



Minnesota Department of Transportation
Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations
Oversize/Overweight Transportation Permit Office
395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 420
St. Paul, MN 55155-1899

www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/oversize/oversize.html

General Conditions for Oversize/Overweight Loads

A copy of the MnDOT permit and its attachments, including these General Conditions, must be carried in the vehicle during transport and made available upon demand to law enforcement or a MnDOT official.

The Permittee must make every reasonable effort to meet the terms and conditions listed on the permit.

A MnDOT permit is not valid if actual loaded weights or dimensions exceed what is indicated on the face of the permit.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) assumes no responsibility for the property, vehicle(s), or load of the permit holder (Permittee).

1. **Electronic Copy.** In lieu of a paper copy, an electronic copy of the permit may reside on a portable electronic device or smartphone as long as it is a complete and legible copy of the issued permit.
2. **Bad Weather and Road Surface Conditions.** Movement is not authorized when weather or road conditions are hazardous due to snow, ice or rain; when visibility is less than ¼ mile; or when winds or wind gusts prevent the permitted vehicle from staying in its travel lane.
 - It is the driver's responsibility to monitor local weather reports or MN511 to determine satisfactory travel conditions.
 - Minnesota road condition information is available at the Web site www.511mn.org
3. **Rear Visibility Required.** Vehicle shall be equipped with a rear view mirror(s) that provides the driver with a view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear of the vehicle.
4. **Right of Way.** If the Permittee is not able to yield the right way to oncoming traffic, or if the vehicle/load will encroach into an oncoming traffic lane, an escort by a licensed Peace Officer in an authorized emergency vehicle is required, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, § 169.20.
5. **Flags/Signs/Lights.**

Flags. Red or orange warning flags are to be displayed when load is more than 3 feet ahead of the front bumper or 4 feet or more beyond the rear of the vehicle; when a vehicle or load exceeds 9 feet in width; or when a vehicle/load exceeds legal vehicle length. Flags must be 18 inches square and in good repair. Flags must be secured at the extreme tips of front and rear overhang, at the widest points and each corner of over width loads and fully visible to traffic. When long loads are transported with a pole dolly or steering dolly, warning flags must be attached to the underside of the load, and spaced no more than 20 feet apart.

Signs. Signs must be legible. Between sunset and sunrise, signs must be lighted or of reflective material. If sign material is flexible, it must be pulled taut and mounted to a flat surface.

Permitted vehicle – when loaded width exceeds 12 feet or when vehicle combination length exceeds 95 feet, "Oversize Load" signs and warning lights must be displayed on the front and rear of the permitted vehicle, with lights at least 20 inches above the ground. Signs must have 10" series C black 1-3/8" letters on a yellow background and measure at least 18" high x 72" long.

Escort vehicle – when civilian or LPA escort vehicles are required the vehicle must display either a "Long Load" or "Wide Load" sign mounted on top of the escort vehicle. These signs must have 8" series C 1-1/8" black lettering on a yellow background and measure at least 12" high x 60" long. Signs cannot extend beyond the fender line on the driver's side or more than six inches beyond the fender line on the passenger side of the vehicle.

Lights. Warning lights are needed whenever signs are required, and must be visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet. Lights may be flashing, strobe, or rotating beacon with rate of 60-90 flashes per minute and with a minimum diameter of 4 inches.

- Single warning light – must be mounted as close to center of sign as practical.

- Dual warning lights - must be mounted as far apart as practical.
6. **Escort.** An escort vehicle may only be a passenger car, van, SUV or pickup truck in proper operating condition. The vehicle's driver must be at least 18 years of age with a current, valid driver's license.
 - Required escort(s) is for each permitted vehicle. Convoying of permitted vehicles to reduce the number of escorts used is not allowed.
 - Whenever a load or vehicle crosses roadway centerline and encroaches into oncoming traffic a lead Peace Officer or an LPA escort is required.
 - An LPA escort can perform traffic control duties when escorting, as defined in Minnesota Statutes § 326.338, but cannot use red lights to control traffic.
 - A civilian escort cannot perform traffic control duties; can only provide early warning.
 7. **Posted Roadway or Bridge.** The movement of empty or loaded vehicles that exceed the posted weight limits shown on road and bridge signs is not authorized.
 - Regardless of route listed on a permit the Permittee must comply with all roadway and bridge restriction postings.
 - Maps can be found at www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/oversize/oversize.html
 8. **Hours of Movement.** Authorized hours of movement are found under "Permit Travel Hours" on our web site. However, a permit may require different travel hours when deemed necessary.
 - 24/7 movement is allowed for loads that are overweight and/or up to 9' wide, 14' high, and 95' long.

Rush hour: restrictions do not apply to loads up to 12'6" wide, 14' high, and 95'L.

