

# Diesel Idling Laws

## What is Idling?

Running an engine when the vehicle is not in motion. This can happen if the vehicle is parked but the engine is on, the vehicle is waiting in a line, or stopped in dead-locked traffic.

## What vehicles are regulated by these idling laws?

Diesel-fueled commercial vehicles weighing more than 10,000 pounds that are operating in California, regardless of where they are registered.

## What are the laws?

1. There is a 5 minute limit on idling in California (except for exemptions)
2. Idling for more than 5 minutes is **prohibited**, including if the driver is sleeping or resting or waiting in lines or trucks with NOx systems, **within 100 feet of residential or school zones.**
3. At schools, drivers of commercial diesel vehicles and **school buses must turn**

## Exceptions!

1. Vehicle is stuck in traffic.
2. When idling is necessary for inspecting or servicing the vehicle.
3. Operating a power take-off device (found in cement mixers, garbage trucks, to move cargo, etc).
4. Cannot move because of bad weather conditions or mechanical failure.
5. Queuing (lining up) must be beyond 100 feet from any residential area.
6. Buses may idle for up to ten minutes when passengers are boarding or onboard.
7. Emergency vehicles, or in the event of emergencies.