

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Repair Assistance and Vehicle Retirement Requirements and Application



The Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) is administered by the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) and is designed to help improve California's air quality. CAP offers consumers up to \$500 in financial assistance towards certain emissions-related repairs. In addition, CAP offers consumers \$1,000 or \$1,500 to retire a qualified vehicle.

Para obtener una solicitud en español, lláme a BAR al 866.272.9642.

REPAIR ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Under the Repair Assistance option, vehicle owners who meet the following eligibility requirements may receive up to five hundred dollars (\$500) in emissions-related repairs performed at licensed Smog Check Test-and-Repair stations holding valid STAR certification and operating under an agreement with BAR.

NOTE: Financial assistance is based on the availability of funds.

- The vehicle must have failed its "biennial" (every other year) Smog Check inspection as required by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) (aborted, manual mode, and training mode tests do not qualify).
- The vehicle must not have a tampered emissions control system.
- The vehicle must be currently registered with the DMV with a valid, unexpired registration sticker **OR** have all fees paid to the DMV and not have a registration that has been expired more than 120 days.
- The vehicle registration must not have lapsed for more than 120 days during the two consecutive years preceding the current registration expiration date.
- The vehicle must not be undergoing a transfer of ownership, initial registration, or re-registration in California.
- The vehicle must not be registered to a business, fleet, or non-profit organization.
- You must be the registered owner with title issued in your name.
- You must have a household income that is less than or equal to two hundred twenty-five percent (225%) of the federal poverty level, as published in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
- You must not have previously received assistance for the same vehicle through CAP.

If approved, the applicant must pay the total cost of testing and diagnosing the emissions-related failure as co-payment for participating in the Repair Assistance option. The co-payment shall be paid directly to the station that performs the state subsidized emissions-related repair work under agreement with BAR.

Do **not** have emissions-related repairs performed on your vehicle until your application has been approved.

The State **does not** have authority to reimburse consumers.

Questions? Please call 866.272.9642 or visit www.smogcheck.ca.gov.

VEHICLE RETIREMENT REQUIREMENTS – Option 1

Under Vehicle Retirement Option 1, payment of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for each vehicle retired from operation for vehicle owners that meet income eligibility requirements. All other vehicle owners shall receive one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each vehicle retired from operation. All vehicles shall be retired from operation at a dismantler operating under contract with the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR). **NOTE: Financial assistance is based on the availability of funds.**

- The vehicle must have failed its most recent Smog Check inspection (aborted, manual mode, and training mode tests do not qualify).
- The vehicle must be a passenger vehicle, truck, sports utility vehicle (SUV), or van with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less.
- NOTE:** The Smog Check failure must not be due solely to an ignition timing adjustment, a failed gas cap functional test, or a tampered emissions control system where the tampered system is the cause for failing the Smog Check inspection.
- The vehicle must be currently registered with the DMV with a valid, unexpired registration sticker **OR** have all fees paid to the DMV and not have a registration that has been expired more than 120 days.
- The vehicle must not be undergoing an initial registration or re-registration in California.
- The vehicle must have been registered in California for two consecutive years preceding the current registration expiration date and the registration must not have lapsed for more than 120 days during those two years.
- The vehicle must not be undergoing a transfer of ownership.
- You must be the registered owner of the vehicle with vehicle title issued in your name.
- The vehicle must not be registered to a business, fleet, or non-profit organization.
- You may only retire one vehicle as a sole owner **OR** two vehicles as a joint owner through CAP within a twelve (12) month period.
- The vehicle must not be a dismantled or a total loss salvaged vehicle that has not been re-registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

If approved, the vehicle must pass an equipment and operational inspection (see page 4) at a BAR-contracted dismantler.

Do not retire your vehicle until your application has been approved.

The State does not have authority to reimburse consumers.

Questions? Please call 866.272.9642 or visit www.smogcheck.ca.gov.

