

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



Georgia's Clean Air Force  
445 Atlanta South Parkway  
Suite 150  
Atlanta, GA 30349

**SPARE THE AIR AND YOUR WALLET:**  
Ongoing vehicle maintenance can save you money and help keep our air clean.

Try these tips to help prepare for your next vehicle emissions test:

- The most common reasons for emissions test failures include: a malfunction in the components of the vehicle that regulate the fuel/air ratio such as the oxygen sensor and the EGR valve; a dirty air filter; misfiring spark plugs; leaks in the vacuum system; or a poor-fitting fuel cap. Many of these components can be checked and repaired during routine tune-ups. Follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.
- Have your oil changed regularly.
- Replace your fuel cap securely after filling up. On 1996 and newer model year vehicles the "Check Engine" light may illuminate as a result of a loose fuel cap. If the "Check Engine" light is illuminated, try tightening the fuel cap until it clicks, then drive the vehicle until the light turns itself off. If it does not turn off, take your vehicle to a qualified repair technician.
- Keep the sealing surfaces of your fuel cap clean and in good condition.
- Keep your tires properly inflated.
- Check belts and hoses for wear.
- A transmission problem is directly related to the emissions control system and can trigger the "Check Engine" light. A diagnostic analysis will yield a transmission code that will help identify the transmission component(s) that needs repair. Transmission malfunctions can prevent a vehicle from running efficiently, increasing emissions above federal certification limits. Transmission codes repair will count toward the repair waiver amount.
- Before seeking repairs, research any recalls, technical service bulletins (TSBs), and manufacturer warranties regarding your emissions control system.

CleanAirForce.com  
1.800.449.2471

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**ABOUT  
GEORGIA'S  
VEHICLE  
EMISSIONS  
INSPECTION AND  
MAINTENANCE  
PROGRAM**



CleanAirForce.com  
1.800.449.2471

Georgia's Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program is designed to identify and ultimately repair gasoline-powered cars and light-duty trucks that pollute the air. Georgia's I/M program, known as Georgia's Clean Air Force (GCAF), helps our area work toward attaining federal clean air standards.

**WHICH VEHICLES REQUIRE A  
PASSING EMISSIONS INSPECTION TO  
RENEW THEIR 2017 REGISTRATION?**

**IF YOUR VEHICLE IS:**

A 1993 to 2014 model year gasoline-powered car or light-duty truck (gross vehicle weight rating of 8,500 pounds or less) registered in Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding or Rockdale County;

\*The three most recent model years are exempt each year. In 2017, this includes 2015 and newer model year vehicles.

Para el ensayo de la información en español, visite CleanAirForce.com. 스페인어로 정보를 테스트 하기에 위해, CleanAirForce.com 을 방문하십시오. Ebu voi ieden ta thong tin trong tiếng Tay Ban Nha, hãy truy cập CleanAirForce.com.



**What if I am buying a used vehicle?**

If you are buying a used vehicle that will be registered in a covered county, a seller located within the 13-county testing area must ensure the vehicle has a passing Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIN) performed within the last 12 months, before selling the vehicle. The seller is not required to provide a hard copy of the passing report. A summary of the most recent VIN report may be obtained from CleanAirForce.com or at any GCAF Service Center. To file a complaint against a seller for failing to have a passing VIN at the time of sale, visit CleanAirForce.com and complete the "Used Vehicle Sale Complaint Form."

**Buying Tip #1:** A Repair Waiver from a previous owner cannot be used to register a newly purchased used vehicle in the covered area; it must have a valid passing Georgia vehicle emissions inspection.

**Buying Tip #2:** Before purchasing a used vehicle, you can view a summary of the vehicle's most recent inspection using the vehicle identification number (VIN) at CleanAirForce.com or at any GCAF Service Center to ensure an inspection was conducted within the last 12 months.

**WARNING!**

For 1996 and newer model year vehicles, if your malfunction indicator light (MIL) is on (otherwise known as the "Check Engine" or "Service Engine Soon" light), your vehicle will fail the inspection. This is a definite indication of one or more emissions-related problems detected by your vehicle's on-board diagnostic (OBD) computer. The problem may be as minor as a loose fuel cap or as major as an emissions control system failure. Seek repairs prior to having an emissions test. If you present your vehicle for inspection with the "Check Engine" light on, the inspector cannot release to test your vehicle.

