

Definitions

Antique motor car. Any motor vehicle over twenty-five years old which is maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades and other functions of public interest and which is not used primarily for the transportation of passengers or goods over any way, provided that the application for registration thereof is accompanied by an affidavit upon a form provided by the registrar which shall include a statement of the age and intended use of such motor vehicle.

Assembled Vehicle. A unique vehicle constructed from parts of other motor vehicles.

Custom Vehicle. A motor vehicle for which the year of manufacture is after 1948, for which the model year is at least 25 years old and that has been altered from the manufacturer's original design or has a body constructed, in whole or in part, from non-original materials.

Glider Kit. A vehicle body, including cab, which is placed upon the chassis with its original drive train, of a vehicle with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of more than 10,000 pounds that changes the function or capacity of the original chassis, and which creates a need for a change to the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) because the cab has been replaced. Modifications to the original chassis may be necessary to allow installation of the glider kit.

Model Year. The model year indicated on a motor vehicle's certificate of origin or, if there is no such certificate, the model year the body of such vehicle most closely resembles.

Replica Vehicle. a motor vehicle constructed or assembled by a non-manufacturer from new or used parts that, when assembled, replicates an earlier year, make and model vehicle.

Specially-Constructed Vehicle. A motor vehicle reconstructed or assembled by a non-manufacturer from new or used parts, the exterior of which does not replicate or resemble any other manufactured vehicle.

Street Rod. A motor vehicle for which the year of manufacture is prior to 1949, and which has been altered from the manufacturer's original design or has a body constructed from non-original materials.

The Registry of Motor Vehicles has made an outline of the rules that govern the titling procedure in the state. Here is a link that describes the process of titling in the state:

<https://secure.rmv.state.ma.us/PolicyBrowserPublic/PB/default.htm?turl=WordDocuments%2Fspecialtyvehicles.htm&ga=2.175150753.2093137657.1493756121-1484137375.1493747959>

Titling, Registration & Fees

From General Laws of Massachusetts:

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 2H (2016)

§ 2H. Custom Vehicles and Street Rods -- Registration Plates. [Effective Apr 30, 2011.]

(a) For purposes of this section, section 2I and section 33, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

"Custom vehicle", a motor vehicle for which the year of manufacture is after 1948, for which the model year is at least 25 years old and that has been altered from the manufacturer's original design or has a body constructed, in whole or in part, from non-original materials.

"Model year", the model year indicated on a motor vehicle's certificate of origin or, if there is no such certificate, the model year the body of such vehicle most closely resembles.

"Replica vehicle", a motor vehicle constructed or assembled by a non-manufacturer from new or used parts that, when assembled, replicates an earlier year, make and model vehicle.

"Specially-constructed vehicle", a motor vehicle reconstructed or assembled by a non-manufacturer from new or used parts, the exterior of which does not replicate or resemble any other manufactured vehicle.

"Street rod", a motor vehicle for which the year of manufacture is prior to 1949, and which has been altered from the manufacturer's original design or has a body constructed from non-original materials.

(b) The registrar shall issue certificates of registration and number plates for street rods, replica vehicles, specially-constructed vehicles and custom vehicles in accordance with this section. The registrar may assign an appropriate registration plate to a custom vehicle, replica vehicle, specially-constructed vehicle or street rod based upon the vehicle's intended use and the registration requirements under [540 CMR 2.05](#).

(c) **Street rods, replica vehicles, specially-constructed vehicles** and **custom vehicles** shall not be considered **antique motor cars** and shall not be eligible for registration pursuant to section 6A.

(d) **Replica vehicles** shall be titled as the year in which the vehicle was built and the make, model and year of the vehicle that is intended to be replicated. A label of **"Replica"** shall be applied to the title and registration card. **Custom vehicles** and **street rods** shall be titled as the year in which the vehicle was built and an appropriate description of the vehicle including make, model and model year; provided, however, that the manufacturer's name shall continue to be used as the make with a label of **"street rod"** or **"custom vehicle"** applied to the title and registration card. **Specially-constructed vehicles** shall be titled and registered showing the make as **"specially constructed"** and the year the vehicle was built shall be the vehicle model year.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 2I (2016)

§ 2I. Custom Vehicles and Street Rods -- Stolen Parts, VIN, Safety Equipment. [Effective Apr 30, 2011.]

(a) The registrar, prior to the initial registration of a **custom vehicle, replica vehicle, specially-constructed vehicle** or **street rod**, may require such vehicle to undergo a salvage-type inspection at a facility to be determined by the registrar to ensure that stolen parts have not been included in the vehicle.

(b) The registrar, prior to the initial registration of a **custom vehicle, replica vehicle, specially-constructed vehicle** or **street rod**, may require such vehicle to obtain a state-assigned vehicle identification number, unless the registrar is satisfied that there is a clearly visible state-assigned vehicle identification number that was previously assigned by the commonwealth or another state.

(c) The registrar may refuse to register or may revoke the registration of a **custom vehicle, replica vehicle, specially constructed vehicle** or **street rod**, originally built by its manufacturer as a model year 1966 or later vehicle, unless such vehicle is equipped with operable safety belts for all passenger positions.

(d) The registrar may refuse to register or may revoke the registration of a **custom vehicle, replica vehicle, specially constructed vehicle** or **street rod** if the registrar determines that the original manufacturer had installed an air bag or air bags in the vehicle and the current version of the vehicle does not contain such air bag or air bags.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90D Motor Vehicle Certificates of Title

ALM GL ch. 90D, § 2 (2016)

§ 2. Exempt Vehicles.

