Section 05: Oversize/Overweight Permits
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Obtain a Permit: A MnDOT special permit for oversize/overweight transportation is valid for use on Interstate Highways (unless otherwise prohibited by permit type and by associated Minnesota Statutes), US Highways, and MN Trunk Highways. An exception to this is the new MnDOT Road Construction Materials special permit that takes effect January 1, 2018. This permit may only be used for vehicles operated on paved or unpaved streets and highways, other than interstate highways.

MnDOT special permits for oversize/overweight transportation are not valid on local roads unless the local road authority has given specific permission. The permittee is responsible to contact and obtain approval from each local road authority for roads within its jurisdiction (i.e. county, township, municipal).

Submit oversize/overweight permit applications through our online permit system, by e-mail, mail, or in person at MnDOT in St. Paul. Permits may also be obtained through a 3rd-party permit service. Payment must be made before a permit will be issued. Payment can be made by cash, check or credit card. Additional information can be found at www.mndot.gov/cvo/oversize.

MnDOT’s online permitting system allows you to obtain many permits 24/7. You may apply for an Org ID account, which allows you to retain your company and payment profile. By logging in as a guest, you may apply for a permit without obtaining an Org ID account and pay as a one-time payment. Visit our web site for forms, instructions, information, or to establish an Org ID account.
**Required Application Information:** Being prepared with the following information will help speed your application process:

- Org ID account number (if you have one)
- Permittee name, complete mailing address, and email or fax number for permit delivery
- Start date for move
- Load being moved: for equipment, provide make/model; for mobile homes, provide make/serial number; for material, provide dimensions and weight of the load itself.
- Each vehicle’s make, license plate number, VIN, empty weight and length.
- Loaded dimensions, including any front/rear/side overhang.
- If overweight, gross vehicle weight, axle weights, axle spacing, number of tires per axle, and tire size.
- Start and end location and your proposed route. Include specific junction, such as the county name, town name or highway number.

**Registered Weight:** The power unit registration must be equal to or exceed the gross vehicle weight. A MnDOT special permit for oversize/overweight transportation permit does not increase the power unit’s registered vehicle weight. To increase the vehicle’s registered weight, contact the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, IRP/IFTA Office at 651-205-4141.

**Annual Permit Weights:** Axle weights, axle group weights, and GVW must conform to the table of axle weight limits as defined in Minn. Stat. § 169.824.

**Travel Hours:** Visit our web site for a copy of permit Minnesota General Provisions for Oversize/Overweight Permitted Loads.

**Permittee Responsibility:** The permit does not release the permittee from complying with any restrictions posted on a bridge, structures or roadways along the permitted route. The permittee is expected to repair at their expense any damage to the highway or its structures resulting from their action.

**Flags:** Eighteen inch (18”) square red or orange warning flags must be properly displayed when the load or vehicle exceeds 9’0” wide or 75’0” long.
**Oversize Load Signs:** Oversize load signs with flashing amber light(s) and reflective letters visible from a distance of 500’ must be displayed when the load or vehicle exceeds 12’6” wide or 95’0” long.

**Escort:** When escorts are required the escort vehicle must display “Wide Load” or “Long Load” signs along with amber warning lights visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet. An escort vehicle may be a passenger car, van, SUV, or pickup truck in safe and proper operating condition. The escort vehicle cannot tow another vehicle while escorting. Radio communication between the permitted vehicle and escort vehicle is required. An escort driver must be at least 18 years of age and possess a valid driver’s license. The escort driver cannot perform any other function when conducting escorting duties (i.e. cannot act as a tillerman for a rear steer trailer).

Escort pilot cars drivers must be trained and certified by the MN State Patrol, or possess a valid certification from another state that MN has reciprocity with. For more information, visit [https://www.hennepintech.edu/workforce-education/programs-workforce-education/pilot-escort-driver-training.html](https://www.hennepintech.edu/workforce-education/programs-workforce-education/pilot-escort-driver-training.html)

**Pre-trip Route Survey:** When loaded or unloaded vehicles that exceed 16’0” high or 20’0” wide (and in some cases, excessive length), MnDOT will require the permittee to certify they performed a physical pre-trip route survey of the complete proposed route within 14 days of the move to identify any obstructions. For additional information about pre-trip route surveys, go to [www.mndot.gov/cvo/oversize/pretriproutesurvey.html](http://www.mndot.gov/cvo/oversize/pretriproutesurvey.html).

**Road Condition Information:** Check MnDOT’s 511 for up-to-date information on road conditions and highway projects affecting permitted loads. Visit [www.511mn.org](http://www.511mn.org) or dial 511 on your telephone.

**Truckers Page:** From the MnDOT 511 website you can link to our Trucker’s Page, an enhanced 511 feature that gives additional information specific to truckers. The Truckers Page is not all-inclusive regarding permitted load requirements.

For information on Spring Load Restrictions and Winter Weight increase, visit [http://dotapp7.dot.state.mn.us/research/seasonal_load_limits/sllindex.asp](http://dotapp7.dot.state.mn.us/research/seasonal_load_limits/sllindex.asp).
Contact Information

Minnesota Department of Transportation
Office of Freight & Commercial Vehicle Operations
Oversize/Overweight Permit Section
395 John Ireland Blvd, MS 420
St. Paul, MN 55155
Fax: 651-215-9677
Email: ofcvopermits.dot@state.mn.us
Web: www.mndot.gov/cvo/oversize

General Information (all other OS/OW transportation-related calls)
8:30 am - 3:00 pm, Monday-Friday
651-296-6000, option #2

Trip Logging Assistance (route approval)
6:30 am - 4:00 pm, Monday-Friday
651-296-6000, option #1