**§ 304-a. Certified inspectors.** (a) The commissioner shall issue a certificate to an individual authorizing such person to conduct inspections under this article. No person shall conduct an inspection unless that person is a certified inspector. The commissioner may establish a classified system of certified inspectors.

(b) The fee for filing such an application shall be ten dollars. Such fee shall not be refundable. The annual fee for certification as an inspector shall be five dollars. A certification shall expire on any date determined by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner may, by regulation, establish standards of competency and fitness for certification as an inspector.

* (d) Fees, deposited. Fees assessed under this section shall be paid to the commissioner for deposit to the transportation safety account established pursuant to section ninety-one of the state finance law through March thirty-first, two thousand four and from April first, two thousand four and thereafter shall be deposited to the dedicated highway and bridge trust fund.

* NB Effective until April 1, 2028

* (d) Fees, deposited. Fees assessed under this section shall be paid to the commissioner for deposit to the transportation safety account established pursuant to section ninety-one of the state finance law.

* NB Effective April 1, 2028