



**Motor Carrier Attachment**

**NYSDMV Inspection Excerpts from Part 79 Motor Vehicle Inspections**

**Schoharie, NY October 6, 2018**

**HWY19MH001**

(10 pages)



**Department of  
Motor Vehicles**

# **MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION REGULATIONS**

---

Effective January 1, 2017



## CONTENTS

Introduction.....	iii
Division of Vehicle Safety Services Regional Offices.....	iv
Division of Vehicle Safety Services Telephone Directory.....	iv

### REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES

#### PART 79

#### MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION

(Statutory Authority: VTL Sections 215, 302, 303)

SECTION	PAGE
79.1 Definitions (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	1-4
79.2 Vehicles subject to inspection (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	4-7
79.3 Schedule of inspection (Amended 7/01/12).....	7
79.4 Inspection information (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	7-8
79.5 Effect of certificate of inspection and effect of inspection rejection notice (Amended 12/29/10)....	8
79.6 Inspection sticker fees.....	9
79.7 Official inspection station licenses (Amended 12/29/10, 7/13/11 and 7/01/12).....	9-14
79.8 Duties of licensee (Amended 12/29/10).....	14-16
79.9 Station requirements (Amended 12/29/10, 7/13/11, 7/01/12 and 01/01/17).....	16-20
79.10 Certificates of inspection and inspection rejection notices: procurement, credit, refunds (Amended 12/29/10).....	20
79.11 Issuance of certificates of inspection, issuance of inspection rejection notices, and replacements (Amended 7/01/12).....	20-21
79.12 Required records (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	22-23
79.13 Signs (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	23-26
79.14 Penalties (Amended 7/01/12).....	26-27
79.15 Official fleet and dealer inspection stations (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	27-30
79.16 Repealed 12/29/10.....	30
79.17 Qualifications and duties of certified motor vehicle inspectors (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	30-32
79.18 Reserved.....	32
79.19 Reserved.....	32
79.20 Inspection procedure generally (Amended 12/29/10, 2/23/11 and 7/01/12).....	32-36
79.21 Inspection of motor vehicles (Amended 12/29/10, 7/01/12 and 01/01/17).....	36-49
(a) Service brake system (Amended 7/01/12).....	37-38
(b) Parking brake.....	38-39
(c) Tires.....	39-40
(d) Steering, suspension, front end and chassis/frame.....	40-42
(e) Lighting and reflectors.....	42-45
(f) Windshield and other glass (Amended 7/01/12 and 01/01/17).....	45-46
(g) Mirrors.....	46-47
(h) Reserved.....	47
(i) Windshield wipers.....	47
(j) Horn.....	47
(k) Seat belts.....	48
(l) Fuel leaks.....	48-49
79.22 Light duty trailers.....	49
(a) Hitch system.....	49

