.

## 2024 Compliance Payment Deadlines

**NEW:** CARB has delayed the periodic testing start date until January 1, 2025. **Fleets no longer have to test a vehicle's emission system between July - December 2024, but owners are required to pay the 2024 compliance fee during the vehicle's periodic testing window for 2024.**

### California-Based Registered Vehicles

Vehicles with California-based registration will pay their compliance fee based on the vehicle's registration expiration month and day, but have 90 days prior to pay the fee.

**Example:** If a vehicle's registration expiration date is June 31 your window to pay the compliance fee is between October 3—December 31.

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

**CAUTION:** The deadline to submit your compliance fee in 2024 may be different than compliance fee deadlines in 2025 and beyond.

### Out-of-State Based Registered Vehicles

Motor carriers operating vehicles with apportioned plates or registration based outside of California will submit payment based on the last number of the vehicle's VIN. The deadline to submit the compliance fee is the last day of the compliance deadline month,.

Motor carriers may submit the compliance fee up to 90 days before the vehicle's compliance deadline.

**Example:** If a vehicle's registration expiration date is November, the window to pay the compliance fee is between September 2—November 30.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
October	November	December	July	August	September	October	November	December	July

**CAUTION:** The deadline to submit your compliance fee in 2024 may be different than compliance testing deadlines in 2025 and beyond.

## CA Based Registered Vehicles Compliance Testing Deadlines

Compliance testing is expected to start January 1, 2025 and will require 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

## Out-of-State Motor Carrier Compliance Deadlines

Motor carriers operating vehicles with 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.

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

## 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 [HDVehicleenforcement@arb.ca.gov](mailto:HDVehicleenforcement@arb.ca.gov)
- Subject line must contain: "Non-OBD Vehicle Compliance Test; VIN, HD I/M Tester ID"
- 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 a confirmation email within 72 hours to the credentialed tester verifying the result of the Non-OBD Vehicle compliance test.

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

## 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.

## 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.

## Five-Day Pass

A once-a-year temporary pass that allows operation of a vehicle in California for five consecutive calendars without the vehicle being compliant with the Clean Truck Check program. A vehicle owner must submit an application to the Executive Officer.

## 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.

## Compliance Questions

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

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