

Vehicle Inspections & Standards

NOTICE

To all Inspection Facilities

Re: Facility Operator Certificate

This notice repeals and replaces the “Designated Inspection Facility (DIF) Operator Training Course” Notice 06-12 issued October 30, 2012. This notice applies to all designations issued by the director under Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) section 217 and includes both Designated Inspection Facilities and Preventative Maintenance Program Facilities.

A facility operator has many legal responsibilities. It is necessary that all facility operators have awareness and working knowledge of all applicable Motor Vehicle Act (MVA), Motor Vehicle Act Regulations (MVAR) and Vehicle Inspection Program (VIP) requirements. The intent of this training is to ensure that all facility operators receive the required knowledge to effectively participate in the VIP.

In 2012, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) established such a course. The course has since provided a consistent instruction platform to ensure inspection facility operators are aware of and comply with all applicable regulations, legislation, program requirements and standards. The Facility Operator Training Course (FOTC) aims to educate operators on program objectives, authorized inspector obligations, operator responsibilities, and liabilities.

Application

Effective December 1, 2013, all inspection facility operators were required to obtain a **facility operator certificate**. The certificate can be obtained by either:

1. Being exempt based on previous knowledge that allowed effective participation in the Vehicle Inspection Program. This exemption only applies to operators who were actively operating a facility on or before December 1, 2015. All operators who meet this criteria will be awarded a certificate as proof of their exemption.
2. Successfully completing the FOTC (the training institutions provide CVSE with the course participant information, and a facility operator certificate is issued).

Effective May 1, 2023, applications to become a **new designated inspection facility** submitted to the VIP will be considered incomplete and rejected, where the facility operator does not have the facility operator certificate. Where a business entity change causes the submission of a new designated inspection facility application, the facility operator may be given six months to obtain the certificate as a condition of licensing.

Existing facility operators that are not certified at the time of submitting a facility licence renewal application, may be given six months to obtain the certificate as a condition of licensing.

Area Vehicle Inspectors (AVI) will review the operator's knowledge to ensure they can safely operate the facility and comply with program requirements. In the case where a facility operator holds a certification and the AVI finds that the operator's knowledge is insufficient, the operator may be required to retake the FOTC and obtain a new certificate as a condition of licensing.

Availability

The FOTC is offered at training institutions throughout the province. For a list of participating training institutions, please visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/vehicle-safety-enforcement/services/vehicle-inspections-standards/training>.

For more information regarding the FOTC, please contact the nearest training institution or the Vehicle Inspections Program at (778) 974-5458 or vehicle.inspections@gov.bc.ca.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Ford', written in a cursive style.

Geoff Ford, Manager,
Vehicle Inspections & Standards Program
Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement