



Vehicle Inspection Program

DEQ Vehicle Inspection Program:

The Vehicle Inspection Program is an important part of Oregon's State Implementation Plan for managing compliance with federal Clean Air Act standards. Established to address excess ozone and carbon monoxide, the program The Vehicle Inspection Program is still responsible for removing an estimated 30 million pounds of air pollution annually from Oregon's air.

While today's vehicles are *manufactured* to run cleaner, that relies upon regular maintenance. While VIP provides testing and diagnostics free of charge, the bigger benefit the program offers is ensuring that vehicles and their emission control systems are maintained and functioning as designed.

Cost Effective and Customer Oriented:

Oregon Revised Statute 468A.370 requires the Environmental Quality Commission to determine the most cost effect approach for testing and certifying vehicle emission controls. Efficient procedures and innovation in the program allow it to remain highly cost-effective while avoiding fee increases. The most recent cost-effectiveness analysis found that consumers receiving test services from privatized test program pay on average triple the fees paid under publicly operated programs.

- **VIP is 100% supported through Certificate of Compliance fees:**
 - Oregon's fee remains one of the lowest in the nation – VIP charges \$20 in Medford, and \$25 in Portland-metro once a vehicle passes the test
 - Unlimited free testing – an important equity issue for those who rely on older vehicles
 - Zero reliance on state General Fund
 - Expansive testing options – motorists can have a traditional test conducted by a DEQ employee, or receive their test at over 140 private businesses we partner with
- **VIP Partners with DMV to issue Renewals:**
 - Each biennium, VIP issues renewals and collects payments for over 675,000 vehicle registrations on behalf of DMV. That means DEQ manages about 2/3 of all vehicle renewals in the Portland-metro and Medford testing areas.
 - This allows customers to complete both their emission inspection and vehicle registration renewal at once, saving a trip to the DMV and easing pressure on DMV locations.
- **DEQ receives overwhelmingly positive customer feedback**
 - 97% of motorists indicate good or excellent service
 - Wait-times averaging 10 minutes or less.

Demonstratable Benefits:

Translation or other formats

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- Real world emissions data from a 2022 study showed that pollution from cars and trucks tested in Oregon pollute, in aggregate, **44% less carbon monoxide, and 45% less nitrogen oxides**, compared to vehicles that are not tested.
- We know the program works to prompt maintenance
 - 1 in 4 cars are repaired in the 90 days prior to visiting a DEQ Clean Air Station for their Certificate of Compliance. This demonstrates the effectiveness of VIP in incentivizing motorists to maintain their vehicles.
 - Even for new model year vehicles (5-6 years old) 12% would have failed without repairs completed in the 30 days prior to testing.
- Addressing emissions directly from vehicles through ensuring properly functioning controls reduces the need for other sectors, like manufacturing, to further reduce emissions.

Non-discrimination statement

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