(a) No certificate of title need be obtained for: (1) A vehicle owned by the United States unless it is registered in accordance with the provisions of chapter ninety; provided, that a vehicle on loan from the United States or from a motor vehicle manufacturer or distributor to the commonwealth or a political subdivision thereof, may be registered by the commonwealth or political subdivision, or by an agency of the commonwealth or a political subdivision that the loaned vehicle has been re-assigned to, without the need to apply for a certificate of title, if the registrant is in possession of a written agreement evidencing the vehicle loan and the agreement is signed by an authorized employee of the United States government agency or motor vehicle manufacturer or distributor providing the vehicle, or if reassigned from an agency of the commonwealth or a political subdivision, it is signed by an authorized employee of the agency or political subdivision of the commonwealth which received the vehicle from the United States or motor vehicle manufacturer or distributor and re-assigned it to the registrant; (2) A vehicle owned by a manufacturer or dealer and held for sale, even though incidentally moved on the highway or used for purposes of testing or demonstration; or a vehicle used by a manufacturer solely for testing; (3) A vehicle owned by a nonresident of the commonwealth for which a currently effective certificate of title has been issued in the state of residence; (4) A vehicle regularly engaged in the interstate transportation of persons or property for which a currently effective certificate of title has been issued in another state or country; (5) A vehicle moved solely by animal power; (6) An implement of husbandry; (7) Special mobile equipment; (8) A self-propelled wheel chair or invalid tricycle; (9) [stricken]; (10) Trailers having gross weight of three thousand pounds or less; (11) [stricken]; (12) Manufactured home, as defined in section thirty-two Q of chapter one hundred and forty.

(b) [Stricken]

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90D Motor Vehicle Certificates of Title

ALM GL ch. 90D, § 20B (2016)

§ 20B. Salvage Titles; Exceptions.

No salvage title need be obtained for: (1) a vehicle owned by the United States unless it is registered in accordance with the provisions of chapter ninety; (2) a vehicle moved solely by animal power; (3) an implement of husbandry; (4) special mobile equipment; (5) trailers; (6) passenger **vehicles** ten or more **years old**; or (7) manufactured homes as defined in section thirty-two Q of chapter one hundred and forty.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90D Motor Vehicle Certificates of Title
ALM GL ch. 90D, § 20D (2016)

§ 20D. Reconstruction or Restoration of Total Loss Salvage Motor Vehicle; Certificate of Title and Inspection; Application Requirements.

(a) Any owner who reconstructs or restores a total loss salvage motor vehicle to its operating condition which existed prior to the event which caused a salvage title to issue under this chapter or the laws of another state, or who recovers a total loss salvage motor vehicle if stolen, shall make application to the registrar for a certificate of title and an inspection of the vehicle prior to registration or sale of said vehicle. Each application for title and inspection shall be accompanied by the following:

(1) the outstanding salvage title previously issued for the salvage vehicle;

(2) bills of sale evidencing acquisition of all major component parts used to **restore the vehicle**, listing the manufacturer's vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the parts were removed, if such part contained or should contain the manufacturer's vehicle identification number;

(3) the owner shall also provide a sworn affidavit in the form prescribed by the registrar which states that: (i) the identification numbers of the restored vehicle and its parts have not been removed, destroyed, falsified, altered or defaced; (ii) the salvage title document attached to the application has not been forged, falsified, altered or counterfeited; (iii) all information contained on the application and its attachments is true and correct to the knowledge of the owner; and

(4) the required inspection fee.

The vehicle identification number of every vehicle for which an application is submitted shall be inspected by an inspector at a location designated by the registrar. In addition, of the vehicles presented for such inspection, a certain number may be selected for inspection of the vehicle's major component parts which have been repaired or replaced as part of the rebuilding process to determine that the vehicle's parts have not been removed, falsified, altered, defaced, destroyed, or tampered with, and that the vehicle information contained in the application and supporting documents is true and correct. The selection of vehicles to undergo said major component part inspection shall be on a random basis, in accordance with criteria and procedures established by the registrar by regulation, which may be changed from time to time as the registrar deems necessary. The inspector may examine the identification number of each part that has been repaired or replaced as a part of the rebuilding process, in addition to the vehicle identification number, and may compare said numbers to the vehicle identification numbers and identification numbers of parts entered into any state, regional, or national computer network that records the vehicle identification numbers of stolen motor vehicles and the identification numbers of stolen parts. Nothing in this section shall establish a presumption, that a part has been removed, falsified, altered, defaced, destroyed, or tampered with by a person submitting a vehicle for inspection, if such part fails to contain a required identification label. The major component inspection shall not be for the purpose of checking road worthiness or the safety condition of the vehicle. No liability shall be imposed on the registrar or the commonwealth or its agents or employees with respect to any act or omission related to said inspection. A person aggrieved by an adverse report issued under this section by a vehicle inspector, may file a written request for reconsideration of the inspector's report with the registrar, within thirty days of receiving a written copy of said report. The registrar shall assign the request for review to a hearing officer, who shall schedule a hearing to be held within thirty days of the date of the request, at a place of the registrar's choosing. The hearing officer may continue the hearing and may remove said hearing to a more appropriate place if necessary. The hearing officer may affirm or overrule the decision of the inspector. A final decision by the hearing officer shall be rendered within fifteen days of the closing of the final date of hearing.

(b) Upon satisfactory inspection results, and receipt of all required documents and fees, the registrar shall issue a new certificate of title in the name of the owner which shall contain the notation "**reconstructed**", **or if the vehicle** was a stolen vehicle which was subsequently recovered in an undamaged condition, said certificate shall contain the notation "recovered theft vehicle".

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 32A (2016)

§ 32A. Authorization to Restore or Substitute Identifying Numbers of Motor Vehicles or Trailers.

When the identifying number or numbers of a motor vehicle or trailer have been removed, defaced, altered, changed, destroyed, obliterated or mutilated, the registrar may issue to any person applying therefor a certificate authorizing the restoration upon such motor vehicle or trailer of its original identifying number or numbers, or the substitution therefor of an identifying number or numbers designated by the registrar.

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Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 7R1/2 (2016)

§ 7R1/2. Placement of Seller's Insignia, Logo, or Plate on Motor Vehicle; Consent of Buyer Required.

