



## Section 05: Oversize/Overweight Permits

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### Oversize/Overweight Permits

**Obtain a Permit:** Minnesota oversize/overweight transportation permits are valid for use on Interstate Highways (unless otherwise prohibited law), US Highways, and MN State Highways.

Minnesota oversize/overweight permits are not valid on county, township, or municipal roads. It is the permittee's responsibility to contact, and obtain approval from, each local road authority for roads within its jurisdiction (i.e. county, township, municipal).

Submit Minnesota oversize/overweight permit applications using MnDOT's online permit system at [osowpermits.dot.state.mn.us/rbnet](https://osowpermits.dot.state.mn.us/rbnet). Payment must be made before a permit will be issued. Payment can be made using Visa, MC, American Express, and Discover. Permit application submitted by email or US mail may experience delays; cash or check is accepted. For additional information, please visit [mndot.gov/cvo/oversize](https://mndot.gov/cvo/oversize).

The oversize/overweight online permitting system is accessible 24/7 to submit applications; and to obtain pre-trip route approvals for moves made under an annual permit. You may apply for an Org ID account, which allows you to maintain your company and payment profile. Account holders have 24/7 access to permit status updates and account management. Alternatively, 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. For forms, instructions, information, or to establish an Org ID account, please visit [mndot.gov/cvo/oversize](https://mndot.gov/cvo/oversize).

**Required Application Information:** Being prepared with the following information will help speed your application process:

- **Permittee:** start date, permitted name, USDOT#, mailing address, phone and permit delivery method.
- **Vehicles:** load description, make/serial number, or bill of lading #, or dimensions of the load itself, and weight of the load. Vehicle make, license, and VIN, license plate number, number of axles per unit, empty weight and equipment width/length.
- **Size/Weight:** overall loaded dimensions including any front/rear/side overhang. Over-length requires axle spacing information; Overweight requires axle weight, axle width, axle spacing, and number of tires per axle and tire size.
- **Route:** Minnesota origin/destination or proposed route. Use specific junctions/proximity offsets, town name, highway numbers or points of interest.

**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 [mndot.gov/cvo/oversize](http://mndot.gov/cvo/oversize) 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.

**Pilot Cars and Escort:** Minnesota requires drivers of pilot cars and escort vehicles to hold a current Minnesota Certification. Minnesota will also allow Out-of-state pilot/escort drivers and drivers domiciled in Minnesota who currently hold Colorado, Florida, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Utah, and/or Washington certification that is current.

A pilot/escort vehicle must display an “OVERSIZE LOAD” sign mounted on the top of the vehicle. This sign must be displayed so that it is visible to both overtaking and oncoming traffic at all times during the pilot/escort operation. The sign must be clearly readable and legible at all times of operation.

Bumper-mounted signs only are prohibited on the pilot/escort vehicle. The sign must be a rigid mount and (1) be a minimum of five feet in width, (2) have ten inches of vertical visible surface space, and (3) display black letters that are eight inches in height and have a one-inch brush stroke on a solid yellow surface. Solid is defined as when being viewed from the front or rear at a 90-degree angle to the sign, no light can transmit through the solid surface. Red/orange 18-inch flags must be mounted in line with the “Oversize Load” sign and mounted at approximately a 45-degree angle toward the sides of the pilot/escort vehicle. Signs and flags must be removed or covered when pilot/escorts are not providing services. If a route survey is being performed by the pilot/escort, the “Oversize Load” sign must be removed or covered.

Route surveys may not be performed while escorting an over-dimensional load. A sign, light, or flag may not extend more than six inches beyond the widest part of the body of the pilot/escort vehicle. The escort driver cannot perform other function when conducting escorting duties (i.e. cannot act as the tillerperson to steer/navigate a rear steer trailer system).

For more information regarding pilot vehicle escort for overdimensional/oversize loads, please visit [www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/7455](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/7455).

For more information on how to obtain certification, visit [www.hennepintech.edu/workforce-education/programs-workforce-education/pilot-escort-driver-training.html](http://www.hennepintech.edu/workforce-education/programs-workforce-education/pilot-escort-driver-training.html).

**Route Survey:** Mandatory for 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 state highway information affecting permitted loads. It is the hauler's responsibility to check 511 the day of, and prior to the actual move. 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.

### **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

Phone: 651-296-6000

Fax: 651-215-9677

Email: [ofcvpermits.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:ofcvpermits.dot@state.mn.us)

[www.mndot.gov/cvo/oversize](http://www.mndot.gov/cvo/oversize)

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