



Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
 Central Permit Office  
 P. O. Box 2671  
 400 North St, 6th Floor  
 Keystone Building  
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

PHONE: (717) 787-4680 See district listing

HOURS: 8:00AM-4:30PM EASTERN TIME

Legal Limits	DESIGNATED HIGHWAYS	ALL OTHER ROADS
Weight:		
Steering axle*	20,000	20,000
Single	22,400	22,400
	If GVW is 73,280 or less	If GVW is 73,280 or less
	20,000	20,000
	If GVW is more than 73,280	If GVW is more than 73,280
Tandem	36,000	36,000
	If GVW is 73,280 or less	If GVW is 73,280 or less
	34,000	34,000
	If GVW is more than 73,280	If GVW is more than 73,280
Tridum	42,500	42,500
	If GVW is more than 73,280	If GVW is more than 73,280
Gross weight	80,000	80,000
	<i>Federal Bridge Formula applies above 73,280 lbs.</i>	
Width:	8'6"	8'
		8' 6" non-divisible loads on highways having a lane width of 10' or more
Height:	13'6"	13'6"
Length:		
Single unit, buses	40'	40'
Semi-trailer	53 (kingpin to center line of the rear axle or rear axle group must not exceed 41')	Same as designated highways
Twins/doubles	28'6"	Not allowed
Autotransporters	65'	65'
Stinger steered	75'	75'
Rocky mtn. doubles	Not allowed	Not allowed
Turnpike doubles	Not allowed	Not allowed
Triples	Not allowed	Not allowed
Saddlemounts	75' - 3 units	75' - 3 units

\* Rarely does the state allow this much weight on the steer axle. It depends on routes and axle configurations. Regardless, any steer request of over 20,000 lbs will require weight supplemental Form M-936AS

**TOLERANCE**

Tolerance of 3% will be subtracted from indicated axle weights weighed on stationary scale on an interstate roadway. The operator will be allowed 4 hours to rearrange the load so that all wheels and axle weights do not exceed allowed weights plus 3% tolerance as long as the vehicle does not exceed legal gross weight. If the operator can make the load adjustment, no citation will be issued for the overweight violation.

**TIRE WIDTH**

800 lbs. maximum pounds per nominal inch of tire width.

**ACCESS**

Travel is permitted off the network up to one mile for access to nearest terminals or facilities for food, fuel, rest or repair if the access road has lanes at least 10' wide. Must be indicated on the permit.

Single-trailer household goods carriers and single twin trailers may also travel between the designated network and a point of loading or unloading which can safely and reasonably be accessed.

**OVERHANG**

Saddlemounts have 3' front and 4' rear overhang. Six foot rear overhang may be exceeded for combinations carrying non-divisible loads not exceeding 70' in length.

**EXEMPTIONS**

Any farm truck titled in Pennsylvania and used exclusively on a farm or farms owned or operated by the owner of the vehicle is exempt from registration. Non-durable loads, not exceeding 70' long and all other dimensions and weight legal.

**Permit Limits****ROUTINE ISSUE**

## Weight:

Single	27,000
Tandem*	52,000
Tridum*	63,000
Quad*	72,000

## Gross Weight\*:

5 Axles	116,000 - 120,000
6 Axles	127,000 - 147,000
7 Axles	136,000 - 174,000
8 Axles	136,000 - 201,000

Over 201,000 is considered a super load.

\*Weight range authorized subject to bridge engineering analysis. Any overall weight over 136,000 will require weight supplemental Form M-936AS

## Length:

The maximum is generally 120' except on 4-lane highways where 160' long will be permitted. More than 160' long is considered a super load.

## Width:

16'

## Height:

14'6" (*Over this requires a Route Survey on PA FORM M-936ARS*)

If load exceeds any of these dimensions or weights, refer to the section on Super Loads.

**PERMITS VALID FOR**

Single trip permits are valid for five (5) travel days. If travel days include a weekend, additional day(s) are added.

**ACCEPTABLE PERMIT FORMAT**

The driver shall carry the permit and a copy of Form M-938 in the permitted vehicle and shall have these documents available for inspection by a police officer or representative of the Department.

**EXTENSIONS/REVISIONS**

Written extensions will be granted if the permit has not expired (3 day extension). Supplements will not be issued to change weights, dimensions, or load description.

**OPERATING TIME**

Sunrise to sunset. Urbanized areas travel restrictions shown on form M-938.  
Travel allowed 24 hours a day, seven days a week if load does not exceed 10' wide or 135,000 lbs.  
Vehicles must be able to travel at prevailing speeds and may not travel during inclement weather, a holiday period, or if indicated on the permit.