No seller, or an agent or employee of a seller, of motor vehicles shall place on a motor vehicle an insignia, logo or other plate that advertises the name of the seller without first having obtained the written consent of the buyer of such motor vehicle. Such seller must provide a buyer with a written consent form at the time of the purchase of the motor vehicle. The original of such written consent form shall be retained by the seller and a copy retained by the buyer. Any such seller's failure to obtain written consent from the buyer shall enable the buyer to request that the seller remove any insignia, logo or plate and make all repairs necessary to **restore** the motor **vehicle** to its original condition. Each seller shall post in a conspicuous place, a notice explaining the buyer's rights under this section.

Any violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than two hundred dollars.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 6A (2016)

§ 6A. Plates for Antique Motor Cars.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, number or registration plates of such size and design as may be determined in the discretion of the registrar of motor vehicles shall be issued for **antique** motor **cars**.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
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ALM GL ch. 90, § 33 (2016)

§ 33. Fees.

The registrar or his authorized agents shall collect the fees established herein or if not so established herein, promulgated annually by the commissioner of administration under the provision of [section 3B of chapter 7](#), for the following:--

(1) For every examination for a learner's permit.

(2) For the registration of every motor vehicle; provided that said fee shall be collected every two years. The registrar shall collect such similar fee, in addition to incurred administrative costs for the issuance in connection therewith, at the request of the applicant, of a distinctive initial plate, or of a particular number plate other than a distinctive initial plate; provided, however, that the registrar shall collect a similar fee for the issuance of a number plate bearing the station call letters of an amateur radio operator. Said registrar shall make available to registered owners of motor vehicles any unissued or returned distinctive initialed or numbered registration plates.

(3) For the registration of every ambulance owned and operated by any hospital or other institution or association supported wholly or in part by public or private donations for charitable purposes, and every motor vehicle or trailer used by the fire or police department of any city or town or park board solely for the official business of such department or board, and every motor vehicle or trailer used by a volunteer fire company, as authorized under chapter 48, in any town solely for fire fighting purposes, no fee shall be collected hereunder.

(4) For the registration of every motor vehicle and trailer owned by any political subdivision of the commonwealth, and used solely for official business, no fee shall be collected hereunder.

(5) For the registration of every motor bus not owned as provided in paragraph (4) which is used exclusively under contract with a political subdivision or school district of the commonwealth for the transportation of school children; provided, however, that any such motor bus may also be used for the transportation of persons to and from church and Sunday school services, and for the transportation of children to and from educational and recreational projects sponsored by a city or town or by any association or organization supported wholly or in part by public or private donations for charitable purposes without the payment of an additional registration fee. For the registration of every motor bus used for carrying passengers for hire pursuant to a certificate, license or permit issued by the department of telecommunications and energy in accordance with the provisions of chapter 159A, a fee for each seat. This paragraph and paragraphs (3) and (4) shall apply to the registration of motor vehicles described therein regardless of whether they are designed to be propelled otherwise than by fuel as defined in [section 1 of chapter 64A](#), in this section referred to as "non-gasoline driven", or designed to be propelled by fuel as so defined, in this section referred to as "gasoline driven". The term "gasoline driven" as used in this section shall include vehicles propelled by diesel fuel.

(6) For the registration of every non-gasoline driven automobile used for the transportation of goods, wares or merchandise except an electric motor truck or an electric commercial automobile, or in the case of an electric motor truck or an electric commercial automobile so used, and of every gasoline driven automobile so used, for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the gross weight of such vehicle plus the maximum load to be carried thereon, but in no event less than a specified amount in the case of a non-gasoline driven automobile so used, or a specified amount in the case of a gasoline driven automobile so used.

(7) For the registration of every non-gasoline driven tractor which is part of a semi-trailer unit used for the transportation of property, a fee for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of the tractor and of the weight of the heaviest semi-trailer with which such tractor is combined and operated, plus the maximum load to be carried by such semi-trailer unit so used, a fee for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of such tractor and of the weight of the heaviest semi-trailer with which such tractor is combined and operated, plus the maximum load to be carried by such semi-trailer and tractor, a fee for

every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of such tractor and of the weight of the heaviest semi-trailer with which such tractor is combined and operated, plus the maximum load to be carried by such semi-trailer and tractor, but in no event less than a specified amount in the case of a non-gasoline driven tractor which is a part of a semi-trailer unit, or less than a specified amount if gasoline driven.

(8) For the registration of every semi-trailer.

(9) For the registration of every heavy-duty platform trailer, a fee for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of such vehicle plus the maximum load to be carried, but in no event less than a specified amount.

(10) For the registration of every trailer for which a fee is not otherwise provided in this section, a fee for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of such trailer and the maximum load to be carried thereon.

(11) For the registration of every non-gasoline driven tractor not a part of a semi-trailer, a fee for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of the tractor and its equipment, but in no event less than a specified amount; and for the registration of every gasoline driven tractor not a part of a semi-trailer unit, a fee for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of the tractor and its equipment, but in no event less than a specified amount; except that the fee to be collected for the registration of a farm tractor not a part of a semi-trailer unit shall be a specified amount if the tractor is used exclusively for agricultural purposes. The provisions of paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive, shall not apply to any vehicle the fee for the registration of which is hereinbefore provided for in this section. The aforesaid weight shall mean the weight of such vehicle when fully equipped for the road. The registrar of motor vehicles may establish rules for determining the gross weight, including load, for which any vehicle shall be registered under said paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive.

(12) For the registration of every motor truck carrying a permanently mounted water well drilling machine.

(13) For the registration of every **antique** motor **car**.

(14) For the registration of every auto home.

(15) For the registration of every automobile known as a taxicab, a specified amount when non-gasoline driven and a specified amount when gasoline driven.

