

Truck And Bus Regulation Lighter Vehicle Compliance Options

Last Updated: September 21, 2015

This summary describes compliance requirements and options that are available to lighter vehicles. Lighter vehicles are those with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 14,001 to 26,000 lbs. These requirements and options do not apply to school buses.

What vehicles are affected by the Truck and Bus regulation?

The regulation applies to nearly all diesel-fueled trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) greater than 14,000 pounds that are privately or federally owned and for privately and publicly owned school buses. Lighter vehicles with a GVWR of 14,001 to 26,000 pounds have different requirements than heavier vehicles.

What are the requirements for lighter trucks and buses?

Engine Model Year Schedule for Lighter Trucks	
Engine Year	2010 Replacement Date
1995 and older	January 1, 2015
1996	January 1, 2016
1997	January 1, 2017
1998	January 1, 2018
1999	January 1, 2019
2003 and older	January 1, 2020
2004-2006	January 1, 2021
2007-2009	January 1, 2023

Lighter trucks and buses have compliance requirements starting January 1, 2015. The Engine Model Year Schedule for Lighter Trucks shown in the table to the left lists the compliance dates by engine model year for existing lighter trucks. Starting January 1, 2015, lighter truck and buses with engines that are 20 years or older must be replaced with newer trucks (or engines). Starting January 1, 2020, all remaining trucks and buses need to be replaced so that they all have 2010 model year engines or equivalent emissions by January 1, 2023. No reporting is required with this schedule.

Can I upgrade with used trucks instead of upgrading with 2010 model year or newer engines?

Yes, replacements with a 2010 model year or newer engines meet the final requirements; but you may also replace with used trucks that have a future compliance date on the schedule. For example, if you replace a vehicle with one that has a 2007 model year engine – it will comply until 2023. By January 1, 2023, it will need to be upgraded to a 2010 model year engine with few exceptions.

Can I still install PM filters on trucks that are required to upgrade to 2010 model year engines?

No, the schedule requires vehicle or engine replacements to comply, unless using a flexibility option. All owners had the opportunity to extend the use of an existing truck by installing a PM filter early. Vehicles that were retrofitted with PM filters before January 1, 2014, regardless of compliance option used, will comply until January 1, 2023 as long as the vehicle remains in the fleet and the owner reported their fleet information by January 31, 2015. Lighter trucks cannot receive extensions if PM filters are not available for the engine because PM filters are not required to comply.

Is there any flexibility if the model year schedule requires too many replacements in one year?

You may be able to limit the number of trucks that need to be upgraded to 2010 model year or newer engines each year if you meet certain requirements. With this option you will not be required to upgrade with 2010 engines for more than 25 percent of the entire fleet of lighter trucks, but no fewer than two trucks. You cannot use this option if you increase the number of lighter vehicles in your fleet or if you did not comply with the model year schedule in the previous year. Reporting of all lighter vehicles in the fleet is required to use this option and more details are at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqModelyr.pdf>

Can I use the Low Mileage Work Truck option?

Yes, any lighter vehicle that operates less than 20,000 miles per year may use the Low Mileage Work Truck option in lieu of meeting the engine model year schedule. If a fleet has both heavier and lighter trucks, compliance with this option is calculated separately for the heavier and lighter fleets. To be eligible, the fleet of lighter trucks must meet the minimum PM filter percentage requirements, meet labelling requirements, and the trucks that use the Low Mileage Work Truck Option must have been in the

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fleet since January 1, 2012 or must have a 1996 or newer engine. This option allows vehicle owners to count lighter trucks in the fleet that have PM filters towards the minimum PM filter requirements even if they are not work trucks. Minimum PM Filter requirements must be met from 2014 to 2018. Owners can designate which vehicles will use the extension in January of any compliance year or within 30 days of purchasing a vehicle by reporting. Any lighter truck that exceeds 20,000 miles per year (whether retrofitted or not) is no longer eligible to use this option and must be replaced to comply with the engine model year schedule. This option ends January 1, 2020, when all work trucks will need to comply with the replacement requirements of the engine model year schedule. Additional details and labelling requirements are available at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqconstructiontrucks.pdf>

Can I still claim the Agricultural Vehicle extension?

No, the opt-in period for the agricultural vehicle extension is closed, and no additional trucks can be added except for replacements of previously registered trucks. Agricultural vehicle extensions delay compliance for vehicles that stay below the annual mileage limits. The number of agricultural vehicle extensions in 2011 cannot be higher than the number of trucks in the fleet on January 1, 2009, and cannot increase in subsequent years. Additional details are available at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/fsag.pdf>

Can I use NOx Exempt Area extensions for lighter vehicles?

Yes, vehicles that operate exclusively in areas defined as NOx Exempt Areas can meet PM filter requirements on a delayed schedule from 2015 to 2020 in lieu of the Engine Model Year Schedule requirements. If a fleet has both heavier and lighter trucks, compliance with this option is calculated separately for the heavier and lighter fleets. As long as the vehicles operate exclusively in NOx Exempt areas and meet the labeling requirements, they do not need to be replaced after they are equipped with PM filters. To take advantage of the extension, owners must report fleet information and designate which vehicles will use the NOx exempt area extension each January, or within 30 days of purchasing a vehicle. Annual reporting is required each January. Additional details are available at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/faqnoxexempt.pdf>

How does the Low-use Vehicle exemption apply to lighter vehicles?

A low-use vehicle is one that operates less than 1,000 miles per calendar year within California's borders. In addition, until January 1, 2020, low-use vehicles also include vehicles that travel less than 5,000 total miles per calendar year. Engine hours are no longer used to determine low-use eligibility. Vehicles must be designated and odometer readings must be reported annually each January.

How can I report for compliance options?

Each January you can designate which trucks that will use a compliance option for the selected year if that option is still available. You must report vehicle information by January 31 of the compliance year or within 30 days of purchasing a vehicle. You must also report required odometer readings at the end of the year and when the vehicle is sold to demonstrate the vehicle met the mileage limits. Once you have finished reporting, you may check your compliance status and if the fleet is in compliance you will be able to print a certificate.

How do I determine compliance if I can take advantage of multiple extensions?

The Truck and Bus Fleet Calculator is an Excel spreadsheet that you can use on your own computer to help you evaluate various strategies and upcoming compliance deadlines. The calculator allows you to determine compliance with one or more options in the regulation, including credits, extensions, and special provisions. The calculator is at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/compliancetool.htm>

Where can I get more information?

Fact sheets, compliance tools and regulatory documents about the Truck and Bus Regulation are available at www.arb.ca.gov/dieseltruck. If you have questions or wish to obtain this document in an alternative format or language, please call ARB's diesel hotline at (866) 6DIESEL (634-3735). TTY/TDD/ Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

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