 - **Twin Cities Rush Hour Period:** The Twin Cities metro area rush hour restriction periods are 6:00 AM – 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM – 6:00 PM.
The Twin Cities metropolitan area includes all of Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington Counties as well as portions of Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Goodhue, Isanti, Le Sueur, Mille Lacs, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, and Wright counties.
 - **Duluth Rush Hour Period:** The Duluth metro area rush hour restriction periods are 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM.
 - Rush hour restrictions apply to weekdays only. More information is found at our web site under Permit Travel Hours.

Night Move: Between sunset to sunrise,

 - Loads up to 12'6" wide and/or up to 95' long requires either 1) amber LED lights at widest points of load and every 20 ft.; or 2) a lead escort on 2-lane non-divided roadways; rear escort on multi-lane divided roadways.
 - Loads over 12'6" wide up to 14'6" wide, and over 95' long up to 130' long cannot use LED lights in lieu of escorts; require a lead escort on 2-lane non-divided roadways, a rear escort on multi-lane divided roadways.
 - Loads over 14'6" wide and/or 130' long require one lead Peace Officer escort and one rear escort.
 9. **Side Overhang.** Although centered loading is preferred, offset loading is permissible. When offset loading is necessary, the majority of the overhang should be on the right side (shoulder side) of the vehicle as much as practical.
 10. **Hauling Unit.** An empty, over-legal size combination vehicle may be moved under a single trip permit when warranted.
 11. **Vehicle Breakdown.** In the event of a vehicle breakdown, the vehicle(s) must be moved as far off the roadway as practical. Flares or reflective emergency triangles shall be placed around the vehicle as required by law to notify other motorists of a hazard.
 12. **Hauling Unit Requirement.** The Permittee must ensure that the hauling vehicle is adequate to handle the movement safely and meets federal and state vehicle safety requirements.
 13. **Divisible Load.** A load must be reduced to its smallest practical size and/or weight.
 14. **Tire Limit.** Under permit, tire weights cannot exceed 600 pounds per inch of tire width, or the manufacturer's recommended tire load, whichever is less.
 15. **Legal Dimension Limitations.** Legal width is 8'6"; overall legal height is 13'6"; overall legal length is as follows: single motor vehicle is 45 feet; mobile truck crane is 48 feet; semitrailer is 53 feet, with distance from king pin to center of rearmost axle group of 43 feet or less; single trailer, including tow bar is 45 feet; overall combination length is 75 feet.
 16. **Legal Weight Limitations.** Minnesota statutes relating to legal weight limitations are included in the following sections: M.S. §169.822 through 169.824, and §169.87. The specific language of these statutes can be found at www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/

17. **License Plate, Motor Vehicle Registration and Tax Laws.** A MnDOT special hauling permit has no bearing on the vehicle (truck) weight registration. Vehicle registered weight must meet or exceed the gross vehicle weight shown on the MnDOT permit.
18. **Responsibility during Movement.** When MnDOT agrees to allow an alteration of state property, it must be noted on the permit. When a Permittee must alter any portion of a roadway, bridge, signage, or right-of-way during a permit move, the Permittee is responsible for returning the roadway and right-of-way to the same condition, or better, than it was prior to the move. All alteration materials or supplies must be removed from the highway and right-of-way immediately after the move.
19. **Liability for Damage.** The Permittee is responsible for any damage to the highway or its structures resulting from a willful or negligent act by the Permittee, as set forth in Minnesota Statute 169.88. Damages may be recovered through civil action or other remedial action defined by the department. In addition, the Permittee may be responsible for any personal property damage or injuries caused as a result of the Permittee's movement.
20. **Other Jurisdictions.** Authorization for movement over streets and roads other than U.S., State or Interstate highways must be obtained from the local road authority having jurisdiction over the local street or road.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

- S1. No movement is allowed if wind gusts prevents vehicle from staying in its travel lane.
- S2. Flag (lights at night) at widest point(s) of load.
- S3. Flag (lights at night) at end of overhang
- S4. Flag (lights at night) every 20 feet along outside of load/vehicle(s)
- S5. Oversize load sign (reflective material or lighted at night) with amber warning light(s) required.
- S6. Lead escort, with radio communication with hauling truck is required.
- S7. Rear escort, with radio communication with hauling truck is required
- S8. Between sunset and sunrise, OVERSIZE LOAD signs must be lighted or reflective with amber warning lights on each end, visible at least 500 ft. to the front and rear. Amber lights must outline the load every 20 ft. with red lights at the rearmost point. Front escort is required on 2-lane non-divided roads and rear escort is required on multi-lane, divided roads when width exceeds 12'6" and/or when length exceeds 95'0".

~~~~~