(16) For the registration of every motor bus or other motor vehicle, the fee for the registration of which is not hereinbefore provided for, used for carrying passengers for hire and having a seating capacity of seven persons or less, a specified amount for each seat when non-gasoline driven and a specified amount for each seat when gasoline driven, and for the registration of every such motor bus or other vehicle having a seating capacity in excess of seven persons, a specified amount for each seat when non-gasoline driven and a specified amount for each seat when gasoline driven, but in no event less than a specified amount when non-gasoline driven or a specified amount when gasoline driven. In determining seating capacity aforesaid the driver's seat shall not be included, but the largest number of passengers to be carried in seats shall be included.

(17) For the registration of motor vehicles or trailers owned by or under the control of a manufacturer, dealer, repairman, owner-contractor, reposessor, or farmer, including one or more number plates as allocated by the registrar pursuant to section 5, a fee for the registration and a fee for each number plate furnished by the registrar. For the registration of motor vehicles under the control of a transporter, including one or more number plates and registration certificates as requested in writing by the applicant for registration, a fee for the registration and a fee for each number plate and corresponding certificate of registration furnished by the registrar.

(18) For the registration of every motor vehicle used exclusively for the transportation of goods, wares or merchandise and for every tractor, trailer, semi-trailer, heavy duty platform trailer, or motor truck carrying a permanently mounted water well drilling machine by an owner who applies therefor under section 2 during the period beginning September 1 and ending December 31, in any year, a specified amount of a full year's registration of said vehicle.

(19) For the registration of every motor vehicle or trailer not specified in the preceding paragraph which the registrar has determined shall be issued on a calendar basis, by an owner who applies therefor under section 2 or section 5 during the period beginning October 1 and ending December 31 in any year, a specified amount of a full year's registration of said vehicle.

(20) For the substitution of a registration of a motor vehicle or trailer for that of a vehicle previously registered, in accordance with section 2.

(21) For every license to operate motor vehicles or for the renewal thereof; provided, that said fee shall be collected upon issuing an initial license, and shall be collected at least once every five years upon the renewal date of said license from every licensee. No fee shall be collected for a license or renewal thereof restricted to the operation of motor propelled fire apparatus only.

(22) No fee shall be exacted for the registration of one pleasure passenger vehicle owned and principally used by a former prisoner of war who is entitled to display thereon the distinctive number plates authorized by section 2.

(23) For each application for an appointment for an examination for a license to operate motor vehicles. The registrar, for reasons he deems sufficient, may authorize an applicant to be examined without payment of an additional fee when the applicant has been unable to take the examination at the time originally scheduled.

(24) For every additional copy of a certificate of registration or license.

(25) For every certified copy of any application or notice filed with the registrar and for every certified copy of a certificate of registration or license.

(26) For every additional number plate furnished to replace such plates as have been lost or mutilated or are illegible.

(27) For every copy of any record, or any certificate, the fee for which is not otherwise provided herein, except that when an owner has registered a vehicle for the ensuing registration year and thereafter transfers ownership of said vehicle to another before the beginning of said year, or when such owner changes his address before the beginning of said year, the registrar may issue to him a new registration certificate for another vehicle for the ensuing year, or a new registration certificate bearing the new address, without charge other than the additional difference, if any, between the fees for registration of the vehicle transferred and the vehicle sought to be registered for the ensuing year.

(28) The registrar or his authorized agent may, however, furnish without charge copies of certificates of registration and licenses to operate, and copies of other documents relating thereto, to officers of the commonwealth or of any court thereof or of a city or town therein; and the registrar may issue certificates of registration for motor vehicles and licenses to operate the same to any member of the foreign diplomatic corps or to any foreign consular officer who is not a citizen of the United States without the payment of the fees therefor.

(29) No fee shall be exacted for the registration of any vehicle owned by a disabled veteran who is entitled to display thereon the distinctive number plates authorized by section 2, and no fee shall be exacted for the issuance to such disabled veteran of a license to operate such vehicle.

(30) No fee shall be exacted for the registration of a bloodmobile unit or a canteen motor truck owned and used by a charitable corporation.

(31) For a driving instructor's certificate which shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.

(32) In the event that any fee computed under any provision of this chapter for the registration of any motor vehicle or trailer includes in its total an odd or even number of cents, such fee shall be adjusted to the nearest half dollar, except for the fees enumerated in paragraph (21). If payment of any fee required under this chapter or chapter 90D is made by check, credit card, debit card or any other payment method and the amount is not duly paid, the registrar of motor vehicles shall withhold issuance of the certificate of title for the motor vehicle, shall prohibit the transfer or swap of the registration, and shall suspend or revoke any learner's permit, license to operate motor vehicles, certificate of registration or title, number

plate, sticker, decal or other item for which such check, credit card, debit card, or other payment method was tendered and order the return of same forthwith. The holder of said item for which said check, credit card, debit card or other payment method used may not apply for, receive or renew any other learner's permit, license to operate motor vehicles, certificate of registration or title, number plates, stickers, decals, or any other items issued under the provisions of this chapter or said chapter 90D until said amount has been duly paid.

(33) No fee shall be exacted for the registration of a pleasure passenger vehicle owned and principally used by a member of the Legion of Valor of America, Inc. who is entitled to display thereon the distinctive number plates authorized by section 2.

(34) For the issuance of a special parking identification plate.

(35) For the issuance of each permit sticker as provided in section 19D, a specified amount for every 1,000 pounds or fraction thereof of the weight of such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit, including the maximum load to be carried thereon, in excess of the maximum weight for such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit may otherwise be operated under the provisions of section 19A.

