Your vehicle failed its emissions inspection due to excessive emissions, visible smoke, or missing/faulty emissions control equipment.

**My Vehicle Has Failed Its Emissions Test...**

Now What Do I Do?

**What Now?**

**FIND OUT WHY**

Review the Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) you received at the end of the test.

**CORRECT THE PROBLEM(S)**

Take your vehicle and the VIR to a repair facility. The Emissions Repair Effectiveness Guide you received at the testing station lists registered repair facilities that can perform the necessary repairs. You do not have to use a repair facility listed in the Guide. Once repairs are completed, the facility repair technician must complete the Vehicle Repair form at the bottom of the VIR before you return to the testing center.

**GET A RETEST**

Return the vehicle and the completed Vehicle Inspection Report to any Air Care Colorado testing center. You can get a free retest if you return within ten (10) calendar days of failing the original test.

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**What If My Vehicle Fails The Retest?**

- Discuss the results with the repair technician who completed the initial repairs. The vehicle may need additional diagnostic and repair work.
- Get a second opinion. Another repair technician may be able to provide a different opinion or different options.
- Find out if the manufacturer has issued any recalls of your vehicle.

If you are dissatisfied with the quality of the repairs you received, you can get free help in diagnosing the problem. The State of Colorado operates several Emissions Technical Centers, and they will evaluate your vehicle to determine the reason for the emissions failure at no charge.

To get more information or to make an appointment, call the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at (303) 692-3434 (Denver Metro Area) or (970) 221-2105 (North Front Range).

**WAIVERS** may be available in place of passing the emissions test to owners of vehicles that continue to fail, even after making appropriate repairs. Please call (303) 205-5603 for more information.

The following conditions must exist to apply for a waiver:

- For model year 1968 and newer, you must have spent at least $715 on emissions-related repairs. You must provide all repair receipts showing itemized parts and labor.
- The vehicle cannot have tampered with or missing emissions control equipment, or any visible smoke emitting from the tailpipe.

**HARDSHIP WAIVERS**

If you can provide proof of low-income assistance through an approved program, and the failing vehicle is your only means of transportation, you may be eligible to receive a one-time Hardship Waiver, even if the repair cost limit has not been met.

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**DEALER COUPONS**

If you used a dealer coupon to pay for the failed emissions test, then you have three (3) business days, from the day after you took possession of the vehicle, to return it to the dealer for repairs or repurchase. **NOTE: If you do not return the failed vehicle to the dealer within the 3-day period, the dealer will be relieved of any further responsibility to repair or repurchase the vehicle.**

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**HOTLINE:**

303-456-7090
970-AIR TEST (247-8378)

www.AirCareColorado.com
Why Did My Vehicle Fail The Test?

The vehicle passed or failed for its emissions of hydrocarbons (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), and/or oxides of nitrogen (NOx).

**Emissions Test Information**: Compares test results to the maximum allowable limits for the vehicle and model year.

For model year 1981 and newer vehicles that are not tested on the dynamometer, the vehicle must pass the emissions test both while idling and at 2500 RPM.

1980 and older vehicles must pass the emissions test while idling.

**Equipment Inspection**

All 1975 and newer vehicles are visually inspected for the presence of the catalytic converter(s), air injection system, oxygen sensor(s) and gas cap(s).

**Gas Cap Integrity**: A properly functioning gas cap is an essential part of the vehicle's emissions control system. A missing or leaking cap will cause the vehicle to fail the emissions test.

Replacing the gas cap will affect the vehicle's emissions control capability. Colorado requires a full retest when the vehicle fails initially for a missing or defective gas cap.

**On Board Diagnostics**

All model year 1996 and newer light-duty vehicles come equipped with On Board Diagnostics (OBD) computers. This feature helps quickly determine problems with your vehicle, allowing for quicker repair and improved performance.

If the On Board Diagnostics result is **ADVISE**, then that means the OBD system found some problems. These can include communication problems, diagnostic trouble codes, issues with your Check Engine Light, or something else. You should promptly seek further diagnosis and repairs in order to improve vehicle performance and fuel economy, save money, avoid failing your next emissions test and prevent other, more serious problems.

The Check Engine Light is the primary way your vehicle’s OBD system communicates with you. We check to make sure the light bulb and circuit are functioning properly.

Check Engine Light Command Status: We check to see if the OBD system detected emissions-related problems and commanded the Check Engine light to turn on.

Diagnostic Trouble Codes: These codes describe the issue(s) your vehicle is currently experiencing.

**Smoke**

Smoke from your vehicle’s tailpipe must be less than 5% visual opacity at all times. (Invisible emissions have 0% opacity; this photo suggests nearly 100% opacity, since the tire cannot be seen behind the smoke plume.)

### Reading The Vehicle Inspection Report

#### Emissions

- The vehicle passed or failed for its emissions of hydrocarbons (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), and/or oxides of nitrogen (NOx).

#### Equipment Inspection

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#### Gas Cap Integrity: A properly functioning gas cap is an essential part of the vehicle’s emissions control system. A missing or leaking cap will cause the vehicle to fail the emissions test.

Replacing the gas cap will affect the vehicle’s emissions control capability. Colorado requires a full retest when the vehicle fails initially for a missing or defective gas cap.

### A Note About Catalytic Converters

If your catalytic converter needs replacing, we strongly recommend using a replacement from the vehicle’s manufacturer. EPA-approved replacement catalytic converters are required for a retest. If the emissions inspector cannot see the new catalytic converter’s EPA identification number, then you will also need to present a receipt or warranty card, showing its EPA approval to avoid failing the retest.