



**California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
Division of Measurement Standards (DMS)**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Blends of Gasoline Containing 10.5% to 15% Ethanol (E15)

(Revised 10/25)

Introduction:

Immediately upon the enactment, Assembly Bill 30 (Alvarez and Flora, Chapter 247, Statutes of 2025), added Section 43013.7 to the Health and Safety Code allowing gasoline blends containing 10.5% to 15% ethanol (E15) to be sold in the State of California until certain requirements, as specified, are met by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

The bill contains substantive changes that retail gas station owners should be aware of.

Questions and Answers:

1: What were the previous amounts of ethanol in spark-ignition motor vehicle fuel in California?

California has allowed for the sale of gasoline-oxygenate blends with up to 10% ethanol ([E10](#)) and ethanol fuel blends of [E85](#) as an alternative fuel. These fuels will continue to be sold in California.

2: What is E15?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines [E15](#) as a blend of gasoline that contains greater than 10.5% ethanol and no more than 15% ethanol.

3: Is E15 an ethanol flex fuel?

Yes, as per Federal Trade Commission (FTC) [16 CFR Part 306.0](#), "Ethanol flex fuel means a mixture of gasoline and ethanol containing more than 10% but not greater than 83% ethanol by volume."

4: What vehicles may use E15?

As per the EPA, [E15 may be used in:](#)

- Flexible-fuel vehicles (FFVs);
- Model year 2001 and newer cars;
- Model year 2001 and newer light-duty trucks; and
- Model year 2001 and newer medium-duty passenger vehicles (SUVs).

5: Which vehicles/engines may not use E15?

As per the EPA, [E15 cannot be used in:](#)

- Model year 2000 and older cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty passenger vehicles;
- On-highway and nonroad motorcycles;
- Vehicles with heavy-duty engines, such as school buses, transit buses, and delivery trucks;
- Nonroad vehicles, such as boats and snowmobiles; or
- Engines in nonroad equipment, such as lawnmowers and chain saws.

6: Will E15 be sampled by DMS and/or County Offices of Weights and Measures?

Yes, E15 samples will be delivered to DMS for analysis and testing. These samples will be tested in accordance with requirements published in the latest version of ASTM D4814 "Standard Specification for Automotive Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel."

7: What is the requirement for gasoline volatility for E15 in California?

Gasoline [volatility requirements](#) in the state are established by CARB.

8: Are there any equipment compatibility issues I should be aware of if I choose to sell E15?

Yes, fuel retailers must be aware of the following:

- Contact the manufacturer for dispenser compatibility with this fuel. In California, a retail motor vehicle fuel dispenser must be type approved for use with E15 by either the California Type Evaluation Program (CTEP) or the National Council on Weights and Measures (NCWM), National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP). For more information and to check the status of your dispensers, determine the dispenser manufacturer and model or CTEP/NTEP certificate number, then visit the following website links:

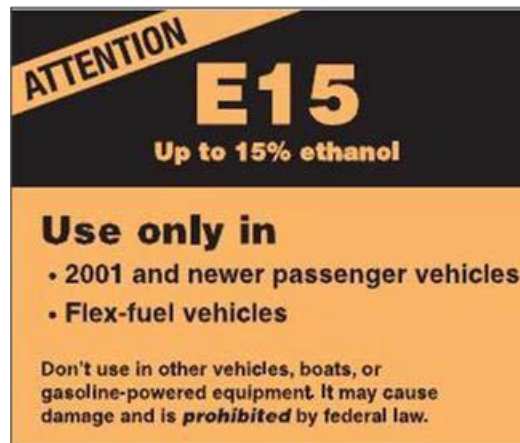
CTEP: <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms/ctep.html>

NTEP: <https://www.ncwm.com/ntep-certificates>

- The storage tank, piping, sealants, gaskets, and other parts/components must be compatible with E15.

9: What are the federal labeling requirements for selling E15?

Retailers offering E15 for sale must label the dispenser in accordance with [EPA 40 CFR 1090.1510](#) and [FTC 16 CFR Part 306.0](#). An example label is depicted below:



10: Does E15 require an octane label?

No, in California, E15 does not require an octane label; however, if a retailer chooses to post an octane label, the product must meet the minimum octane posted. All other labels, signs, price sign advertising, and other requirements required by Chapters 14 and 14.5 of the Business and Professions Code for gasoline oxygenate blends are enforceable at service stations selling E15.

Submit questions regarding DMS requirements to dms@cdfa.ca.gov.

Submit questions regarding CARB requirements to fuels@arb.ca.gov.