



**DRIVE
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Pennsylvania

INSPECTIONS NEWSLETTER

FALL 2019 ISSUE

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Inspection Sticker Serial Numbers



Near the end of the 2019-20 campaign, you will notice the Annual Inside Safety Inspection Sticker serial numbers have 11 digits instead of 10. The extra digit was added to avoid using a BI prefix as we have done in past years. Starting with the 2020-21

campaign, ALL Annual Inside Safety Inspection Sticker serial numbers will have 11 digits. All other stickers will still have 10 digits.

PennDOT's e-Safety application is ready to accept the new 11-digit Annual Inside Safety Inspection Sticker serial number. If you are using electronic safety inspection record keeping software other than PennDOT's e-Safety application, you will need to contact your 3rd party software provider to confirm they can accommodate the new 11-digit sticker serial number.

HAVE QUESTIONS? Contact the Inspection Station Operator Hotline at **888-265-5909**

Online Inspection Sticker Orders



Order 2020-21 safety or emissions inspection stickers online starting October 1, 2019.
(Do **NOT** place online orders for any 2020-21 inspection stickers prior to October 1, 2019; You will receive 2019-20 stickers instead.)

The new vehicle inspection system allows stations to order certificates of inspection and inserts online using a credit/debit card. Follow the below instructions to register for online ordering:

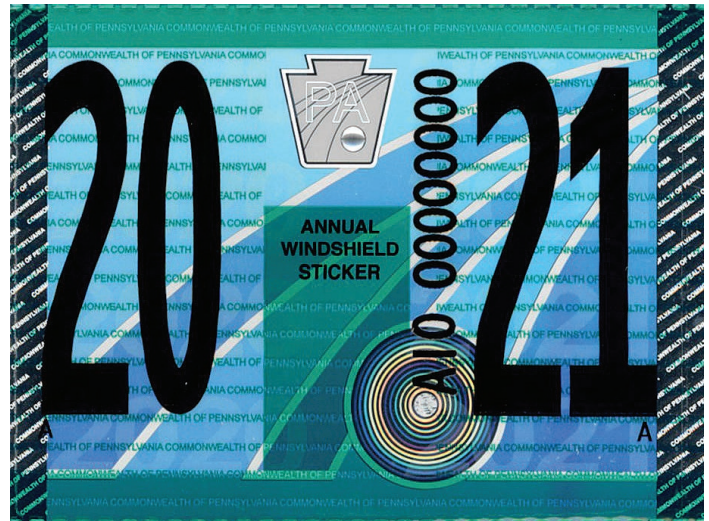
- The station owner should log into www.inspections.penndot.gov
- Select **Register** on the sign-in page.
- Select **Business Partner** in response to, "What Type of User Are You?"
- Register the station on the Business Partner Registration: Organization Identification page by following the prompts for the Station Name, Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN), and City and Zip where the station is located.
- Select the **Next** button and continue answering the appropriate questions in the **User Profile Information** and **Access Selection**.
NOTE: Under **Organization Role Selection**, you can select yourself or choose to delegate access to another person. Your justification is to "access the Inspections Application."
- Select **FINISH** when complete. The request will be officially submitted.

Once approved, you will be sent an email containing a temporary password, valid for only 24 hours. Use the login ID and temporary password for your initial access. Check for your approval email daily. Emails are sent Monday through Friday during normal business hours.

If you have any questions, please contact the Vehicle Inspection Division at (717) 787-2895.

REMINDER:

When ordering online, stickers are ordered by sheets, **NOT by individual stickers**. 4 sheets of emission stickers are equal to 40 individual stickers. Review the order to ensure it's correct before submitting. The order may be rejected for excessive quantities.



End-Of-Year Sticker Inventory



Between now and October 1, order only the necessary number of stickers needed to perform annual inspections through December 31, 2019 and semi-annual inspections through June 30, 2020. Be sure to manage your sticker inventory, so there's enough 2019-20 inventory to last through December 2019 or until 2020-21 stickers are received.

