Frequently Asked Questions - Inspections

What do I do if I need an inspection on my vehicle?

Customers needing an inspection in order to obtain a regular certificate of title should contact their local motor vehicle repair shops. Repair shops would then schedule an appointment for the vehicle to be inspected.

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) § 39-05-20.2 states: The certificate of inspection required under this section must be completed by a business that is registered with the Secretary of State and is in good standing. The business should offer motor vehicle repair to the public. The business completing the certificate of inspection may not be the business that reconstructed the vehicle and must state the vehicle is in compliance with the requirements of chapter 39-21.

NDDOT recommends you research the business you wish to conduct the inspection by using the N.D. Secretary of State website to ensure that the business meets the qualifications stated above.

NDDOT will only accept forms completed by businesses registered and in good standing with the Secretary of State.

Inspections completed by out of state businesses must meet the same qualifications as stated above. If you chose to have an inspection done by an out of state business, make sure to check the Secretary of State website of that state and provide the NDDOT with documentation as proof that the out of state business qualifies.

A representative of the business will inspect the vehicle utilizing the “Certificate of Vehicle Inspection” form. The form will be completed and given back to the customer.

It is the responsibility of the customer to send all documents back to the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) Motor Vehicle Division.

The vehicle inspection forms (SFN 2486 and SFN 58953) are located on the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) website at http://www.dot.nd.gov under the NDDOT Forms section.

Vehicles must meet equipment requirements under NDCC § 39-21; 39-27; 39-29; 39-29.1, and 39-29.2: NDCC Title 39

NDDOT Motor Vehicle guideline: businesses are required to keep copies of all inspections conducted for auditing purposes.

Motor vehicle repair shops are not obligated to provide this service. The law allows repair shops to provide this service if they choose.

How do I become an inspection facility?

If your place of business is interested in conducting salvaged vehicle inspections, please contact the NDDOT’s Motor Vehicle Dealer Services section by emailing your information to: mvds@nd.gov
The vehicle inspection forms (SFN 2486 and SFN 58953) are located on the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) website at www.dot.nd.gov under the NDDOT Forms section.

*NDDOT Motor Vehicle guideline: businesses are required to keep copies of all inspections conducted for auditing purposes.

Equipment requirements for vehicles can be found under NDCC 39-21; 39-27; 39-29; 39-29.2

NDCC Title 39

N.D. Secretary of State website