



Clean Truck Check (CTC) Readiness Criteria

This document is designed to help vehicle owners understand and meet the requirements for passing the Clean Truck Check (CTC) On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) test and inspection.

What is the Clean Truck Check (CTC) OBD Test?

The Clean Truck Check OBD test ensures your vehicle's emissions system is working correctly. Meeting these standards helps improve air quality and keeps your vehicle compliant with California environmental regulations.

Key Terms in Simple Language:

- **Warm-Up Cycle (WUC):** A trip where your vehicle's engine fully warms up, min 160° F .
 - **Operation Since Codes Cleared (OSC):** Tracks how much your vehicle has been driven since its computer was last reset.
 - **Permanent Diagnostic Trouble Code (PDTC):** A code stored in the vehicle's system showing a persistent issue with the emissions system.
-

Readiness Requirements

To pass the CTC OBD test, your vehicle must meet specific criteria based on the OBD system's ability to record readiness.

Minimum Readiness Standards:

1. **Warm-Up Cycles (WUC):**
 - **Standard Vehicles:** At least 5 warm-up cycles.
 - **Vehicles with a PDTC:** At least 15 warm-up cycles.
2. **Miles Driven:**
 - If the OBD system does not track WUC:
 - **Standard Vehicles:** At least 100 miles driven.
 - **Vehicles with a PDTC:** At least 300 miles driven.
3. **Operating Time:**
 - If neither WUC nor mileage is recorded:
 - **Standard Vehicles:** At least 200 minutes of driving.
 - **Vehicles with a PDTC:** At least 600 minutes of driving.

Tips for Preparing for the CTC OBD Test

1. Check and Address the Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL):

- If the "Check Engine Light" is on, this indicates a problem. Get your vehicle repaired promptly to avoid automatic failure of the test.

2. Don't Wait—Test Early:

- Schedule your test early in the compliance window to allow time to fix any issues and retest if needed.

3. Avoid Clearing Codes:

- Clearing codes resets the OBD system and requires additional driving to meet readiness. Avoid actions that may inadvertently clear codes, such as:
 - Disconnecting the vehicle's battery.
 - Using a poorly installed kill switch that cuts power to the OBD system (a proper kill switch only disconnects accessories, lights, or other systems).
 - Using an OBD scan tool to erase codes.

4. Plan Repairs Carefully:

- If repairs are needed near the end of the compliance window, take these steps:
 - Perform a CTC OBD test both before and after repairs.
 - Keep copies of all repair-related receipts to show compliance efforts.

5. Drive Adequately Before Testing:

- Ensure your vehicle has been driven enough to complete the emission control system diagnostic checks. A vehicle with incomplete checks will fail the test.

Why This Matters

Vehicles that do not meet readiness criteria will fail the CTC OBD test and be marked **NOT READY** for compliance. This can result in additional time, costs, and delays to retest.

By following these steps and ensuring your vehicle meets the readiness criteria, you increase your chances of passing the Clean Truck Check OBD test on the first attempt.

Need Help?

Consult CARBtrax dba Mobile Smoke Check www.MobileSmokeCheck.com. For immediate help, talk to a credentialed CARB inspector about readiness criteria for your vehicle at 888-216-2051.