13:20–5.2 Manual opening of doors

All vehicles registered in New Jersey must be equipped with some means of opening the doors manually from within the vehicle and vehicles must be equipped with outside door handles or equivalent devices.

13:20–5.3 Exceptions

This Subchapter shall not apply to vehicles used for the transportation of persons in the custody of law enforcement officers; provided, however, that in such cases, in addition to the driver, there is on duty in the vehicle at least one other person capable of opening the doors in the event of accident.

SUBCHAPTER 6. MUFFLER DEVICES

13:20–6.1 Prohibitory muffler devices

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:3–33, the use upon any motor vehicle of a straight exhaust pipe, or a muffler or mufflers lacking interior baffle plates or other effective muffling devices is expressly prohibited.

SUBCHAPTER 7. VEHICLE INSPECTION

13:20–7.1 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Certificate of approval" means an inspection sticker issued by an official inspection facility, a licensed private inspection facility, or a State specialty inspection facility certifying that a motor vehicle complies with the requirements of Title 39 and Title 26 of the Revised Statutes, N.J.A.C. 13:20–43, 32 or 33, whichever is applicable, and N.J.A.C. 7:27–15 and 7:27B–4 regarding the inspection of motor vehicles.

"Certificate of waiver" means an inspection sticker issued by an official inspection facility evidencing that a motor vehicle has successfully passed a safety inspection but that the requirements of compliance with N.J.A.C. 13:20–43 and the rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection pertaining to emission inspection standards have been waived by the Division for the particular inspection cycle for which the waiver is granted.

"Director" means the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation in the State of New Jersey.

"Division" means the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation in the State of New Jersey.

"Gross vehicle weight rating" or "GVWR" means the value specified by the manufacturer as the maximum loaded weight of a single or combination (articulated) vehicle.

"Official inspection facility" means a test-only inspection facility that the State Treasurer has contracted for pursuant to section 4 of P.L. 1995, c.112.

"Private inspection facility" means any person, partnership, or corporation licensed by the Division pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20–44 to perform the motor vehicle inspections required by N.J.S.A. 39:8–1.

"State specialty inspection facility" means a test-only inspection facility that is operated by the Division to inspect certain motor vehicles as specified in N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.3(d).

New Rule, R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Former N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.1, Adjustments, corrections, or repairs, recodified to N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.5.

13:20–7.2 Inspection of motor vehicles; test frequency; exempt vehicles

(a) Motor vehicles subject to inspection pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:8–1 shall be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation.

(b) The following vehicles, some of which may be subject to inspection under other provisions of law or regulation, shall be exempt from the inspection requirements of this subchapter:

1. Historic motor vehicles registered pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:3–27.4;

2. Collector motor vehicles;

3. Motorized bicycles;

4. Farm tractors and traction equipment;

5. Farm machinery and implements;

6. Fire trucks having a GVWR of more than 8,500 pounds;

7. In-transit construction equipment registered pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4–30;

8. Diesel-fueled motor vehicles, other than omnibuses and school buses, having a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or more that are required to be inspected by the owner or lessee of the vehicle in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:20–26;

9. Omnibuses having a seating capacity of 10 passengers or more and which are subject to inspection by the Division's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit; and

10. Tactical military vehicles operated on Federal installations within this State.

New Rule, R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Former N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.2, Immediate repairs, recodified to N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.6.

13:20–7.3 Inspection facilities

(a) Motor vehicles subject to inspection pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:8–1 shall have the inspection performed at an official inspection facility, a licensed private inspection facility, or a State specialty inspection facility, as provided in this section.

(b) Official inspection facilities shall perform inspections on automobiles, trucks, modified buses with a capacity of not more than 15 passengers which have been issued passenger, governmental, no fee, or commercial vehicle license plates by the Division, and motorcycles. Official inspection facilities shall not perform inspections on modified buses with a capacity of more than 15 passengers, school buses, buses which are subject to inspection by the Division's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit, jitneys as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:20–44.2, or motor vehicles with elevated chassis height which are subject to inspection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:20–37.

(c) Licensed private inspection facilities shall perform inspections on automobiles, trucks, buses (including modified buses regardless of passenger capacity which have been issued passenger, governmental, no fee, or commercial vehicle license plates by the Division), jitneys as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:20–44.2, and motorcycles. Licensed private inspection facilities shall not perform inspections on school buses, buses which are subject to inspection by the Division's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit, or motor vehicles with elevated chassis height which are subject to inspection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:20–37.