## CONTENTS (continued)

79.23	Medium duty vehicles .....	49-54
	(a) Brake system .....	53
	(b) Coupling devices.....	53-54
	(c) Exhaust system .....	54
79.24	Emissions inspection procedure (Amended 12/29/10, 7/13/11 and 7/01/12).....	55-61
	(a) Applicability (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12) .....	55
	(b) Procedures (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	55-56
	(c) Repealed 12/29/10.....	56
	(d) Standards (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	56
	(e) General provisions (Amended 12/29/10) .....	56-57
	(f) Effect of failure of emissions inspection (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	57
	(g) OBD II and low enhanced emissions inspection, reinspection and fees.....	57-58
	(h) Repealed 12/29/10.....	58
	(i) Emissions control devices (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	58-60
	(j) Advisory emissions scan (Added 7/13/11) .....	61
79.25	OBD II emissions inspection waiver (Amended 12/29/10 and 7/01/12).....	61
79.26	Vehicles subject to diesel emissions inspection (Amended 7/01/12).....	62-64
79.27	Heavy vehicle inspection (Amended 12/29/10 and 01/01/17).....	65-91
	(a) Tires .....	65-66
	(b) Wheels or rims .....	66
	(c) Steering.....	66-67
	(d) Front end .....	67-68
	(e) Suspension .....	68-69
	(f) Chassis/Frame.....	69
	(g) Window glass (Amended 01/01/17).....	69-70
	(h) Windshield wipers.....	71
	(i) Mirrors.....	71
	(j) Horn.....	71
	(k) Coupling devices .....	72-74
	(l) Exhaust system .....	74-75
	(m) Lighting and reflectors .....	75-78
	(n) Service brake system.....	78-84
	(o) Parking brake systems .....	85-86
	(p) Seat belts .....	86
	(q) Fuel Leaks .....	87
	Appendix I: Cam Brakes — Push-Rod Travel Limits (TABLE A).....	88
	Appendix II: Disc Brakes — Push-Rod Travel Limits (TABLE B).....	89
	Appendix III: Measuring the Cam Brake Adjustment (FIGURE 1).....	90
	Appendix IV: Measuring the Wedge Brake Adjustment (FIGURE 2).....	91
79.28	Inspection of motorcycles.....	92-95
	(a) Brakes.....	92
	(b) Steering suspension and frame .....	93
	(c) Exhaust system and muffler .....	93
	(d) Headlamp .....	93
	(e) Other lights .....	94
	(f) Tires .....	94-95
	(g) Horn.....	95
	(h) Rearview mirror .....	95
79.29	Appendix A .....	96
79.30	Repealed.....	97

## INTRODUCTION

Article 5 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law provides for a system of inspection for all vehicles registered in New York State. Inspections are required at least once every 12 months and are performed by official inspection stations that are privately owned but licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles. No motor vehicle required to be inspected may be registered or operated in this state unless it has been inspected in accordance with the provisions of these regulations, and displays a current certificate of inspection issued by an official inspection station.

This information has been prepared to provide official inspection stations with a guide for conducting inspections, completing forms, and sending records to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Please note: The text in this document is not an exact duplicate of the official version of the Part 79 Regulation. DMV staff may change tabs/spacing or text for the reader's benefit. These changes do not change the meaning or intent of the Regulation as presented in this document in any way.

The text in this manual reflects the amendments to Part 79 that were effective on:

**JANUARY 23, 2008** (NYVIP2)

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2008** (NYTEST/Shared Network)

**JUNE 23, 2010** (Civil Penalties)

**DECEMBER 29, 2010** (State Implementation Plan - End of NYTEST Inspection Program)

**FEBRUARY 23, 2011** (Stretch Limousines - NYSDOT Inspection)

**JULY 13, 2011** (Cap on Inspection Stations & Advisory Emissions Scan)

**JULY 1, 2012** (OBDII Emissions Inspections for Light-duty Diesel Powered Vehicles)

**JUNE 19, 2013** (Provisional Inspection Station Licenses)

**JANUARY 1, 2017** (Chapter 444 of the Laws of 2016)

For this and other business information and forms, visit:

**[dmv.ny.gov/forms.htm#business](http://dmv.ny.gov/forms.htm#business)**

**DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES  
DIVISION OF VEHICLE SAFETY SERVICES  
REGIONAL OFFICES**

REGION 1 - VEHICLE SAFETY  
1800 OLD WALT WHITMAN ROAD  
SUITE 150  
MELVILLE, NEW YORK 11747  
(631) 770-3003

REGION 2 - VEHICLE SAFETY  
1 LARKIN PLAZA  
YONKERS, NEW YORK 10701  
(914) 965-7766

REGION 3 - VEHICLE SAFETY  
175 SPARROWBUSH ROAD  
LATHAM, NEW YORK 12110  
(518) 783-7062

REGION 4 - VEHICLE SAFETY  
5801 E. TAFT ROAD  
NO. SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13212  
(315) 458-6683

REGION 5 - VEHICLE SAFETY  
334 DINGENS STREET  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14206  
(716) 826-3187

REGION 6 - VEHICLE SAFETY  
92-11 179th PLACE  
JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11433  
(718) 526-8546