**What if I think the inspection or the test equipment was faulty?**

If you question the test procedures, the accuracy of the inspection equipment, or the validity of the results, you may request a retest test within 15 calendar days of the disputed inspection if no repairs have been made (15 days includes the day of the first inspection). For more information, call the GCAF Call Center at 800-449-2471. Also, please report others to illegally pass a vehicle by calling the GCAF Call Center or by submitting an email to [info@cleanairforce.com](mailto:info@cleanairforce.com).

**How can I receive a refund?**  
Each emissions inspection station is independently owned and operated. Motorists may contact the station owner or manager directly for assistance or file a complaint with the Better Business Bureau or the Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs.



## MY VEHICLE FAILED. WHY?

### 1996 and newer model year vehicles

There are two main reasons why a 1996 or newer model year vehicle may fail the on-board diagnostics (OBD) test:

1. There is something wrong with your vehicle's emissions control system and it needs to be repaired. You will receive a copy of your Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIR) and Emissions Repair Form from your inspector. Take these documents to a repair facility. The VIR will indicate the general area of the failure and will help your repair technician determine the appropriate repairs. The emissions inspection is not a diagnostic analysis.
2. Your vehicle's OBD computer is "Not Ready." While this does not necessarily mean your vehicle has a problem, it does indicate your vehicle's OBD computer has not met the criteria to be ready for testing.

\*Retro, CD player, security system, navigation system, or satellite radio.

### What should I do if my on-board diagnostic (OBD) computer is "Not Ready"?

If repairs are performed on the vehicle or if the battery was recently disconnected, **GCAF recommendations:**

1. Drive your vehicle for approximately one to two weeks under normal conditions including some highway driving.
2. If your vehicle has difficulty becoming "Ready," check the thermostat, fuses, and wiring to the battery and on-board computer or have a diagnostic analysis performed using an **OBD generic scan tool**, connect to the data link connector (DLC) under the dash, not under the hood. An aftermarket system that is not properly installed can interfere with the on-board computer. Research can interfere with the on-board computer. Research recall, technical service bulletins (TSBs), drive cycles and manufacturer applied extended warranties to determine if there are recommended repairs regarding your vehicle's emissions control system. Once repairs have been completed and you have driven your vehicle for one to two weeks to ready the on-board computer, return to the original inspection station for a free retest within 30 calendar days of the first test.

\*Retro, CD player, security system, navigation system, or satellite radio.

### My vehicle will not "communicate" during testing. What should I do?

1. The inspector should attempt to test the vehicle several times.
2. If your vehicle has had an aftermarket system<sup>1</sup> installed, make sure the wiring is not interfering with the connection to the vehicle's computer or battery system. Research recalls, technical service bulletins (TSBs), and manufacturer-applied extended warranties to determine if there are recommended repairs regarding your vehicle's emissions control system. Have a diagnostic analysis performed using an **OBD generic scan tool**, connect to the DLC under the dash, not under the hood.

3. If the inspector has attempted to test the vehicle several times and/or a diagnostic analysis indicates the vehicle is able to communicate with an **OBD generic scan tool**, call the GCAF Call Center at 1.800.449.2471. A representative will document your situation, and a GCAF representative will return your call promptly.

\*Retro, CD player, security system, navigation system, or satellite radio.

### What if my MIL illuminates after I complete the Drive Cycle?

Once the vehicle becomes "Ready," the OBD computer may detect additional emissions-related problems. If so, the malfunction indicator light (MIL) will illuminate, indicating a problem. Proceed with the proper repairs before using your one free retest. Only emissions-related issues will cause the MIL to illuminate.

**NOTE:** Before a free retest can be performed, you must provide the failing Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIR) and completed Emissions Repair Form, which should be filled out by your repair technician. If self-repairs are conducted by the vehicle owner, only the cost of parts (not labor) should be documented on the Emissions Repair Form.

### 1995 and older model year vehicles

The inspector will give you an Emissions Repair Form, a GCAF O&A brochure, and a Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIR), showing which area(s) of the test your vehicle failed. A diagnostic analysis should be performed by a qualified repair facility to determine why your vehicle failed in one or more of the following areas:

- Excessive carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), or hydrocarbon (HC) levels in your exhaust emissions.
- A damaged or missing catalytic converter. If originally equipped, a converter is required by federal and state law.

### WHERE DO I GO FOR REPAIRS?

Find out if your vehicle is still covered by a manufacturer's emissions control warranty. If so, take it to an authorized dealer. If your vehicle is not under warranty, find a qualified emissions repair shop to make the necessary repairs. For a list of qualified emissions repair shops in your area, view the RepairWatch Public Report at any inspection station or visit [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com).