**WEEKEND TRAVEL**

Sunrise to sunset Saturday & Sunday.  
Travel allowed 24 hours a day, seven days a week if load does not exceed 10' wide or 135,000 lbs.  
Vehicles must be able to travel at prevailing speeds and may not travel during inclement weather, a holiday period, or if indicated on the permit.

**LIFT AXLES**

Must be utilized at all times, except when necessary for turning, unless one of the other axles would be overweight without the use of the lift axle and whenever the truck is operating under normal loading conditions. Loads to 2/3 capacity.

**DIVISIBLE LOADS**

A permit will not be issued for a vehicle or combination of vehicles and load, which can be reasonably dismantled, reduced, disassembled or rearranged so as not to exceed the legal size or weight limits. Even if a vehicle or load cannot be brought within legal limits, it shall be dismantled, reduced, disassembled or rearranged as much as practical.

**EXCEPTIONS**

Removable parts must be removed if any axle weight requires bridge engineering analysis. In lieu of removing parts, additional axles/dollies may be used to reduce all axles below bridge analysis thresholds. A dozer with an attached blade in excess of 12' in width, but no wider than 15', may be hauled on a highway if a traffic protection guide rail device is securely fastened to the dozer and if no axle weight exceeds bridge analysis thresholds (i.e. 26,000 lbs. tandem, 21,000 lbs. tridum, 18,000 lbs. quad).

**SELF-PROPELLED EQUIPMENT**

Maximum axle weight under permit: 27,000-50,000 lbs. subject to bridge engineer analysis. When axle weights exceed 27,000 lbs. a completed supplemental application must be submitted. Rules contained on form M-938 must be followed. Form M-938 must be carried by driver along with permit.

**SEALED CONTAINERS/ INTERMODAL**

Sealed, seagoing, international containerized cargo may operate under an annual permit up to 90,000 lbs. gross weight and up to 21,000 lbs. on non-steering axles.

Fees are:

\$211 (1-15 Permits)  
\$317 (16-50 Permits)  
\$527 (51-100 Permits)  
\$740 (101-150 Permits)  
\$845 (151 - 200 Permits)

**MANUFACTURED HOMES/MOBILE HOMES**

A mobile home, modular housing unit or modular housing undercarriage may not exceed 80' long, 16' wide and 14'6" high. The fee is \$53 if under 14' wide, If over 14' wide, the fee is \$103. A \$1.00 form fee added to each permit.

The towing hitch mechanism of a modular housing undercarriage or mobile home shall be equipped with two anti-sway devices whenever the total width exceeds 13', unless operating on a highway section having a posted speed below 40 miles per hour. A modular housing undercarriage or mobile home which has at least four tandem axles with brakes on each wheel may operate on any highway without anti-sway devices.

The gross weight of the combination may not exceed the towing vehicle's registered gross combination weight or gross combination weight rating.

A mobile home or modular housing unit with a body width of 14' may exceed by no more than 6" total overhang at the roof eaves. A mobile home or modular housing unit may not exceed 16' in total width including any roof eaves or other overhang.

A mobile home or modular housing unit which is greater than 16' wide or greater than 14'6" high may be authorized to operate upon the highway only for purposes of returning to the manufacturer or other location determined by the Department.

**Types of Permits****Single Trip Permit**

The permit shall be valid only for a single trip in one direction between the two points designated. A single trip permit shall expire after five (5) authorized weekdays have lapsed as specified on the permit. The permit shall not authorize a return trip unless requested and specifically indicated on the permit.

The cost is \$46 if under 14' wide, If over 14' wide, the fee is \$97. A \$1.00 form fee added to each permit. In addition, an overweight vehicle is charged \$.04 cents per ton mile for all weight in excess of the motor vehicle's registered gross weight. Special Mobile Equipment are charged \$.04 cents per ton mile for all weight.

**Annual Permits**

Annual permits may be issued for certain movements within limited geographical areas. Numerous conditions apply.

**Special Mobile Equipment Permit - Overweight Axles Only - \$408**

May be issued to any vehicle registered as special mobile equipment. This permit will authorize special mobile equipment to operate with an individual axle weight up to 21,400 lbs.

Philadelphia Single Trip - \$85.00. Impounded vehicles are charged \$170.00

Philadelphia Super Load - \$170.00. Impounded vehicles are charged \$340.00

**INFORMATION NEEDED TO ORDER A PERMIT**

Carrier name, FEIN or account number, load description, serial number or shippers bill of lading number, overall dimensions, gross weight, axle weights, axle spacing's, number of axles, tractor and trailer information, number of miles to be travelled, specific origin and destination. Routes Form M-936A is required from all applicants. Form M-936AS is also required if any weight exceeds bridge analysis thresholds. Form M-938 must be carried by driver.

