STAR PROGRAM CHANGES

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BAR ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
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STAR PROGRAM

• Developed in response to AB 2289 (Eng, Chapter 258, Statutes of 2010).

• Voluntary certification program for Smog Check stations established in BAR regulations.

• Required inspection-based performance standards for STAR Certified stations.

• STAR certification authorizes:
  • Smog Check Stations to inspect/certify directed and gross-polluting vehicles.
  • Test and Repair stations to provide repair assistance services under the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP).
PROGRAM CHANGES

• “STAR Program Updates” regulations were adopted on May 5 and became effective on July 1, 2022.

• The updated regulations:
  
  • Delete outdated Gold Shield program provisions.
  
  • Modify existing equipment and eligibility standards.
  
  • Establish a STAR certification suspension rather than invalidation process.
STAR STATION CRITERIA OVERVIEW

• Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) 3392.1 lists the required services of STAR stations and equipment required to perform those services.

• CCR 3392.2 lists the eligibility/performance standards for STAR certification, which includes:
  • Short-Term Measures (STM)
  • Follow-Up Pass Rate (FPR)
  • Citation and Disciplinary History

• CCR 3392.3 lists the causes for STAR certification suspension.
MODIFIED EQUIPMENT STANDARDS

• CCR 3392.1 makes the following modifications to the equipment requirements:
  • Equipment requiring calibration shall pass calibration at least once every 10 days.
  • Stations located in basic or change of ownership areas that certify directed vehicles only when purchased by a licensed DMV dealer are no longer required to have a BAR-97 EIS.
  • Stations will be restricted from communicating with the VID when they are incapable of performing uniform and consistent inspections for failure to maintain required equipment.
MODIFIED ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

• CCR 3392.2 makes the following modifications when calculating station performance and program eligibility:
  • Minimum similar vehicle failure rate for certification lowered from 75% to 50%.
  • STM now includes the performing of inspections using the incorrect equipment platform (BAR-97 vs. OIS) as a test deviation.
  • Only a station with an FPR score of at least 0.40 can add a “no score” inspector.
  • A station with “no score” can only add an inspector with an FPR score of at least 0.40.
CERTIFICATION SUSPENSION

• CCR 3392.3 creates a suspension process to replace the invalidation process

  • Causes for suspension are the same as for invalidation.

  • Modifications made to equipment and eligibility/performance standards included in STM and FPR data are included in causes for suspension.

  • Failing to allow access or preventing BAR from inspecting a STAR station is a new cause for suspension.
SUSPENSION PROCESS

- Per CCR 3392.3(b), BAR will notify the station of the grounds for and term of suspension.

- With the suspension notice the station will be provided:
  - A “STAR Certification Reinstatement Request” form, which can be completed and submitted to BAR Licensing when the cause of suspension is corrected.
  - Information about the STAR Report Card on BAR’s website.

- When the term of suspension ends, the station may resume operation as a STAR station without having to reapply as was the case with the invalidation process.
STAR PROGRAM APPEAL PROCESS

• CCR 3392.4 establishes the informal review process for STAR suspensions.

• Timeframes and processes remain the same.

• Chief or Desigee can:
  • Rescind the suspension
  • Affirm the suspension
  • Reduce the period of suspension
QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Submit questions and/or comments to:

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