

CARS Report to Congress

The CARS program achieved the objectives set out by Congress to increase automotive sales and aid the environment. In just a few short weeks of sales, nearly 680,000 older vehicles were replaced by new, more fuel-efficient vehicles. The nation's economy benefited immediately from this stimulus program, which caused a distinct upward movement in GDP and created or saved tens of thousands of jobs at a very critical time in the recovery process. To read the full report [click here](#).

CASH FOR CLUNKERS PAYOUT NEARLY COMPLETE

With final dealer payments being processed under the enormously successful CARS program, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced that the agency has crossed the finish line for paying back eligible and complete dealer submissions.

"This is the final curtain call for a program that took the entire nation by storm and succeeded beyond expectations," said Secretary LaHood. "There can be no doubt that this program drummed up more business, for more people, in more places, at a time when our economy needed help the most."

To read the full press release [click here](#) (this links to the Sept 25 press release)

Exception Process

On September 23, NHTSA issued an amendment to the CARS rule to add an "exception process." A dealer may apply for an exception if it was prevented from submitting an application for reimbursement prior to the announced deadline (August 25, 8 pm EST) because of problems caused by NHTSA. The agency has identified two such problems: password rejection, where a dealer incorrectly entered its user account password multiple times, was locked out of the system, and was unable to get its password reset; and transaction rejection, where a dealer's application was rejected for a duplicate VIN or customer ID despite the fact that the VIN or ID was never used in a completed CARS transaction. A dealer may also seek an exception for other hardships caused by NHTSA, subject to a determination that they should be redressed consistent with the purposes of the CARS Act.

The exception process is available only to dealers, and only to those dealers that have completed valid CARS deals and extended credits to consumers. It is not available for reasons other than action or inaction by NHTSA, such as technological difficulties in the dealer's own systems or processes. For details about this process, please view the link posted below.

[Exception Process](#)

List of Vehicles Involved in Cars Transactions

The following is a breakdown of the number of new vehicles and trade-in vehicles identified in transactions in the CARS system, by make, model, and model year. The information is current as of September 9, 2009.

Note that this information reflects information submitted, but not necessarily reviewed or approved as qualifying transactions.

- [Download the list of new vehicles](#)
- [Download the list of trade-in vehicles](#)

CARS IS CLOSED TO NEW SUBMISSIONS

The CARS program ended sales on Monday night with nearly 700,000 clunkers taken off the roads, replaced by far more fuel efficient vehicles. Rebate applications worth \$2.877 billion were submitted by the 8 p.m. deadline, under the \$3 billion provided by Congress to run the program.

PLEASE NOTE: THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE HAS NO EFFECT ON CONTINUED PROCESSING OF INVOICES THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE REJECTED FOR ERRORS.

To read the full press release [click here](#)

To see the latest CARS Program Statistics [click here](#)

Getting Transactions Approved

ATTENTION DEALERS: PLEASE USE THE CARS CHECKLIST WHEN INPUTTING YOUR TRANSACTION TO ENSURE A COMPLETE SUBMISSION. [CLICK HERE](#) FOR THE CARS CHECKLIST.

Many of the invoices that dealers have submitted to NHTSA have been rejected due to basic errors.

NHTSA cannot issue reimbursements unless the requirements of the CARS statute and regulation have been met, which includes submission of an appropriate invoice and required attachments. [Click here](#) to view a table that shows some of the leading errors for invoices processed on August 6. These error codes reflect the leading reasons on most days.

[Click here](#) to view the Quick Guide to Updating Rejected and Saved Invoices

Download CARS Webinar

NHTSA held a webinar with dealers on Saturday, August 22, 2009. This webinar walks through the transaction process and addresses many common mistakes and reasons for rejected submissions.

[Click here to view the webinar.](#) (note: this link will take you outside of CARS.gov)