**Escorts**

All escorts must have insurance in the amount of one million dollars. The state must show as additional insured.

**When Escorts Are Needed:****#Escorts***On All Lane Highways:*

- Width over 13' 1 (Rear if multi-lane hwy., front if 2-lane hwy.)
- Width over 16' Police Escort
- Length over 90' 1 Rear
- Length over 160' Police Escort
- Rear overhang over 15' 1 Rear
- Height over 14'6" (w/high pole) 1 Front  
-Public utilities shall be notified by permittee at least 1 day prior to move to arrange relocation of affected wires
- Overweight greater than 201,000 lbs. Police Escort
- Overweight if permit requires load to travel at reduced speeds over bridges 1 Rear
- Overweight if permit requires load must be only vehicle on a bridge or to occupy more than 1 lane to cross on 2-directional bridge 2 (Front & Rear)  
If bridge supports only 1 lane of traffic 1 Rear

*Urban Areas:*

- Oversize load allowed to run 3:00 a.m. to sunrise 2 (Front & Rear)
- Permitted load not able to run 40 mph on limited access hwys. allowed only between 9am - 4pm 1 Rear

*Non-Urbanized Areas:*

- Permitted load not able to maintain 40 mph on limited access highways 1 Rear

*Police Escort:*

- 24 hour advance notice is required for police escort
- Cost of police usually \$2.00/mile + \$50.00 setup fee + overtime
- Police escort may be required during the period while any provision of the act is being contravened (broken)
- Also may be required if conditions warrant them
- Escorting by Dept. Personnel may be required if conditions warrant

**Pittsburg City Limits-Non Interstate:**

- 24 hour advance notice is required. Call (412) 255-2597
- Local Police escort required if load exceeds 12'6" wide or 14' high. Call (412) 200-5200

**Convoys** - A permitted vehicle may not travel within 1,000 feet of another permitted oversized vehicle traveling in the same direction, unless the vehicle is one of the following:

1. A military vehicle
2. A vehicle traveling through a construction zone
3. A vehicle traveling within 2,500 feet of a stop sign, traffic light or any other traffic-control signal or event that would cause either vehicle to come to a stop.

**VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS**

Escort vehicle must be equipped with one or two flashing or revolving amber lights that shall be continuously operated during movement. Must maintain visual and two-way radio contact. A sign is required to be mounted on the front of the escort car when it precedes the load, and on the rear when it follows the load.

**Signs & Flags****SIGNS**

Signs must be clean yellow at least 7' wide by 18" high, containing the words "OVERSIZE LOAD" in black letters, 10" high. Signs shall be mounted on the front of the permitted vehicle and on the rear of the vehicle or load. Signs are required on all oversize moves.

**FLAGS**

Flags required on all points of excessive size, (width, length and height), shall be marked with clean, plain red or fluorescent orange flags, not less than 18" square.

**Insurance**

The permittee shall pay any claim for personal injury or property damage arising out of his operation under the permit for which he shall be determined to be legally responsible and shall fully indemnify, defend, if requested, and save harmless, the Commonwealth.

The permittee shall repair at his own expense, and to the satisfaction of the department, any overt damage to highways or structures which occur in connection with operation under the permit.

Minimum coverage for motor carriers and escort vehicles is \$1,000,000 combined single limits. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania must be added as an additional insured for property damage and personal injury.

Required policy information in all cases.

- Must be per occurrence
- Must be at least \$250,000 per person
- Must be at least \$1 million per occurrence
- Must be at least \$1 million property damage
- Must have the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania listed as additional insured.

**Weigh Stations**

I-80 Clarion between exits 7 & 8, EB, M.M. 56

**Restricted Travel**

Permission must be obtained from local authorities for the use of local roads and streets. Movement will be restricted during unfavorable weather or road conditions (snow, ice, driving rain,

fog) or other atmospheric conditions which restrict visibility to less than 1,000', or winds sufficient to cause the wheels of the semi to deflect more than 6".

Movement under permit in urbanized areas is authorized 7 days a week only during the following time periods: 3 A.M. - 7:30 A.M., 9 A.M. - 4 P.M., and 7 P.M. to sunset. Movement is restricted to the hours of 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. through Fort Pitt, Squirrel Hills and Liberty tunnels in Allegheny County.

Oversize movements are not authorized to travel along traffic Route 209 in Monroe and Pike Counties between I-80 and the PA-NY boundary line except for deliveries within these two counties, authorized by the National Park Service (Delaware Water Gap). 717-588-6344.