REMEMBER:

- 2020-21 stickers may be used simultaneously with the 2019-20 stickers.
- 2019-20 stickers may be used for inspections on vehicles with expiry dates up to December 2019.
- 2020-21 stickers are needed by November 1st for vehicles with a January 2020 expiry.
- Once you begin to use the new 2020-21 stickers, a separate MV-431 or MV-480 must be started.



Fees for Inspection Stickers E S

The fee for the annual safety inspection sticker is \$8.00 and the fee for the semi-annual sticker is \$6.00. Official Inspection Stations may charge \$2.00, plus the purchase price of the sticker in effect at the time of replacement for windshield replacement stickers. There is no charge for Emission Stickers.

PennDOT may limit the number of stickers shipped if requests are determined to be excessive, based on usage and prior order history. Please ensure the MV-436A is completed properly, to include the authorized signature, operator number, and the \$5 shipping/handling fee with your order. Incomplete requisitions, received without the proper information or fee, risk being returned, and delivery may be delayed.

Order Inspection Stickers by Mail

For stations that wish to continue ordering through the mail, you may place your mail-in orders now for 2020-21 safety or emissions inspection stickers, but they will not be processed until October 1, 2019. If you wish to order 2020-21 safety or emissions inspection stickers, please write 2020-21 in large numbers across the top left of your MV-436A Inspection Sticker and Insert Order Form. Unless you indicate 2020-21 at the top left of the form, your order will be processed for 2019-20. MV-436A forms marked 2020-21 will not be processed before October 1, 2019. Please allow 14 business days for delivery of your sticker orders.

Please be aware that if your payment is made with a check returned for insufficient funds, your inspection privileges are subject to suspension in accordance with the schedule of penalties found in Section 175.51 of the Vehicle Equipment and Inspection Regulations.

If you have questions, please contact the Vehicle Inspection Division at (717) 787-2895.

Sticker Fraud Alert



Stations should be alert to a scam involving counterfeit certificates of inspection. Vehicle owners are coming into stations with a small piece of alleged replacement glass with an inspection sticker attached. The owners claim they had a new windshield installed and need a new sticker. Please be aware that there is an increasing number of cases that the sticker attached to the piece of windshield is counterfeit, resulting in the vehicle owner getting a new valid certificate of inspection for a vehicle that hasn't had the proper safety inspection completed.

If approached by a vehicle owner requesting a replacement sticker, it is recommended you ask for the receipt from the windshield replacement company, to verify that the windshield was actually replaced. If you suspect the sticker in your possession is counterfeit, please contact your Quality Assurance Officer and Law Enforcement immediately.

REMINDER

OFFICIAL SCOPE MESSAGE, September 10, 2019

NEW EQUIPMENT DEADLINE NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Please Print the Following PennDOT Message and Immediately Deliver It to the Owner, or Station Authority

TOPIC IN THIS SCOPE MESSAGE:

REMINDER – NEW EQUIPMENT DEADLINE NOVEMBER 1, 2019.

Emissions Stations Final Equipment Transition Date is November 1, 2019.

PennDOT has designated a final transition date for all active emissions inspection stations to be running OBD and Visual inspection equipment meeting the new specifications. All stations will be required to use new equipment meeting the new equipment specifications no later than November 1, 2019.

Emissions Inspection Stations that have not updated to OBD and Visual inspection equipment meeting the new specifications will not be permitted to perform OBD or Visual emissions inspections after November 1, 2019.

PennDOT recommends all existing emissions inspection stations still using older equipment, begin upgrading to equipment meeting the New Equipment Specification Standards now. All three participating vendors are approved and providing options for new equipment solutions.

PennDOT strongly encourages all Emissions Inspection Stations who do not already have new equipment, to make decisions and enter purchase agreements regarding new emissions inspection equipment promptly in order to facilitate Approved Vendor equipment installation schedules. Waiting too long to make a purchase agreement may result in not having the required equipment in place for the November 1, 2019 deadline, which will impact your station's ability to conduct emissions inspections.