VEHICLE RETIREMENT REQUIREMENTS – Option 2

Under Vehicle Retirement Option 2, vehicle owners who meet the following eligibility requirements may receive payment of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) at a dismantler operating under contract with BAR. **NOTE: Financial assistance is based on the availability of funds.**

- Vehicles not exempt from the Smog Check Program must have successfully completed a Smog Check inspection (pass or fail) within 180 days prior to the date of application (aborted, manual mode, and training mode tests do not qualify).
- You must be the registered owner of the vehicle with vehicle title issued in your name.
- You must have a household income that is less than or equal to two hundred twenty-five percent (225%) of the federal poverty level, as published in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
- You may only retire one vehicle as a sole owner **OR** two vehicles as a joint owner through CAP within a twelve (12) month period.
- The vehicle must not be undergoing an initial registration or re-registration in California.
- The vehicle must not be registered to a business, fleet, or non-profit organization.
- The vehicle must not be a dismantled or a total loss salvaged vehicle that has not been re-registered with the DMV.
- Vehicles that hold a salvage title must be registered at the time of application.
- The vehicle must be a passenger vehicle, truck, sports utility vehicle (SUV), or van with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less.
- The vehicle must be currently registered with the DMV with a valid, unexpired registration sticker **OR** have all fees paid to the DMV and not have a registration that has been expired more than 120 days.
- The vehicle must have been registered in California for two consecutive years preceding the current registration expiration date and the registration must not have lapsed for more than 120 days during those two years.
- The vehicle may also be eligible if proven to have been primarily driven in California for the last two years and not have been registered in any other state or country in the last two years. Documentation of operation in California must include the following:
 - Proof of continuous insurance coverage in California for the two consecutive years preceding application, without lapses in insurance coverage totaling more than 120 days; **OR**
 - At least two invoices from an Automotive Repair Dealer registered at the time of the repair with the Bureau pursuant to Section 9884.6 of the Business and Professions Code showing the following:
 - The Automotive Repair Dealer's valid registration number, as issued by the Bureau.
 - The name and address of the Automotive Repair Dealer, as shown on the Bureau's records.
 - Description of a repair or maintenance operation performed to the vehicle.
 - The vehicle year, make, model, and vehicle identification or license plate number matching the vehicle to be retired.
 - The date of the repair or maintenance visit.

NOTE: Invoices submitted for the purpose of satisfying this requirement shall be from two separate calendar years. The oldest invoice may not be older than twenty-four months (24) prior to the date of application.

If approved, the vehicle must pass an equipment and operational inspection (see page 4) at a BAR-contracted dismantler.

Do not retire your vehicle until your application has been approved.

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VEHICLE RETIREMENT – Equipment and Operational Requirements

After approval of an application and prior to being accepted for retirement, the vehicle must pass equipment and operational inspections performed on the items listed below at a BAR-contracted Dismantler.

Vehicle Equipment Requirements

- All doors are present.
- The hood lid is present.
- The dashboard is present.
- The windshield is present.
- At least one side window glass is present.
- The driver's seat is present.
- At least one bumper is present.
- The exhaust system is present.
- All side and/or quarter panels are present.
- At least one headlight, one taillight, and one brake light are present.

Vehicle Operational Requirements

- The vehicle is driven under its own power to a BAR-contracted dismantler site.
- The vehicle's engine starts readily through ordinary means without the use of starting fluids or external booster batteries.
- The drivability of the vehicle is not affected by any body, steering, or suspension damage.
- The vehicle is able to drive forward a minimum distance of ten (10) yards under its own power.
- The interior pedals are operational.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME VERIFICATION

To qualify for Repair Assistance or Vehicle Retirement based on income level, you must have a household income that is less than or equal to two hundred twenty-five percent (225%) of the federal poverty level, as published in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Prior to approving applications, BAR may require you to provide documentation verifying household income. If requested, you will be required to verify your household income in **ONE** of the following ways:

- Provide a copy of either your Federal 1040 or State 540 Income Tax Form filed in the most recent tax year **AND** a copy of an employment warrant (paycheck stub) reflecting year-to-date earnings, hours worked and hourly wage.
- Provide a letter from the issuing agency stating that you receive Public Assistance benefits.
- Provide a copy of one of the following income verification documents:
 - An unemployment, veteran's benefits, or disability check issued to you within the past sixty (60) days.
 - A bank statement issued in the past sixty (60) days reflecting a direct deposit of Social Security or Public Assistance funds.

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