

540 CMR: REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

540 CMR 30.00: ANNUAL INSPECTION OF TNC VEHICLES  
(Transportation Network Company)

Section

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30.01: Purpose, Scope and Applicability

540 CMR 30.00 is adopted by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles pursuant to M.G.L. c. 90, §31, to establish rules and regulations for the annual comfort, cleanliness and safety inspection of TNC vehicles under M.G.L. c. 90, § 7A to be performed by licensed Safety Inspection Stations.

30.02: Inspection Dates

(1) A TNC driver shall obtain a transportation network vehicle inspection at the driver's next annual safety and emissions inspection or within 12 months of obtaining a transportation network driver certificate, whichever comes first.

(2) No vehicle shall qualify as a TNC vehicle if at the time of the TNC inspection the vehicle has any safety defects which would cause the vehicle to be out of compliance with 540 CMR 4.04.

30.03: General Inspection Procedures

(1) All inspections shall be performed in accordance with 540 CMR 30.00 by an Inspection Station licensed by the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

(2) Before beginning the vehicle inspection, the Inspector shall:

(a) collect the appropriate fee

(b) determine that the vehicle has a valid state certificate of registration;

(c) determine that the vehicle has a valid state inspection sticker, if registered in MA or a valid inspection sticker in the state in which it is registered if required.

(d) determine that the vehicle has properly affixed registration plate(s) and decals;

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30.04: Inspection Procedures for TNC Vehicles:

(1) Interior of Vehicle: The Inspector shall determine the following:

- (a) The vehicle's heating, defrosting and air conditioning systems are in good working order;
- (b) All interior lights are operational and illuminate the interior of the vehicle;
- (c) There are no holes, tears, sharp edges or protruding springs or wires in the vehicle's seats and interior panels;
- (d) Devices warning of open vehicle doors are in good working order;
- (e) The vehicle's rear view mirror(s) is securely affixed;
- (f) The vehicle is equipped with sun visors on both the operator and passenger side;
- (g) Door and window handles, locks and interior door panels are in good working order;
- (h) There are no loose items on the vehicle's dash board or rear shelf;
- (i) The seats, including the areas beneath them and the rear floor area are free of debris;
- (j) The vehicle's trunk is clean and free of debris;
- (k) The doors and windows work as designed;

(2) Safety Concerns: the Inspector shall also determine the following:

(a) Brakes: The inspector shall operate the vehicle to test the parking and service brake. The parking brake on all vehicles will be tested by accelerating the motor to approximately 1,200 to 1,300 RPMs with the vehicle in the lowest forward gear against the brake in the applied position. The vehicle will be rejected if the parking brake will not hold. The service brakes will be tested at a speed of between four and eight MPH. Service brakes must be reasonably equalized so that the vehicle does not pull to either side when applied. A test with the brake meter shall be made at a speed of 15 to 25 MPH in all questionable cases.

(b) Suspension: The front end (each side) of all vehicles will be raised by jacking and visually examined. Vehicles equipped with ball joints will be raised and checked in accordance with the applicable manufacturer's specifications;

(i) A vehicle with excessive wear or play in any part of the steering mechanism, suspension or drive train of the vehicle that would affect proper and safe operation will not qualify as a TNC.

(ii) A vehicle with broken, bent or missing shock absorbers or suspension springs will not qualify as a TNC.

30.05: Vehicle Inspection Report:

An Inspector who determines that a vehicle meets the requirement of 540 CMR 30.00 as a TNC vehicle will issue a vehicle inspection report indicating that the vehicle passed the TNC inspection. If the vehicle fails the TNC inspection the Inspector shall issue a vehicle inspection report indicating that the vehicle failed the TNC inspection.