**DIVISION OF VEHICLE SAFETY SERVICES TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**

Please refer to the following list of telephone numbers when contacting Vehicle Safety Services:

Inspection Stickers .....	(518) 474-2398
MV-50 Unit.....	(518) 474-2398
Inspection Station Applications .....	(518) 474-0919
Inspector Certification Unit .....	(518) 474-7998
Certified Inspector Applications .....	(518) 474-4653
Hearings .....	(518) 474-1510
Information Pertaining to Inspection Procedures and Regulations.....	(518) 474-5282
Complaints .....	(518) 474-8943
Supplies.....	(518) 474-3375

PART 79

MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION REGULATION

Published By

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES  
OFFICE OF VEHICLE SAFETY & CLEAN AIR  
6 Empire State Plaza, Room 220  
Albany, New York 12228

- (a) *Service brake system.* Every vehicle must be tested for brake equalization after a complete inspection has been performed. Such test must be on a dry, hard, level surface, free from loose material (indoors or outdoors) or with approved brake testing equipment set to approved specifications. At least one front axle wheel must be removed for brake inspection. (Identify location of wheel removed on VS-1074 if you use this form, or on the appropriate CVIS when prompted). However, an inspector may remove as many wheels as necessary to determine the condition of the braking system. A brake tester that has been approved by the commissioner may be used to test the vehicle's braking system in lieu of performing a brake equalization test and the requirement that a wheel be removed. (Amended 7/01/12)

<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Reject if:</b>
1. Brake Equalization – visually inspect condition of brake system. 2. Inspect wheel cylinders and calipers for leakage. 3. Inspect hoses and lines for leaks, cracks, chafing, flattened or restricted section and improper support. 4. Inspect master cylinder for leakage and reservoir fluid level.	1. The vehicle fails to make straight stop without significant wheel pull. 2. Wheel cylinders or calipers leak. 3. Hoses or lines leak, or are cracked, flattened or are insecurely fastened, copper tubing or compression fittings are used. (Amended 8/13/03) 4. Master cylinder leaks or reservoir is not full to its designed capacity.
<b>NOTE:</b> Visual inspection of mechanical system. It is imperative that brake system reservoir cover and the surrounding area be thoroughly cleaned before cover is removed to assure that no dirt is mixed with brake fluid.	
<b>Test Pedal Reserve</b> 5. While the vehicle is stopped, depress brake pedal under normal foot pressure (if vehicle is equipped with power brakes, engine should be running for this test).	5. Pedal reserve is less than 1/3 of the possible travel or less than the manufacturer's specification.
<b>Test Brake for Fade</b> 6. Apply brakes, using normal foot pressure. On vehicles equipped with power brakes the engine should be running. <b>Inspect Power Brake Unit</b> 7. With engine stopped apply brakes several times to deplete power assist in system. Depress brake pedal and while maintaining force, start engine.(Amended 8/13/03) <b>Check Condition of Drum Brake Linings</b> 8. Bonded linings – Measure the lining thickness at the thinnest point.	6. Brake pedal does not hold its position for at least 60 seconds without fading. 7. Brake pedal does not fall slightly under force when engine starts. 8. Thinnest point is less than 1/16 inch.
<b>Riveted Linings</b> 9. Inspect for loose or missing rivets. Measure lining thickness above rivet head at thinnest point.	9. Any rivets are loose or missing. Lining is worn to less than 1/32 inch over any rivet head.