(36) For the reinstatement of any license or right to operate a motor vehicle which has been suspended or revoked under subsections (a), (e) and (f) of section 22, sections 22F, 23, 24, except as otherwise provided below, section 24B, 24D, 24G, 24L or section 34J, and [section 28 of chapter 266](#), the fee shall be \$500. The fee for reinstatement following revocation under subparagraph (2) of paragraph (c) of subdivision (1) of said section 24 shall be \$700 and the fee for such reinstatement following a revocation under subparagraphs (3) and (31/2) of said paragraph (c) of said subdivision (1) of said section 24 shall be \$1,200. The fee for reinstatement of any license or right to operate a motor vehicle which has been suspended or revoked under any general or special law shall be \$100, but the fee for reinstatement for suspensions and revocation under subsection (c) of section 22 shall be commensurate with the fee established for the corresponding Massachusetts offense resulting in the suspension or revocation under the General Laws.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XXII CORPORATIONS
Chapter 175 Insurance

ALM GL ch. 175, § 113U (2016)

§ 113U. Antique Motor Car Insurance Policies.

Insurance companies undertaking to issue motor vehicle liability policies or motor vehicle liability bonds, as defined in [section 34A of chapter 90](#), may issue and deliver policies insuring **antique** motor **cars**, as defined in [section 1 of said chapter 90](#). Said **antique** motor **car** insurance policies shall be exempt from the provisions of sections 113B and 113H.

Equipment Exemptions

From the Code of Massachusetts Regulations:

540 CMR: REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

540 CMR 4: ENHANCED EMISSION AND SAFETY TEST

4.04: Procedures for Inspection of Non-Commercial Motor Vehicles

(10) Lighting Devices.

(a) Tail Lights. Every motor vehicle, except a two wheeled motorcycle, an antique motor car, and a farm tractor, shall be equipped with two red lights (tail lamps) mounted one at each side of the rear of the vehicle so as to show two red lights from behind and equipped with two stop lights (stop lamps) mounted and displayed in a like manner. A single lamp may combine both of the above functions. Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a white light so arranged as to illuminate the rear number plate so that it is plainly visible at 60 feet.

(b) Directional. Front and rear directional signals will be operable on every vehicle originally equipped with such signals. Every motor vehicle registered in the Commonwealth, which was **manufactured for the model year 1967 and for subsequent model years**, shall be equipped with a device to permit the front and rear directional signals to flash simultaneously.

(c) Headlamps. Headlamp aim shall be checked in accordance with the specifications as most recently provided by the Registrar.

(d) Lighting Devices and Reflectors. All lighting devices and reflectors required by applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards or part 393 of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for all motor vehicles when the particular vehicle was originally manufactured and such devices required by Massachusetts General Law or Rules and Regulations applicable to the particular vehicle inspected shall be securely attached to the vehicle and capable of performing their design functions. Lenses must be intact, clean, unobstructed, and free from cracks. The use of adhesive tape to repair lenses is prohibited.

(e) Aftermarket Lighting. Any aftermarket lighting inconsistent with FMVSS 108 or M.G.L c 90 shall be removed or the vehicle shall be rejected.

(12) Bumpers, Fenders, External Sheet Metal and Fuel Tank. A Certificate of Rejection shall be issued if any of the following conditions are evident:

(a) Bumpers. Broken or bent bumpers, fenders, exterior sheet metal or moldings, having sharp edges or abnormal protrusions extending beyond normal vehicle extremities so as to constitute a danger to pedestrians and other motor vehicle traffic. If bumper face plates are removed, bumper brackets must also be removed. On vehicles equipped with air bags bumpers may not be removed. The vehicle hood, door(s), luggage compartment lid, and battery or engine compartment doors or lids, if so equipped, must operate as originally designed.

(b) Fenders. Front and rear fenders must be in place on all vehicles **manufactured after model year 1949** if such vehicles were designed and manufactured to be operated with front and rear fenders. Every passenger motor vehicle under 10,000 lbs. (GVWR) , except four wheel drive vehicles which are equipped with tires which extend beyond the fenders or body of such vehicle shall be equipped with flaps or suitable guards to reduce such spray or splash to the rear and side.

(c) Floor Pans. Holes or cracks, due to rust or otherwise, in the floor pans or other body panels which would permit the passage of exhaust gases into the passenger or trunk compartments.

(d) Fuel Tanks. Fuel tanks and all fuel system components including fuel caps which are not securely attached to the vehicles body or chassis, or that are leaking.

(e) Frame or Unibody. Broken, cracked, modified or rusted structural parts of the undercarriage or unibody so as to cause a hazard or structural weakness.

(14) Safety Belts, Lap Belts and Shoulder Restraints. Safety belts, lap belts and shoulder restraints originally installed in motor vehicles **manufactured after July 1, 1966** shall be inspected to assure that all are maintained in good order. It shall be the responsibility of the motorist that the safety belts are readily accessible for inspection.

From General Laws of Massachusetts:

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
TITLE XIV PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 7 (2016)

§ 7. Brakes, Lights and Other Equipment; Standards.

