



Bureau of Automotive Repair

10240 Systems Parkway
Sacramento, CA 95827
916.255.4300 Telephone
916.255.1369 Fax

www.smogcheck.ca.gov

NEW TEST ADDED TO SMOG CHECK

Beginning December 1, 2007, many vehicles will require a test of their fuel evaporative control (EVAP) system. The test is called the Low-Pressure Fuel Evaporation Test (“LPFET”).

WHAT IS THE TEST FOR?

The EVAP system is designed to capture fuel vapors (hydrocarbons) from the vehicle. The LPFET is designed to detect leaks in the EVAP system. EVAP systems can degrade over time and allow smog forming hydrocarbon emissions to escape into the air, even when the engine is not running. Finding and repairing EVAP leaks will help clean our air by preventing the release of harmful fuel evaporative emissions from vehicles.

The LPFET will determine if the EVAP system is operating as it was designed by the manufacturer. The Smog Check technician will use an adaptor in place of the gas cap to connect the EVAP tester to the vehicle and temporarily seal a vapor line. The EVAP tester will then apply a small amount of pressure to test the system for leaks.

WHICH VEHICLES ARE BEING TESTED?

Most vehicles between the model year 1976 and 1995.

WHICH VEHICLES ARE EXEMPT?

- Model-year 1996 and newer. These vehicles are equipped with on-board computer systems that monitor the EVAP system and do not need this new test.
- 1976-1995 model-year vehicles that:
 - ✓ Were not originally equipped with a fuel evaporative control system;
 - ✓ Are powered exclusively by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), or Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG);
 - ✓ Do not have a fuel fill pipe adaptor available for the EVAP tester; or
 - ✓ Are equipped with a fuel evaporative system canister and hoses that are not accessible or would require dismantling or lifting the vehicle to gain access for testing

WHAT IF THE VEHICLE FAILS THE TEST?

Failing the LPFET will result in the vehicle failing its Smog Check. If a leak is detected, it will have to be repaired. Smog Check stations licensed to perform repairs employ technicians who are licensed and have been trained to perform these repairs.

If your vehicle fails its Smog Check and needs repair, you may be eligible for up to \$500 in financial assistance. You also may be eligible for \$1,000 to retire your vehicle through a state-approved dismantler. To see if you qualify for either of these programs, contact the Consumer Assistance Program at 866.272.9642, or check the BAR Web site at www.smogcheck.ca.gov.