(d) State specialty inspection facilities shall perform inspections on motor vehicles with elevated chassis height which are subject to inspection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:20–37, motor vehicles which are operated by handicapped persons and which have been modified at the direction of the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services so that such vehicles are fully controlled by specially designed mechanical devices for the handicapped, reconstructed vehicles as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:20–44.2, salvage motor vehicles which are subject to inspection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:21–22, modified buses regardless of passenger capacity which have been issued passenger, governmental, no fee, or commercial vehicle license plates by the Division, any motor vehicle which the Director may require to be presented for inspection for auditing purposes, and any motor vehicle which has failed inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility which is presented for reinspection by the owner or lessee thereof because he or she disputes the inspection failure.

(e) Notwithstanding (d) above, following successful completion of inspection at a State specialty inspection facility, motor vehicles which are operated by handicapped persons and which have been modified at the direction of the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services so that such vehicles are fully controlled by specially designed mechanical devices for the handicapped, reconstructed vehicles as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:20–44.2, and salvage motor vehicles which are subject to inspection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:21–22 shall thereafter be inspected at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility.

New Rule, R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).

13:20–7.4 Temporary authorization certificates; period of validity

(a) Whenever a motor vehicle, which has been previously registered other than on a temporary basis in a foreign jurisdiction, is initially registered in this State, the registrant thereof shall be issued a temporary authorization certificate. Such motor vehicle shall be presented for inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility within 14 days of the date of issuance of the temporary authorization certificate. The motor vehicle shall thereafter be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation.

(b) Whenever a new motor vehicle, which has been purchased in a foreign jurisdiction and temporarily registered therein, is initially registered by the purchaser in this State, the registrant thereof shall be issued a temporary authorization certificate. Such motor vehicle shall be presented for inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility within 14 days of the date of issuance of the temporary authorization certificate. The motor vehicle shall thereafter be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation.

(c) Whenever a used motor vehicle, which has been purchased in this or any other State and which has affixed thereto an unexpired New Jersey inspection certificate of approval or certificate of waiver, is initially registered by the purchaser in this State, the registrant thereof shall either:

1. Present such motor vehicle for inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility within 14 days of the date of issuance of the temporary authorization certificate. The motor vehicle shall thereafter be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation; or

2. Present such motor vehicle for inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility no later than the expiration date of the New Jersey inspection certificate of approval or certificate of waiver affixed to the motor vehicle. The motor vehicle shall thereafter be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation.

(d) Whenever a used motor vehicle, which has been purchased in this or any other State and which does not have affixed thereto an unexpired New Jersey inspection certificate of approval or certificate of waiver, is initially registered by the purchaser in this State, the registrant thereof shall be issued a temporary authorization certificate. Such motor vehicle shall be presented for inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility within 14 days of the date of issuance of the temporary authorization certificate. The motor vehicle shall thereafter be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation.

(e) Whenever a used motor vehicle, which has been purchased in this State and which has affixed thereto a collector motor vehicle windshield sticker issued pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20–43.2(e), is initially registered by the purchaser in this State, the windshield sticker shall be deemed void and the registrant thereof shall be issued a temporary authorization certificate and shall either:

1. Present such motor vehicle for inspection at an official inspection facility or a licensed private inspection facility within 14 days of the date of issuance of the temporary authorization certificate if the registrant does not wish to retain the collector motor vehicle designation. The motor vehicle shall thereafter be inspected on a biennial basis, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation; or

2. Present such motor vehicle to the Director or his or her designee within 14 days of the date of issuance of the temporary authorization certificate and make application for designation as a collector motor vehicle in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:20–43.2(c) through (h), inclusive.

Repeal and New Rule, R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Section was "Inspection period of passenger vehicles".

13:20–7.5 Adjustments, corrections, or repairs

If a motor vehicle inspection as required by N.J.S.A. 39:8–1 discloses the necessity of adjustments, corrections, or repairs, it shall be incumbent upon the owner or lessee of such motor vehicle to have such adjustments, corrections, or repairs made and to present the motor vehicle for reinspection no later than the last day of the calendar month following the calendar month in which the motor vehicle was due for inspection, except as otherwise provided at N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.6(a). However, if an on-road inspection required by N.J.S.A. 39:8–2 discloses the necessity of adjustments, corrections, or repairs, it shall be incumbent upon the owner or lessee of such motor vehicle to have such adjustments, corrections, or repairs made and to present the motor vehicle for reinspection within 30 days of the date of the on-road inspection rejection, except as otherwise provided at N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.6(a).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.1 and amended by R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Substituted references to motor vehicles for references to vehicles and changed N.J.A.C. references throughout, and substituted a reference to motor vehicle inspections for a reference to inspections.
Former N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.5, Temporary authorization certificate: form, repealed.