Every motor vehicle operated in or upon any way shall be provided with brakes adequate to control the movement of such vehicle and conforming to rules and regulations made by the registrar, and such brakes shall at all times be maintained in good working order. Every automobile shall be provided with at least two braking systems, one of which shall be the service brake system, and the other shall be the parking brake system, each with a separate means of application, each operating directly or indirectly on at least two wheels and each of which shall suffice alone to stop said automobile within a proper distance as defined in said rules and regulations; provided, that if such systems are connected, combined or have any part in common, such systems shall be so constructed that a breaking of any one element thereof will not leave the automobile without brakes acting directly or indirectly on at least two wheels; and provided, further, that a tractor having a draw-bar pull rating of ten horse power or less and capable of a maximum speed of not more than eighteen miles an hour and designed specially for use elsewhere than on the traveled part of ways may be operated thereon if equipped with a single braking system which shall suffice to stop such tractor within a proper distance as aforesaid. Every automobile equipped with an hydraulic braking system whether or not assisted by other means, which provides braking action on four or more wheels, shall be equipped with a service brake system so arranged as to provide separate systems for at least two wheels and so designed and constructed that rupture or leakage-type failure of any single pressure component of the service brake system, except structural failures of the brake master cylinder body, effectiveness indicator body, or other housing common to the divided system, will not result in complete loss of function of the vehicle brakes when force on the brake pedal is continued. "Pressure component" means any internal component of the brake master cylinder or master control unit, wheel brake cylinder, brake line, brake hose, or equivalent, except vacuum assist components. Except in the case of a school bus or fire apparatus, every motor vehicle and every tractor which is designed and used for drawing another vehicle, having an unladen weight of more than ten thousand pounds, shall be equipped with full air brakes or hydraulic brakes with vacuum power assist or air power assist. All braking systems shall be constructed and designed so as to permit modulated control of brake application and release by the operator from the normal operating position. Every trailer or semi-trailer having an unladen weight of more than ten thousand pounds shall be equipped with air or electric brakes. One braking system shall be so constructed that it can be set to hold the automobile stationary. Each motorcycle shall have either a split service brake system or two independently actuated service brake systems. Any motorcycle which has a number or registration plate issued under the provisions of section six A of said chapter ninety or which was not manufactured with either a split service brake system or two independently actuated service brake systems, shall be required to have one brake system adequate to stop said motorcycle within a proper distance, as defined in rules and regulations made by the registrar. Every automobile used on a way by a person in giving driving instruction for compensation shall be equipped with dual brake controls whereby he may apply the brake while the pupil is driving. Every motor vehicle so operated shall be provided with a muffler or other suitable device to prevent unnecessary noise and with a suitable bell, horn or other means of signalling, with suitable lamps, and with a lock, key or other device to prevent such vehicle from being set in motion by unauthorized persons, or otherwise contrary to the will of the owner or person in charge thereof. Every automobile operated during the period from one half an hour after sunset to one half an hour before sunrise, and during any other period when visibility is reduced by atmospheric conditions so as to render dangerous further operation without lights being displayed, shall display at least two lighted white headlamps with at least one mounted at each side of the front of the vehicle or if parked within the limits of a way at least one white or amber light on the side of the automobile nearer the center of the way, and every motorcycle so operated at least one white headlamp and every such motorcycle with a sidecar attached, in addition, one such light on the front of the sidecar, and every motor truck, trailer and commercial motor vehicle used solely as such, having a carrying capacity of three tons or over, in addition, an amber light attached to the extreme left of the front of such vehicle, so attached and adjusted as to indicate the extreme left lateral extension of the vehicle or

load, which shall in all cases aforesaid be visible not less than two hundred feet in the direction toward which the vehicle is proceeding or facing; provided, that an automobile need display no light when parked within the limits of a way in a space in which unlighted parking is permitted by the rules or regulations of the board or officer having control of such way. Every motor vehicle and trailer so operated shall be equipped with two rear lights mounted one at each side of the rear of the vehicle so as to show two red lights from behind and a white light so arranged as to illuminate and not obscure the rear number plate and shall be equipped with two stop lights mounted and displayed in a like manner of a type complying with minimum standards for construction and performance as the registrar may prescribe; provided, however, that a two-wheeled motorcycle, an **antique** motor **car** and a farm tractor need be equipped with only one such rear red light and one suitable stop light in addition to the number plate illuminator; and provided, further, that a trailer having a gross weight of three thousand pounds or less which does not obscure the required lights of the towing vehicle need be equipped with only one such rear red light and one white light so arranged as to illuminate and not obscure the rear number plate. No motor vehicle so operated shall mount or display a flashing, rotating or oscillating light in any direction except pursuant to section seven E of this chapter; provided, however, that this shall not apply to the use of rear directional signals nor to the proper use of vehicle hazard warning signals as provided for by this section. In no event, however, shall the registrar prohibit any commercial auto parts dealer, motor vehicle repair shop or station from selling, offering for sale or installing quartz-halogen headlamps which receive a certificate of approval from the American Association of Motor Vehicles Administrators or which meet the standards of the Canadian Standard Association (CSA) nor shall any provision of this section prohibit any person from using, purchasing or installing a quartz-halogen headlamp as herein described. Every motor vehicle or trailer so operated which carries a load or object extending four feet or more beyond the cab or body of such vehicle shall display at the extreme rear end of such load or object a red light plainly visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the sides and rear, and shall display in place thereof a red flag or cloth not less than twelve inches square during the period when motor vehicles are not required to display lights. Every commercial motor vehicle or trailer weighing, with its load, more than twelve thousand pounds, shall, in addition to such rear light, be equipped with a red reflector of a type complying with such minimum standards for construction and performance as the registrar may prescribe, so placed at the rear of such vehicle as to reflect rays of light thrown upon such reflector from behind. No headlamp or rear lamp shall be used on any motor vehicle so operated unless such headlamp or rear lamp is of a type complying with such minimum standards for construction and performance as the registrar may prescribe. Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least one mirror so placed and adjusted as to afford the operator a clear, reflected view of the highway to the rear and left side of the vehicle. Every motor vehicle or trailer, excepting passenger motor vehicles, operated in or upon any way shall be equipped with suitable guards which will effectively reduce the spray or splash to the rear of mud, water or slush caused by the rear wheels thereof. Every passenger motor vehicle which is equipped with tires which extend beyond the fenders or body of such vehicle and which is operated in or upon any way shall be equipped with flaps or suitable guards to reduce such spray or splash to the rear and sides. Every motor vehicle registered in the commonwealth which is privately owned and operated and designed for the carriage of passengers and which is used primarily for pleasure or for pleasure and business, including every such vehicle furnished for hire by a rental car agency but excluding every such vehicle used for public or commercial purposes, shall be equipped with two seat safety belts for the use of occupants of the front seats. No safety belt installed in a motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions of this section or in accordance with the provisions of federal law or the rules or regulations issued by the United States Department of Transportation, shall be removed from said motor vehicle except for the purpose of repairs. Every motor vehicle registered in the commonwealth shall be equipped with a device to permit the front and rear directional signals to flash simultaneously, said device to be operated only when the vehicle is disabled or stopped in the event of emergency on or at the side of any way. Every person operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger on a motorcycle or in a sidecar attached to a motorcycle shall wear protective head gear conforming with such minimum standards of construction and performance as the registrar may prescribe, and no person operating a motorcycle shall permit any other person to ride as a passenger on such motorcycle or in a sidecar attached to such motorcycle unless such passenger is wearing such protective head gear, except that no protective head gear shall be required if the motorcyclist is participating in a properly permitted public parade and is 18 years of age or older. If a motorcycle is not equipped with a windshield or screen, the operator of such motorcycle shall wear eye glasses, goggles or a protective face shield when operating such vehicle. Every motor vehicle truck with dump bodies shall be equipped with an adequate audible warning system to alert the operator when the dump body is in an upright and elevated position. No person operating a motorcycle shall permit any

person to ride as a passenger, unless such motorcycle is designed to carry more than one person; and no person operating a motorcycle shall permit a passenger to ride in front of said operator.