The majority of Emissions stations have new equipment installed and activated meeting the new specifications requirement.

Please call the Inspection Station Operator hotline at 1-888-265-5909 if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Pennsylvania Vehicle Safety and Emissions Team

Frequently Asked Questions



HEADLIGHT AIMING

Misaligned headlights are one of the most frequent complaints received from motorists. As a result, PennDOT is emphasizing the importance of headlight aiming, which is a required part of the inspection procedure. Stations must ensure headlight aiming equipment, as defined in the inspection regulations (Tools and Equipment), properly tests or aims the headlights of the makes and models of vehicles they inspect. Stations and inspectors should expect their Quality Assurance Officer to ask about the station's headlight aiming equipment during audits.

PULSATING STOP LAMPS

The Vehicle Inspection Division receives inquiries regarding passenger cars and light trucks that have pulsating stop lamps. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 requires stop lamps to be steady burning. For safety inspection purposes a stop lamp that is not steady burning would be rejectable under 175.80 (a)(9): Check the lamps and lenses and reject if one or more of the following apply: An exterior bulb or sealed beam, if originally equipped or installed, fails to light properly, except ornamental lights.

Emissions Inspection Guidelines

OBD E-VIN DISCREPANCIES AND VERIFICATION

“The Entered VIN and the Vehicle’s OBD VIN do not match.”

Inspectors who receive this message on the analyzer during a test should verify that the VIN number entered in the analyzer, either manually or scanned, matches the VIN number on the vehicle’s registration, as well as the vehicle’s VIN plate or door jam.

Inspectors should verify the car being physically tested is the same one showing on the registration. Handheld scan tools can be plugged into the vehicle being inspected to verify the e-VIN corresponds with registration card. If the e-VIN does not match, the inspector may (although not required) notate the e-VIN discrepancy on the work order and advise the customer to have their e-VIN flashed but that it is not required.

VIN DUPLICATION

“A vehicle with this OBD VIN has recently been tested on this analyzer.”

This message informs inspectors that the vehicle they’re attempting to test has already had a test completed at that location for the year. Receiving the duplication message allows inspectors to verify that they are, in fact, testing the correct vehicle, as well as maintaining proper sticker usage reporting.

PMF PRICE CHANGE

Effective April 9, 2019, the PMF was reduced from \$1.65 to \$1.57 for initial emissions tests. All stations should update their emissions testing pricing signage, if not already done.

Stations should contact the Station Operator Hotline at 1-888-265-5909 with any questions.

PRINTING USED STICKER REPORTS

Emissions inspection stations should print used sticker reports routinely to help keep track of the emissions stickers being used. Inspectors can print reports at the end of the day to verify their sticker usage for reporting purposes to ensure there are no oversights for the inspections they’ve completed for the day, but it is highly recommended that station authorities/owners complete this task as frequently as is responsible for record keeping. This helps ensure stations stay in compliance and allows audits to be conducted without hang-ups.

Any station operating older specification equipment can access all stickers used as far back as 45 days. Stations using new OBD specification equipment can access stickers used 240 days in the past, but it would be in stations’ best interest to not wait this long to run reports, so that stations are able to rectify any reporting issues ASAP prior to station audits.

To access Used Sticker Reports on the analyzer:

- Click *Station Menu*
- Select *Print Used Sticker Report*
- Enter date range for the stickers to be verified
- Click *OK*

Note: Used sticker reports show the used stickers in numerical order, as well as how they were used, i.e., emission, waiver, replacement, voided.

EMISSIONS EQUIPMENT SERVICE CALLS

If your emissions equipment requires servicing, please contact the manufacturer’s customer hotline to schedule the service call. The equipment manufacturer is required to respond to service requests within one business day. Do not contact the service technician that normally comes to your station, since they may not be able to respond in the required time frame. If the equipment manufacturer does not respond within the required period, you may contact the Emissions Station Operator Hotline for assistance (1-888-265-5909).



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Important Vehicle Inspection Information

Pennsylvania's Vehicle Inspection Program

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