



CALIFORNIA DMV RELEASES UPDATED AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE REGULATIONS

Contact: Office of Public Affairs

2415 First Avenue

Sacramento, CA 95818

(916) 657-6437 | dmvpublicaffairs@dmv.ca.gov [mailto:dmvpublicaffairs@dmv.ca.gov]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2025

Updated regulations include testing and deployment of heavy-duty autonomous vehicles.

Sacramento – The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) today released proposed regulations for the testing and deployment of autonomous vehicles (AVs) on California's public roads, as that term is defined in the regulations, focusing on both light-duty and heavy-duty commercial vehicles. Under the proposed new framework, heavy-duty AVs weighing 10,001 pounds or more can now be tested with a DMV-approved permit. The updated regulations also refine the guidelines for light-duty AVs, enhancing data reporting requirements and implementing recent legislative changes from AB 1777 (Chapter 682, Statutes of 2024). These include updated protocols for AV interactions with first responders and a new procedure for law enforcement to report potential non-compliance with traffic regulations by AVs.

Applications received after the new regulations are implemented will be subject to a phased permitting process for AV testing and deployment. Initially, manufacturers must obtain a permit for testing with a safety driver. Subsequent phases require obtaining a Driverless Testing Permit and a Deployment Permit after completion of the required test miles and submission of a report detailing the testing conducted. These steps ensure that manufacturers meet stringent safety requirements through a comprehensive process tailored to each manufacturer's technology and operational environment. The proposed regulations offer the nation's most comprehensive rules for the operation of autonomous vehicles and underscore the DMV's commitment to enhancing public safety, fostering innovation, and establishing a robust framework for AV technology testing and deployment. The release of these regulations marks the start of a 45-day public comment period, which ends on June 9, 2025.

How to Submit Comments: Written comments may be submitted to LADRegulations@dmv.ca.gov [mailto:LADRegulations@dmv.ca.gov] during the 45-day period. The proposed regulations are available on the [DMV Autonomous Vehicles webpage](https://portal/vehicle-industry-services/autonomous-vehicles/california-autonomous-vehicle-regulations/) [https://portal/vehicle-industry-services/autonomous-vehicles/california-autonomous-vehicle-regulations/].

After the conclusion of the public comment period, the DMV will conduct a public hearing to gather further input on the regulations. Details regarding the date and location of this hearing will be announced separately, closer to the event, along with an invitation for public participation.

###

Sign up to receive the latest DMV News Alerts: [DMV NEWS ALERTS – California DMV](https://portal/dmv-news-alerts/) [https://portal/dmv-news-alerts/]

Feedback