Every commercial motor vehicle, or trailer weighing, with its load, more than twelve thousand pounds, and used to deliver gasoline or other flammable material, shall be equipped with an audible warning system when the vehicle's transmission is in reverse. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term commercial motor vehicle or trailer shall mean a bulk tank carrier delivering gasoline or other flammable material.

Every trailer, except a semi-trailer, shall, in addition to a regular hitch, be fastened by safety chains to prevent it from breaking away from the towing vehicle. Such chains shall comply with such minimum standards for construction and performance as the registrar may prescribe.

Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this section, any commercial motor vehicle, semi-trailer or trailer, used in interstate commerce, which shall conform as to its equipment with the regulations established from time to time by the bureau of motor carrier safety of the United States department of transportation, shall be deemed to conform to the requirements of this section.

No person shall sell, offer for sale or install on, or in, any motor vehicle or trailer, any component, device or substance, other than quartz-halogen lights, which does not comply with the federal motor vehicle safety standard, if any, established for such component, device or substance. Nothing in this act shall prevent the registrar from prescribing minimum standards for any component, device, or substance for which no federal motor vehicle safety standard is or has been established and no person shall sell, offer for sale or install on, or in, any motor vehicle or trailer, any such component, device or substance which does not comply with the said standards so prescribed.

Any tractor or other self propelled vehicle used exclusively for agricultural or farming purposes, excepting automobiles and trucks, the use of which is declared by the owner or person in control thereof to be restricted to the period from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset, and which is operated in or upon any way during said period shall be equipped with one stop light or a flashing red light to the rear and with brakes as manufactured, including a stationary brake with ratchet and pawl. Upon declaration by the owner or person in control of such vehicle that the use of such vehicle is to be so restricted, the person making the periodic inspection of motor vehicles and trailers, as provided under section seven A, may, notwithstanding the failure of such restricted tractor or other vehicle to have the necessary lights and other equipment required by the first paragraph of this section, issue a windshield sticker, so called, if the stop light or such flashing light and brakes are in good order. Any windshield sticker so issued shall state thereon that such vehicle is to be used upon the ways of the commonwealth only during the period from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset.

The registrar shall adopt standards and specifications for size, design, mounting, creation and use of a distinctive slow moving vehicle emblem. Every horse-drawn vehicle and every other vehicle designed to operate at twenty-five miles an hour or less, every implement of husbandry, every farm tractor, each piece of special mobile equipment and other machinery, including all road construction and maintenance machinery and every low-speed motor vehicle, traveling on a public way during day or night shall display on the rear of the vehicle such emblem. The use of such emblem shall be in addition to any lighting devices, flags or other equipment required by law. Use of such emblem as a clearance marker or on wide machinery or on stationary objects on the highways is prohibited.

PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
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Chapter 90 Motor Vehicles and Aircraft

ALM GL ch. 90, § 9A (2016)

§ 9A. Safety Glass Required.

No person shall operate any motor vehicle, and the owner or custodian of a motor vehicle shall not permit the same to be operated with partitions, doors, windows or windshields of glass unless such glass is of a type known as safety glass. The term "safety glass", as used herein, shall include any glass designed to minimize the likelihood of personal injury from its breaking or scattering when broken. This section shall not apply to motor **vehicles manufactured prior** to January first, nineteen hundred and thirty-six.

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ALM GL ch. 90, § 13A (2016)

§ 13A. Persons in Motor Vehicles Required to Wear Safety Belts; Exceptions; Penalties for Violations; Contesting Citations.

No person shall operate a private passenger motor vehicle or ride in a private passenger motor vehicle, a vanpool vehicle or truck under eighteen thousand pounds on any way unless such person is wearing a safety belt which is properly adjusted and fastened; provided, however, that this provision shall not apply to:

- (a) any child less than twelve years of age who is subject to the provisions of section seven AA;
- (b) any person riding in a motor **vehicle manufactured before** July first, nineteen hundred and sixty-six;
- (c) any person who is physically unable to use safety belts; provided, however, that such condition is duly certified by a physician who shall state the nature of the handicap, as well as the reasons such restraint is inappropriate; provided, further, that no such physician shall be subject to liability in any civil action for the issuance or for the failure to issue such certificate;
- (d) any rural carrier of the United States Postal Service operating a motor vehicle while in the performance of his duties; provided, however, that such rural mail carrier shall be subject to department regulations regarding the use of safety belts or occupant crash protection devices;
- (e) anyone involved in the operation of taxis, liveries, tractors, trucks with gross weight of eighteen thousand pounds or over, buses, and passengers of authorized emergency vehicles.
- (f) the side facing seat on which the factory did not install a seat belt in any car owned for the purpose of antique collection.

Any person who operates a motor vehicle without a safety belt, and any person sixteen years of age or over who rides as a passenger in a motor vehicle without wearing a safety belt in violation of this section, shall be subject to a fine of twenty-five dollars. Any operator of a motor vehicle shall be subject to an additional fine of twenty-five dollars for each person under the age of sixteen and no younger than twelve who is a passenger in said motor vehicle and not wearing a safety belt. The provisions of this section shall be enforced by law enforcement agencies only when an operator of a motor vehicle has been stopped for a violation of the motor vehicle laws or some other offense.

