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Reminder: Texas vehicle inspection changes coming soon

Bexar County emissions testing requirements begin November 1, 2026

(AUSTIN, Texas – September 15, 2026) The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) is reminding Bexar County motorists of an upcoming change to vehicle registration requirements. Beginning November 1, 2026, vehicles registered in Bexar County must pass an emissions test as required under [House Bill 3297](#) (88th Legislature).

Bexar County is joining Texas' [emissions program](#) to comply with federal air quality standards. Emissions testing will be required to complete the registration renewal process beginning in November. While the statewide safety inspection program for non-commercial vehicles ended on January 1, 2025, Bexar County joins the 17 other Texas counties where emissions testing is mandatory.

The emissions test fee in Bexar County will be \$18.50, paid to the [inspection station](#) at the time of the test, plus \$2.75 paid to the state at the time of registration renewal. Vehicles statutorily exempt from emissions inspections, including electric vehicles and classic cars, will remain exempt.

Motorists need to complete an emissions test before they can renew their vehicle registration. Vehicle registration renewals can be completed up to 90 days in advance of expiration; a passing emissions test can be obtained within that period.

Vehicle Registration

After obtaining a passing emissions test, vehicle owners in Bexar County can renew their registration through one of the following methods:

- **Online:** Renew online through the [Texas by Texas](#) (TxT) mobile application or through the TxDMV website at <https://renew.TxDMV.gov/Renew/RegistrationRenewalServlet>.
- **Mail:** Renew by mail by sending payment and documentation to the [Bexar County tax office](#).
- **In Person:** Visit the Bexar County tax office or an approved substation.

Bexar County drivers are encouraged to plan ahead and ensure their vehicles are ready for emissions testing to avoid delays in the registration process. Information regarding the Bexar County emissions inspection requirement will be made available through www.TxDMV.gov by November 1, when the requirement takes effect.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles registers and titles motor vehicles, licenses motor vehicle dealers, credentials motor carriers, issues oversize/overweight permits, and investigates complaints against dealers and motor carriers. Through the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA), TxDMV supports law enforcement efforts and awards grants to reduce vehicle crimes. Learn more at www.TxDMV.gov. [Subscribe](#) to receive TxDMV news releases via email or text message.