

AIRCHECKTEXAS DRIVE A CLEAN MACHINE PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

What assistance is available?

At this time, the program continues to accept repair applications for vehicle emissions-related repairs. The program is not accepting vehicle replacement applications. The 82nd Texas Legislature reduced funding for the AirCheckTexas Drive a Clean Machine Program by 88 percent restricting the replacement component of the program.

When will the replacement assistance resume in the North Texas region?

The program may resume replacement assistance for a limited time in 2012; however, an exact date has not been determined, and you will need to apply at that time if you wish to be considered for replacement assistance. The website www.nctcog.org/airchecktexas will provide current program information for the North Texas region.

When do new legislative changes take place?

The changes became effective on September 1, 2011. More information about the legislative changes may be found at www.driveacleanmachine.com.

How long does it take to process a repair application?

Please allow at least five business days for processing since times may vary depending on the number of applications received. Applications will be processed in the order they are received. Visit our website at www.nctcog.org/airchecktexas for the current processing date.

How do I get an application?

The application is available on our website www.nctcog.org/airchecktexas under **REPAIR APPLICATIONS (How to Apply)**. You may also obtain an application at local repair stations, vehicle inspection stations or by contacting us at 1-800-898-9103.

What do I need to send for determining eligibility?

You must submit:

- completed and signed application, and
- income documents of all adults in the household (unemployment statement for those not currently employed), and
- copy of the failing Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR)
This applies to the online application as well.

What are the types of income documents accepted?

Copies should be submitted (no originals) with your application.

- most recent paystub with a year-to-date (YTD) amount (if employed there 3 or more months)
- paystubs for the most recent three consecutive months (if no YTD amount is listed)
- most recent W-2
- current IRS Tax Return (Adjusted Gross Income will be used to determine eligibility)
- unemployment benefits letter
- documentation verifying Federal assistance, State assistance or other earned income (Social Security, Retirement/Annuity, Food Stamps, DHS, Lite-Up Texas, etc.)
- written signed statement of unemployment

What is the Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR)?

The Vehicle Inspection Report is provided to you from the state inspection station after your vehicle has been inspected. If your vehicle failed the emissions portion of the inspection, you must provide a copy of the VIR when applying for repair assistance.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR REPLACEMENT VOUCHER RECIPIENTS

Where can I find information about the eligible Tier 2 Bin 5 or cleaner replacement vehicles?

You can visit www.nctcog.org/airchecktexas or www.driveacleanmachine.com and find a list of eligible vehicles.

Does the replacement vehicle being purchased need to meet certain requirements?

Yes, the replacement vehicle being purchased using a replacement voucher must meet certain requirements that became effective September 1, 2011. More details are found at www.nctcog.org/airchecktexas.

Can multiple vouchers be combined toward one replacement vehicle?

No, only one valid voucher is applied toward the purchase of one replacement vehicle.

Can an individual retire more than one vehicle through the program?

Yes, an individual can come back through the program but may only retire one vehicle (registered in their name) in a 12-month period. The individual may apply for replacement assistance 12 months after retiring an older vehicle and purchasing the replacement vehicle.

Can an individual lease the replacement vehicle?

No, lease agreements are not allowed. The vehicle must be purchased by the participant.

What is the dealer's responsibility with the retired vehicle title?

The dealer must transfer a clear title along with the retired vehicle to the participating dismantler.

Does the AirCheckTexas participant need to be approved for financing before completing the sale?

Yes, the dealer should make sure that the AirCheckTexas participant has been approved for a loan before putting the participant into the replacement vehicle and transferring the retired vehicle to the dismantler. There have been a few cases where a participant was pulled from the replacement vehicle without qualifying for a loan but the retired vehicle was already scrapped. This ensures that we eliminate this from complicating the process for both parties.

Where does the voucher amount go on the title application?

The dealer must document the voucher amount (\$3,000 or \$3,500) on line 21(b), Less Trade-In Amount on the Application for Texas Certificate of Title.

Is a cosigner allowed for the replacement vehicle?

Yes, the State will allow a cosigner as long as the person lives in the same household as the AirCheckTexas participant/vehicle owner and the Regional Administrator (North Central Texas Council of Governments) calculated the cosigner's income when qualifying a participant for the program. Any eligible cosigner(s) will be listed on the voucher.

Example - A participant's wife may be a cosigner on the new loan (including having her name on the application for title) even if the retired vehicle is just in the husband's name because the wife lives in the same household. The household income had been verified to qualify for a voucher, which includes both the husband and wife's incomes.

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Is a cosigner who doesn't live in the same household allowed for the replacement vehicle?

Generally, no, but the State will allow a cosigner who doesn't live in the same household as long as the lender will allow **only** the participant's name on the replacement vehicle's title – most lenders require the cosigner's name on the title as well, but there may be an exception where a lender will allow this.

What if the participant moved since receiving the voucher?

That is fine, but the dealer will need to provide proof that the participant has moved since they received the voucher in order for the Regional Administrator (NCTCOG) to have the most current information. A new voucher will not need to be issued.

What if the participant recently got married or changed their name since receiving the voucher?

That is fine, but the dealer will need to provide a copy of the name change (copy of the marriage license, divorce decree, etc.) documenting the old and new names. A new voucher will not need to be issued.

What if the participant has a second vehicle (non-AirCheckTexas) they wish to trade in?

That is fine, but the dealer will need to document out to the side on the Application for Texas Certificate of Title (line 21(b), Less Trade-In Amount) that \$3,000/\$3,500 is for AirCheckTexas and \$XX-amount is for an additional trade-in.