Any person who receives a citation for violating this section may contest such citation pursuant to section three of chapter ninety C. A violation of this section shall not be considered as a conviction of a moving violation of the motor vehicle laws for the purpose of determining surcharges on motor vehicle premiums pursuant to section one hundred and thirteen B of chapter one hundred and seventy-five.

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ALM GL ch. 90, § 19D (2016)

§ 19D. Excess Weight Permit Stickers; Certificates of Gross Motor Vehicle Weight Rating; False Statements on Applications; Alteration of Vehicle; Penalties.

Except for special permits for the carrying of so-called irreducible loads, for which permit stickers shall not be required, the registrar shall issue to the owner or lessee of a motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit for which a permit, other than a special permit for the carrying of so-called irreducible loads, has been issued under the provisions of sections thirty and thirty A of chapter eighty-five, a permit sticker to be affixed to the upper center portion of the windshield, or in case of a trailer or a semi-trailer to the lower right front, upon the payment by such owner or lessee of the fee provided in section thirty-three of chapter ninety; provided that such owner or lessee shall have filed with the registrar the written approval of the commissioner of highways of his application for such permit, together with a certificate of the gross vehicle weight rating of such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit. If standards promulgated by the United States Department of Transportation, or such agency as may succeed to its powers and responsibilities, are applicable to such vehicle, its gross vehicle weight rating shall be reported to the registrar in accordance with such standards. Such certificates shall be in such form as the registrar shall prescribe, but it shall be divided in two sections, one to be executed by the owner or lessee, and the other to be executed by a manufacturer of the vehicle or the authorized representative of such manufacturer. The owner or lessee's section shall include, but not be limited to: (a) the make, model and year of the motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit; (b) the vehicle identification number; (c) the name and address of the owner or lessee; (d) the gross weight for which such vehicle is registered; (e) the maximum weight authorized by the commissioner of highways for such vehicle; (f) a statement by the owner or lessee that to its knowledge, no alterations have been made to the motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit which would tend to reduce the said gross vehicle weight rating, and that the chassis, axles, tires, rims, brakes, steering components and suspension system are maintained in good order; (g) the date of permit approval by the commissioner of highways, and any number assigned thereto by him; and (h) the expiration date of such permit, which shall also be the expiration date of said permit sticker. The said manufacturer's section shall include, but not be limited to: (a) the manufacturer's name and address and its representative's name and address, if any, providing the gross vehicle weight rating, and (b) the said gross vehicle weight rating in pounds.

If an owner or lessee shall be unable to obtain a manufacturer's gross **vehicle** weight rating for any such **vehicle manufactured before** January first, nineteen hundred and seventy-two and shall submit to the registrar a statement in writing from such manufacturer giving the reasons why it cannot provide such a rating, the registrar may nevertheless issue such a permit sticker limited to such weight, not exceeding registered weight, as the registrar shall prescribe.

A copy of such certificate, or certificates in case of a semi-trailer unit or tandem unit or a tractor operating with a trailer, shall be issued by the registrar to the owner or lessee, and it shall be kept by the operator of such vehicle in an accessible place, and it shall be produced for inspection at the request of any police officer. No such permit sticker or certificate shall be issued by the registrar if the maximum gross weight authorized by the commissioner of highways exceeds the gross weight for which such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit is registered.

Upon the transfer of ownership or possession of any motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit, any such permit or sticker which has not expired or been revoked shall remain in effect until its expiration date, provided that the person in possession of such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit after such transfer shall have notified the registrar and the commissioner of highways in writing of his name, address and the date of such transfer upon such form as the registrar shall prescribe.

Whoever knowingly and willfully makes any false statement in any application for a permit, under section thirty or thirty A of chapter eighty-five or in any certificate under this section, or whoever knowingly and willfully alters any such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit for the

purpose of reducing its said gross vehicle weight rating below the weight limit set forth in the permit after such permit and sticker have been issued and while such permit and sticker are in use and effect, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not less than two weeks nor more than two years, or both. A conviction of a violation of this paragraph shall be reported forthwith by the court or magistrate to the registrar who shall immediately revoke the said permit sticker and no appeal, motion for new trial or exceptions shall operate to stay such revocation, and the registrar shall forthwith report such violation and revocation to the commissioner of highways who shall immediately revoke the permit issued for such vehicle. Upon the revocation of any such permit or sticker, the owner or lessee of such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit shall immediately return his copy of such certificate to the registrar, and shall immediately remove such permit sticker from any such motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer or semi-trailer unit or tandem unit.

Emissions Exemptions

Massachusetts performs an OBD emissions test annually on MY 1996. Vehicles manufactured before MY 1996 no longer receive tailpipe emissions tests, but fail their safety inspections if they produce visible smoke.

Diesel Vehicles:

The following diesel vehicles are tested annually with an OBD emissions test: MY 1997 and newer light-duty diesel vehicles (weighing 8,500 pounds or less), MY 2007 and newer medium-duty diesel vehicles (weighing 8,501 to 14,000 pounds), and a smoke opacity tests for visible smoke from heavy-duty diesel vehicles (weighing more than 10,000 pounds GVWR). Light duty and medium duty diesel vehicles are exempted from emissions inspections when they are 15 or more MY old. Any diesel vehicle with a model year earlier than 1984 is exempt.

Exemptions:

1. New vehicles being registered in their first MY
2. Pre-1996 MY vehicles or that is 15 or more MYs old
3. Medium duty (weighing 8,501 to 14,000 pounds GVWR) non-diesel vehicles manufactured before MY 2008 or that are 15 or more MYs old
4. As of April 30, 2011, street rods and custom vehicles
5. Specially constructed and replica vehicles until April 30, 2012, at which time they will be tested based on the model year of the engine installed