Starting April 1, 2019, inspection stations and inspectors will be able to provide a new type of inspection required for vehicles used by drivers for Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), such as Uber and Lyft. Called the TNC inspection, it is performed by all currently licensed non-commercial inspectors and must be made available, upon request, by any public inspection station performing passenger motor vehicle inspections.

TNC vehicles are required to obtain this new TNC inspection at the vehicle’s next annual inspection, or within 12 months of obtaining a transportation driver certificate. The TNC inspection is expected to be done at the same time as the regular annual inspection because the vehicle must have passed its annual inspection and have an attached certificate of inspection (540 CMR 4.04) prior to the TNC inspection.

To start a TNC inspection, select TNC Safety Inspection from the Main Menu. The workstation software will list the items to be inspected during the TNC inspection, as required by 540 CMR 30.00. This includes additional safety items not inspected under the non-commercial inspection (540 CMR 4.04).

Before beginning the TNC Inspection, the inspector needs to:

1. Verify that the vehicle has a valid state Certificate of Registration;
2. Verify that the vehicle has a current passing state inspection sticker (if registered in MA) and the vehicle has properly affixed registration plate(s) and decal.
3. Collect the $15.00 fee for the TNC inspection.
TNC
A New Type of Inspection

The TNC safety inspection includes the brakes and suspension systems that are listed in 540 CMR 4.04 for regular annual inspections, as well as the interior items listed below:

1. The vehicle’s heating, defrosting and air conditioning systems are in “good working order”
2. All interior lights are operational and illuminate the interior of the vehicle.
3. There are no holes, tears, sharp edges or springs or wires protruding in seats and interior panels.
4. The open door warning devices are in proper operating condition for all doors.
5. The vehicle’s interior rear-view mirror is securely affixed.
6. Both of the operator and passenger sun visors are in place.
7. The door and window handles, locks and interior panels are in good working order.
8. There are no loose items on the front dash or rear shelf.
9. The seats, including the areas beneath them, and the rear floor area are free from debris.
10. The vehicle’s trunk is clean and free of debris.
11. The vehicle’s doors and windows operate as designed.

The workstation screen below displays the new TNC inspection items.

![TNC Safety Inspection Screen](image)

Vehicles inspected as a TNC vehicle will receive a Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) showing the result of the TNC inspection as Pass or Fail (see VIR image below). A vehicle failing the TNC inspection will receive a free retest at the initial inspection station within 20 days of the initial inspection. No Inspection sticker will print for a TNC inspection.

Explaining the Inspection Results:

- **Pass:** After the vehicle passes the TNC inspection, the motorist should be advised to keep the VIR in the vehicle’s glove compartment for verification of a passing TNC inspection.
- **Fail:** Explain the results to the operator including the item(s) that failed inspection and the re-inspection process.
TNC
A New Type of Inspection

Vehicle Inspection Report

Please Review This Important Information

Your vehicle has PASSED its TNC (Transportation Network Company) SAFETY TEST. The results are summarized in this report.

This TNC inspection is valid for 1 year or until your regular annual inspection sticker expires.

Questions? Visit www.mass.gov/vehiclecheck or call Customer Service at 1-844-358-0135. Customer Service is staffed from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

Notes:

- Performed by non-commercial Inspectors by public stations when requested by TNC operator
- No Sticker is printed.
- Performing a TNC inspection does not use a test authorization.
540 CMR 30.00: ANNUAL INSPECTION OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY (TNC) VEHICLES

Section
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: Procedures for Inspection of Non-commercial Motor Vehicles.

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.

30.04: Inspection Procedures for Transportation Network Company (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 rearview 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;
   — 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.
   — 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.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

540 CMR 30.00: M.G.L. c. 90, § 31.