<p><b>Check Condition of Brake Linings and Pads</b> (Amended 8/13/03)</p> <p>10. Inspect for audible or visual sign from disc brake wear sensors, if vehicle is so equipped.</p> <p>11. All Linings and Pads – inspect for broken or cracked linings and parts of linings not firmly attached to their mounting.</p> <p>Also inspect for contamination.</p>	<p>10. Disc brake wear sensor is activated.</p> <p>11. Friction material is broken, cracked or not firmly and completely attached to its mounting.</p> <p>Friction surface is contaminated with oil or grease or there is metal-to-metal contact. (Amended 8/13/03)</p>
<p><b>Brake Drums</b></p> <p>12. Inspect the condition of the drum friction surface for substantial cracks extending to the open edge of the drum (short hairline heat check cracks should not be considered).</p> <p>Inspect for cracks on the outside of drum.</p> <p>Inspect for mechanical damage.</p> <p>Inspect for contaminated friction surface.</p>	<p>12. There are substantial cracks on the friction surface extending to open edge. There are external cracks. There is evidence of mechanical damage other than wear.</p> <p>Friction surface is contaminated with oil, grease, or brake fluid.</p>
<p><b>Brake Rotor</b></p> <p>13. Inspect for substantial cracks extending to edge of rotor.</p> <p>Inspect for mechanical damage.</p> <p>Inspect disc for any distortion or scoring that would impair braking system.</p>	<p>13. There are substantial cracks extending to edge.</p> <p>There is evidence of mechanical damage other than wear.</p> <p>Distortion or scoring impairs the braking system.</p>
<p><b>Brake Components</b></p> <p>14. Visually inspect components of the braking system.</p>	<p>14. There is any disconnected, improperly installed, broken, frozen, seized, bypassed, or missing component of the braking system. (Amended 5/4/05)</p>
<p><b>NOTE:</b> An inoperative anti-lock brake system or an illuminated ABS warning light are not causes for rejection. (Added 8/13/03)</p>	

(b) *Parking brake.* If 1962 or older vehicle is not originally equipped with parking brake, disregard this procedure.

Procedure	Reject if:
<p><b>Parking Brake Function</b></p> <p>1. Set the parking brake firmly. If vehicle is equipped with an "automatic parking brake release" type that releases itself when gear selector is placed in a position other than park or neutral, omit paragraph</p>	<p>1. Parking or holding brake will not hold the vehicle stationary with engine running at a slightly accelerated speed with shift lever in drive position for automatic transmission or shift lever in low gear</p>

1 of this subdivision and inspect all other points of the parking brake.	while engaging the clutch on a standard transmission.
<b>Parking Brake Components</b> 2. Check parking brake components for general condition.	2. Cable(s) are visibly frayed or frozen, or there are missing or defective cotter pins or broken or missing retracting springs or worn rods or couplings. (Amended 8/13/03)  There is no reserve travel in the lever or pedal when the brake is fully applied.  The ratchet and pawl or other automatic locking device does not hold the brake position or cannot be properly released.
<b>Parking Brake Independence</b> 3. Examine means by which parking brake works.	3. Parking brake is activated by same means as service brake. Parking brake is not mechanically activated.

(c) *Tires.* A vehicle which is used primarily in an authorized landfill may be equipped with foam-filled tires. Such tires would not be rejectable under paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5. However, the tires must be inspected for the required tread depth and restricted usages.

**Note:** If a tire obviously has the required tread depth, it is not necessary to use the tread depth gauge. Use of the gauge is only required when tread depth is questionable and a reading must be obtained to determine whether or not the tire must be rejected. Do not check tread depth at tread wear indicator bar or tie bar.

<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Reject if:</b>
<b>Tires</b> 1. Tire tread depth readings shall be taken in two adjacent major grooves showing the most tread wear. Readings for a tire which has the tread design running across the tire or for a siped tire where such tread design is permitted, shall be taken at or near the center of the tire. Inspect all tires mounted on vehicles (do not inspect spare tire).  2. Inspect for breaks or cuts.  3. Inspection for bumps, bulges or knots.	1. Any tire is worn to less than 2/32 of an inch of major tread design at the two worst adjacent points at which the gauge readings are obtained. However, the front tires of a motor vehicle, (other than a trailer), with an MGW of 10,000 pounds or more, or a truck tractor, must not be worn to less than 4/32 of an inch of major tread design at the two points at which the gauge readings are obtained. (Amended 1/23/08)  2. Tire has fabric break, or a cut in excess of one inch in any direction and deep enough to reach the body cords.  3. Tire has visible bumps, bulges or knots indicating partial failure or separation of the tire structure. (Amended 12/22/99)

