



Facts About...

Maryland Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program Becoming a Certified Emissions Repair Facilities (CERFs)

The Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP) is a centralized inspection and maintenance program designed to reduce ozone air pollution in Maryland. Certified Emissions Repair Facilities (CERFs) are critical elements of the VEIP. CERFs are businesses, which employ highly skilled Master Certified Emissions Technicians (MCETs) and have the equipment necessary to repair vehicles to peak emissions performance standards.

There are now two levels of CERF certification; OBD only and OBD/Idle. The OBD only certification level is suitable for shops that do not normally repair older passenger vehicles or heavy duty vehicles. These CERFs will be advertised as equipped to repair OBD failures. A CERF that chooses to have an approved gas analyzer will be advertised as having dual level certification. This means they are equipped to repair both idle test and OBD test failures.

Participation in the CERF program is a voluntary demonstration of commitment to quality emissions repairs. By performing effective emissions repairs, CERFs help reduce air pollution and provide an important consumer service.

Participants in the CERF Program receive many benefits at no cost, including:

- Regular quality assurance checks of your emissions analyzer every two months
- Technical information about the VEIP
- Newsletters and technical bulletins with program information and trouble shooting tips
- Official CERF sign for outdoor advertising
- Advertisement in the CERF List, which is given to motorists whose vehicles fail at the VEIP stations.
- Free or low cost training opportunities

1. Equipment Requirements

(Items 1-7 apply to shops applying for just the OBD repair certification, shops requesting dual repair certification, need items 8 and 9 in addition to items 1-7.)

1. Emissions diagnostic and repair information for affected model year vehicles, the most current of which applies to vehicles of model years not more than 2 years older than the current calendar year.
2. Scan tool to extract fault codes from any vehicle equipped with on-board diagnostics.
3. A multimeter
4. A fuel or hydraulic pressure gauge
5. A vacuum gauge
6. A vacuum pump



7. A compression tester or cylinder leak down tester
8. An exhaust emissions analyzer that conforms, at a minimum, to the California Bureau of Automotive Repair Exhaust Gas Analyzer Specifications, 1979, also known as BAR-80
9. Maryland approved calibration gas, with regulator and pressure gauge

2. **Analyzer Calibration**

You must be able to calibrate your emissions analyzer in accordance with the Maryland Department of the Environment requirements.

3. **Technician Certification**

You must employ a technician who is a Master Certified Emissions Technician (**MCET**). A person may apply for a MCET certificate when the person has:

- Five (5) years of full-time work experience performing automotive engine repairs on non-diesel vehicles;
- **or** Four (4) years of full-time work experience performing automotive engine repairs on non-diesel vehicles **and** two (2) full years of full-time education related to the repair of non-diesel vehicles;
- **ASE** certification in electrical systems (**A-6**);
- **ASE** certification in engine performance (**A-8**); and
- **ASE** certification as an Advanced Engine Performance Specialist (**L-1**)

4. **Regulations**

You must comply with all State rules, regulations and policies; and cooperate with the State in the inspection of all required records and audits of emissions analyzers.

5. **Completing the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Certificate (VEIC)**

Customers whose vehicles fail the emissions test will be provided a Vehicle Emissions Inspection Certificate (VEIC) noting the test failure. Master Certified Emissions Technicians employed by your facility are **required** to complete the repair report on the reverse side of the VEIC once the vehicle is repaired.

6. **Repair Receipts**

Customer receipts must be on a bona fide or original copy of a printed business invoice detailing, in readable laymen's English, a full listing of replacement parts used, a description of the work performed and a breakdown of labor costs associated with appropriate emissions repairs. In addition, the invoice should provide a clear identification of the facility and the technician who performed the work.

7. **Facility Inspection**



The Maryland Department of the Environment will conduct periodic unannounced inspections of your facility. The inspection will include checking your emissions analyzer for accuracy; your gas calibration logbook to make certain analyzer calibrations were performed; your vehicle repair records; and your facility and personnel licenses. If the facility fails the inspection you must call (410) 537-3270 to schedule a re-inspection after repairs are completed.

8. Certification Documents

The Certificate issued to you, as a Certified Emissions Repair Facility must be posted in the area where repairs are being made together with the Certificates issued to Master Certified Emissions Technicians employed in your facility.

If you are interested in becoming a Certified Emissions Repair Facility, complete the attached application and **mail** to the:

**Maryland Department of the Environment
Air and Radiation Management Administration
Mobile Sources Control Program
1800 Washington Blvd. , Suite 705
Baltimore Maryland 21230-1720
Attention: Imoni Boulter**

Or

Fax the Application to the Attention of: Imoni Boulter @ (410) 537-4435

If you have questions please call (410) 537-3270 or 1-800-633-6101 ext: 3270