**Repair Tip #1:** GCAF recommends obtaining an estimate for labor and parts before auto or body repairs.

**Repair Tip #2:** Make sure your mechanic completes the Emissions Repair Form that was given to you when your vehicle failed. You will need it to get your free retest after the repairs are performed.

**Repair Tip #3:** Labor costs can vary for licensed businesses only; self-repairs are allowed, but only the cost of parts applies if applying for a Repair Waiver.

**NOTE:** Keep all receipts. Repair receipts are not needed to obtain a retest, but are required to apply for a Repair Waiver.

## When can my vehicle be retested?

You can obtain one free retest at the original inspection station within 30 calendar days of your first inspection. The 30 days includes the day of your first test and expires at the time of day of the original test. Before a free retest can be performed, you must provide the failing Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIR) and completed Emissions Repair Form. If the original inspection station is closed when you return for the retest, call the GCAF Call Center at 1.800.449.2471 for assistance.

*If your vehicle fails its annual emissions inspection and you have already paid all related taxes and fees, contact your local county tag office for information about a possible non-renewable 30-day extension on your registration, per OCA 40-2-210.*

## POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS

### Repair Waiver

Visit [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com) or a GCAF Service Center for complete instructions on how to apply for a Repair Waiver. **To qualify, all of the following criteria must be met:**

- The cost of emissions-related repairs must meet or exceed \$879.
- The retested vehicle must show tailpipe gas emissions improvement in all the areas it failed on the first test.
- The retested vehicle must still pass the tailpipe gas emissions at test it passed on the first test.

\*The Repair Waiver time amount is adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.

\*The failing vehicle must be present when applying for a Repair Waiver.

### Senior Exemption

**All of the following criteria must be met to qualify for a Senior Exemption:**

- You are 65 years old or older.
- Your vehicle is 10 model years old or older (2007 model year or older).
- You drive less than 5,000 miles per year.
- You or a proxy may apply at select county tag offices, at any GCAF Service Center, or online.

*Seniors who have received an exemption in the past may be able to renew via phone. For further information, call the GCAF Call Center at 1.800.449.2471.*

### Out of Area Extension

If you and your vehicle are temporarily located well outside of the 13-county emissions testing area due to student or military obligations, you may qualify for a temporary Out of Area Extension. The vehicle must be tested once it returns home to Georgia. Visit [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com) for more information on Out of Area Extension. **Vehicles can be tested well in advance** if the driver will be out of the area at the time of registration. An inspection is valid for 12 months or one renewal, by the same owner.

The Georgia VM rules are the final guidance of the program. The rules are available at [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com).

## GEORGIA'S CLEAN AIR FORCE FULL-TIME SERVICE CENTERS

**Clayton County**  
445 Atlanta South Parkway  
Suite 150  
Atlanta, GA 30349

**Cobb County**  
2130 Northwest Parkway  
Suite E  
Marietta, GA 30067

**DeKalb County**  
Northlake Executive Center  
2280 Northlake Parkway, Suite 204  
Tucker, GA 30084

**Fulton County**  
Fulton County Tag Office  
5600 Stonewall Hill Road  
College Park, GA 30349

**Gwinnett County**  
Peachtree Office Center  
1810 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Suite 239  
Duluth, GA 30097

For information on part-time GCAF Service Centers at additional locations in metro Atlanta, please visit [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com) or call 1.800.449.2471.

*In addition to the above GCAF Service Centers, some select county tag offices offer waiver services, which could save you a tag. Visit [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com) or call the GCAF Call Center at 1.800.449.2471 for directions and hours of operation.*

## LET US KNOW HOW WE ARE DOING!

You may also send us your comments via email by visiting [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com).

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How would you rate your experience with this inspector?  
Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

2. How would you rate your experience with this inspection station?  
Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

3. If your vehicle failed, did the inspector refer you to an Emissions Repair Form and a GCAF O&A brochure? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

4. If your vehicle failed, did the inspector provide you with this inspection station?  
Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you ever visited our website at [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you ever called our toll-free information line? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

7. Have you ever visited a GCAF Service Center? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

7a. If so, was the customer service representative courteous and professional? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

7b. How would you rate your overall experience with the process?  
Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

8a. If so, how would you rate your overall experience with the process and representative?  
Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspector Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Station Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_  
GCAF Service Center Location \_\_\_\_\_  
GCAF Customer Service Representative Name \_\_\_\_\_



**Clean Air Force®**  
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