



Your Vehicle Was Unable To Be Tested Because Its OBD System Was NOT READY

IMPORTANT: SEE THE MANAGER PRIOR TO SEEKING REPAIRS TO DISCUSS THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO YOU TO PREPARE YOUR VEHICLE FOR TESTING.

THE MANAGER IS LOCATED IN THE OFFICE AREA OF THIS FACILITY.

What Is A Readiness Monitor?

Most 1996 and newer vehicles under 8,501 pounds are equipped with a state-of-the-art on-board monitoring system known as On-Board Diagnostics (OBD). This system continually monitors tracks and stores information about the emission control devices and other engine-related components. Readiness monitors indicate if components have been fully evaluated and whether system components have experienced any driving conditions that prevent the vehicle from operating as designed by the manufacturer. The test equipment reads the OBD and readiness monitor status as part of the vehicle emissions inspection. The inspector cannot change the information reported by the vehicle.

How Many Monitors Must Be Ready?

If the vehicle is in the process of resetting itself, it is said to be "Not Ready", resulting in one or more unset readiness monitors. Vehicles "Not Ready" for OBD testing receive a REJECT test result. The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) guidelines allow up to two monitors to be not ready for 1996 – 2000 vehicles and one monitor "not ready" for 2001 and newer model year vehicles.

What Could Cause My Vehicle To Be "Not Ready"?

Unset readiness monitors do not necessarily mean that anything is wrong with your vehicle. It simply means that the vehicle hasn't had a chance to run all of its self-diagnostics to confirm that everything is okay. There are several reasons why a vehicle may be "Not Ready". The most common reasons are:

- Recent vehicle repairs or maintenance in which diagnostic trouble codes have been cleared with an OBD scan tool,
- A recently disconnected or replaced battery,
- Vehicle's computer requires a software update,
- Pending problem that has not yet illuminated the "check engine" light.

How Can I Set My Vehicle's Monitors To "Ready"?

- In most cases, to reset monitors the vehicle will need to be driven more before it can be tested. It is suggested that motorists should drive their vehicle as they normally do for about a week or so to set these readiness monitors to "complete." Information may also be found in the owner's manual for procedures to reset readiness monitors.
- If the incomplete readiness monitors were most likely not a result of a recently disconnected/replaced vehicle battery, or if you do not normally drive the vehicle that often, then it is recommended that assistance should be sought from a qualified repair technician for help in resetting the monitors.

OBD Drive Cycle Safety Notice

When performing the Drive Cycle procedures on public highways to reset readiness monitors, it is extremely important to proceed with caution.



Before performing the Drive Cycle:

- Always drive the vehicle in a safe manner and observe all traffic laws and regulations.
- Read the drive cycle procedure before going out on public roads.
- Take two people with you during the drive cycle procedure so the driver can focus on obeying the rules of the road and the passenger can read the drive cycle instructions to the driver.
- Select a route that allows you to perform the Drive Cycle SAFELY without causing a traffic hazard.

What Is The Connection Between OBD And Vehicle Emissions?

There are many circumstances under which the vehicle computer will detect a system problem before the driver notices a drivability problem. Furthermore, OBD can detect problems that may not be noticeable upon visual inspection because many component failures that impact emissions can be electrical or even chemical in nature.

How Does OBD Help The Environment?

The purpose of OBD systems is to assure proper emission system operation of each and every vehicle and light truck for its lifetime by monitoring emission related components and systems for malfunction and/or deterioration. An important aspect of OBD is its ability to notify the driver of a problem before the vehicle's emissions have increased significantly. If the vehicle is serviced in a timely fashion, it can be properly repaired before any significant emission increase occurs. OBD systems will also provide automobile manufacturers with valuable feedback from the customer's vehicle that can be used to improve vehicle and emission control designs.

Need More Time?

It is not legal to operate a vehicle with expired license plates. However, you may legally drive a vehicle from the place it is kept to an emission testing station and back, for the purpose of having an emission inspection.

A vehicle that does not pass the inspection, which has expired registration or has registration that will expire in a couple of days, may still be operated for a period of 30 days with the purchase of a temporary license plate. The vehicle cannot be operated until a temporary plate is placed upon the vehicle. The fee for a temporary license plate is \$8.00 if purchased at an emission testing station or at a Motor Vehicle office offering registration services. Only cash or checks are accepted. Or an application for a temporary license plate can be mailed along with \$3.00 to the Motor Vehicle office in Madison. Temporary plates are not available for vehicles with suspended registrations.

Has your vehicle had an Emissions Related Recall?

To find out if your vehicle is on the EPA's Annual Summary of Emission-Related Recall and Voluntary Service Campaigns Performed on Light-Duty Vehicles and Light-Duty Trucks, please visit www.wisconsinvip.org, www.epa.gov/otaq/recall.htm, or call 866 OBD TEST (866-623-8378). The Annual Summary of Emission-Related Recall and Voluntary Service Campaigns Performed on Light-Duty Vehicles and Light-Duty Trucks can also be printed from the analyzer in the Print/View Documents area in the Utilities menu by a certified emissions inspector.

Questions?

General Information:

866-OBD-TEST
(866-623-8378)
www.wisconsinvip.org

Repair and Retest Information

Technical Assistance Center Hotline
866-OBD-TEST
(866-623-8378)
www.wisconsinvip.org