



## Registration Scenarios Regarding Vehicle Emission Inspections

**SCENARIO #1:** A motorist buys a used vehicle in *May*. The previous owner had it tested in *February*. The motorist (new owner) uses the inspection from *February* to register the vehicle in his name in *May*. The motorist's birthday is in *December*. Will the vehicle need to be tested for their December registration renewal, even though the test is still valid for two more months?

**ANSWER:** NO. If the emission inspection is still valid, the new owner can use the inspection from the previous owner for their registration renewal.

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**SCENARIO #2:** It is *August 2004*. The motorist's birthday is in *September*. The motorist is *extremely late* renewing their registration from *2003*. They have their vehicle tested and renew their *2003* registration. Will it need to be tested again (immediately or within 1-2 months) to renew their *2004* registration, since their birthday is next month?

**ANSWER:** YES. Covered vehicles require an emission inspection EVERY YEAR. The vehicle must be tested (again) to renew their 2004 registration.

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**SCENARIO #3:** A motorist buys a vehicle from a dealership or individual without a current passing emission inspection. What should the motorist do?

**ANSWER:** The motorist should download and complete the "[Motorists' Complaint Form for Vehicle Sold Without Passing Vehicle Emission Report](#)" available on the GCAF website, under "Forms and Applications." Once EPD has received the form, a representative will contact the motorist to begin the investigation.

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**SCENARIO #4:** A motorist's birthday is *February 15<sup>th</sup>*. The motorist moves to Georgia in February and has her vehicle tested and registered on *February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004*. In 2005, the motorist wants to use that inspection to renew their registration on their birthday. Can that inspection be used if it is within just a few days of expiring?

**ANSWER:** Yes. An inspection is valid for 12 months or one registration renewal. In order to get the motorist on an annual testing cycle, some Tag Offices may choose to require the motorist to have the vehicle inspected, if the previous inspection for INITIAL registration will expire within a few days. However, THIS IS TO THE TAG OFFICES' DISCRETION. The GCAF Call Center would likely inform the motorist that the vehicle WOULD NOT need to be tested again if the current test is still valid. GCAF informs motorists to contact their Tag Office for confirmation on testing requirements.