13:20–7.6 Immediate repairs

(a) When the nature of the defect(s) found at a motor vehicle inspection is such as to constitute a hazard to the public safety so as to require immediate repairs to such motor vehicle, such repairs shall be made and the motor vehicle presented for reinspection within 48 hours.

(b) A defect which constitutes a hazard to the public safety so as to require immediate repairs to a motor vehicle shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. A motor vehicle with a rupture in the brake system;

2. A motor vehicle with a service brake pedal that does not stop the motor vehicle when fully depressed;

3. A motor vehicle on which all headlights are inoperative;

4. A motor vehicle on which all taillights are inoperative;

5. A motor vehicle on which all stoplights are inoperative;

6. A motor vehicle which has excessive looseness in its steering linkage wherein the steering wheel must make a complete revolution before there is a perceptible movement of the wheels;

7. A motor vehicle with a broken ball joint(s), tie rod(s), or pitman arm;

8. A motor vehicle with a broken suspension component wherein such condition interferes with the operation of the motor vehicle;

9. A motor vehicle with an exhaust leak and holes in the passenger compartment which permit exhaust gases to enter the passenger compartment;

10. A motor vehicle with any part of the exhaust system passing through the passenger compartment;

11. A motor vehicle with a fuel leak in any part of the fuel system;

12. A motor vehicle with a component of the fuel system which is in contact with a moving part of the motor vehicle;

13. A motor vehicle with a tire(s) wherein the ply or cord is exposed and delaminating;

14. A motor vehicle with a windshield which is so severely broken or shattered as to substantially impair the driver's vision; or

15. A motor vehicle with window glazing which is damaged so that sharp edges of glass are exposed.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.2 and amended by R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Rewrote the section. Former N.J.A.C. 13:20–7.6, Inspection period, repealed.

13:20–7.7 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Section was "Initial passenger vehicle inspection procedure".

13:20–7.8 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Section was "Initial inspection certification data".

13:20–7.9 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.28, effective January 16, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4140(a), 28 N.J.R. 272(a).
Section was "Definitions".

13:20–7.10 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.28, effective January 16, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4140(a), 28 N.J.R. 272(a).
Section was "Inspection procedure".

13:20–7.11 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1996 d.28, effective January 16, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4140(a), 28 N.J.R. 272(a).
Section was "New vehicle purchaser procedure".

13:20–7.12 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Section was "Motor vehicle tires".

13:20–7.13 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.1999 d.422, effective December 6, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 2466(a), 31 N.J.R. 4078(a).
Section was "Expired inspection certificates".

SUBCHAPTER 8. (RESERVED)

SUBCHAPTER 9. HANDICAPPED PARKING PRIVILEGES

13:20–9.1 Handicapped person identification vehicle registration plates and placards

(a) When a request is received for handicapped person identification vehicle registration plates or placards pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4–204 et seq., the following regulations shall apply:

1. Applications will be accepted only if submitted on the form approved by the Director.

2. The Director may require the applicant to submit to a re-examination on those portions of the driver's examination which are determined to be necessary based on the applicant's physical disability.

3. The Director may require the applicant to be examined by a physician, podiatrist, or chiropractic physician licensed in New Jersey or a bordering state, or by such physician, podiatrist, or chiropractic physician appointed by the State for the purpose of determining that the applicant's stated disability qualifies him or her under the definition of "handicapped person" as it appears in N.J.S.A. 39:4–204 and this subchapter. The cost of such examination will be borne by the applicant.

4. Upon receipt of an application for renewal, the Director may, in his or her discretion, require the applicant to submit a statement from a physician, podiatrist, or chiropractic physician licensed in New Jersey or a bordering state recertifying qualification for the handicapped person identification vehicle registration plates or placards.

5. Persons with a disability which limits or impairs the ability to walk, as determined by a licensed physician, podiatrist, or chiropractic physician, include those who:

i. Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest;

ii. Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device;

iii. Are restricted by lung disease to such an extent that the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty mm/hg on room air at rest;

iv. Use portable oxygen;

v. Have a cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association;

vi. Are severely limited in their ability to walk because of an arthritic, neurological or orthopedic condition; or

vii. Have a permanent sight impairment of both eyes, as certified by the New Jersey Commission of the Blind.

Amended by R.2001 d.20, effective January 16, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3720(a), 33 N.J.R. 269(a).
Rewrote the section.