The permitted vehicle shall not allow traffic to build up to the rear in excess of six vehicles.

**WATERCRAFT CALL BEFORE YOUR HAUL:** If moving watercraft destined for Washington, Oregon, Idaho, or Montana, the carrier shall contact The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) to make arrangements to have your watercraft inspected and if need be, decontaminated. This program aims to prevent aquatic invasive species spread. Toll-free number 1-844-311-4873 prior to hauling.  
<https://www.westernais.org/callbeforeyouhaul>

**PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE** (hours 8:30am-4:30pm) 717-939-9551

The legal dimensions for vehicles using the turnpike are as follows:

Width:	10'
Height:	13'6"
Length:	85'
Overhang:	5' front 15' rear
Weight:	100,000 lbs.
Axle Weight:	22,400 lbs.

To exceed these dimensions a permit must be obtained from the Turnpike Authority. 717-939-9551 Maximum width permitted is 11'6" except between interchanges 37/115 and 39/131 width is 14' and weight is 125,000 lbs. GVW. On Turnpikes 43, 60 and 66 the maximum width is 15'. Loads larger than this may be approved pending engineering review. Escort vehicles are required in addition to the permit when the total vehicle length is over 90', total vehicle width over 11', total vehicle width over 11'6" between interchanges 37 and 39, total vehicle width over 11'6" on Turnpikes 43, 60 and 66, bumper overhang of 5' front or 15' rear or at the discretion of the Turnpike Commission due to safety concerns. Escorts must have a flashing beacon light on the roof of the vehicle. A State Police escort is required if the total vehicle length is over 160'(escort by Pennsylvania State Police Troop T). Oversize load signs are required on all overwidth and overheight vehicles.

Turnpike time of day travel restrictions:

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, all overdimensional movements must travel between dawn and dusk Monday to Thursday, and between dawn and noon on Friday.

From Labor Day to Memorial Day, all overdimensional movements must travel between dawn and dusk Monday to Friday, and between dawn and noon on Saturday.

Vehicles between 8'6" wide and 10' wide do not require a permit but must follow the time of day restrictions.

Drivers going into or coming out of the following ports will be required to have a Transportation Workers Identification Card (TWIC) issued by the Transportation Safety Administration:

Chester, Marcus Hook, Pennsbury Manor, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh

**SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS**

As posted on highways in advance of restricted highway sections.

**Holidays**

Travel is prohibited on the following holidays:

New Year's Day  
Memorial Day  
Christmas Day

Independence Day  
Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day  
Day after Thanksgiving

No travel allowed on the day preceding the above mentioned holidays.

The State Permit Office will be closed on the above mentioned holidays as well as Martin Luther King Day, Washington's Birthday, Juneteenth Day, Columbus Day, and Veteran's Day, but travel will not be restricted on these additional days with exception of Super Loads.

**Fines**

The permit shall be subject to confiscation by the violation of any condition specified therein. The permit shall be automatically invalidated by the giving of false information on the permit application.

Two permit violations within a six month period constitutes grounds for revocation of the privilege of using single trip special hauling book permits.

**Weight Violations:**

\$100 for first 200 lbs. or portion thereof in excess of maximum wheel weight.

\$100 for first 2,000 lbs. and \$100 for each 500 lbs. or portion thereof for axle weight violations.

\$75 for first 3,000 lbs. for exceeding registered, plus \$75 for each additional 500 lbs. However if a single vehicle exceeds 73,280 lbs., or a combination exceeds 80,000 lbs., the fine is doubled.

\$150 for the first 3,000 lbs. and \$150 for each 500 lbs. or portion thereof for violations in excess of the posted bridge limits.

**Super Loads**

Vehicles or loads exceeding 160' long, 16' wide and/or 201,000 lbs. must submit to the Central Permit Office a preliminary application including justification three weeks in advance of movement. Loads over 14'6" requires a Route Survey on **PA FORM M-936ARS**. Cost for application is \$68 plus \$12 for each district traveling through. Additional costs are \$46 if under 14' wide, If over 14' wide, the fee is \$97. A \$1.00 form fee added to each permit. Additional fees could occur.

Applicant must furnish additional justification as to why sizes and weights cannot be reduced. A letter must be included from the manufacturer and may be required from either the rail or barge company depending on origin or destination.

Must supply written permission from cities which the proposed movement will pass.

Application for permit and police escort must be submitted 48 hours in advance of anticipated move date.

**TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT DISTRICT OFFICES**

District 1-0  
225 Elm Street  
Box 398  
Oil City, PA 16301  
(814) 678-7038

District 4-0  
55 Keystone Industrial Park  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
(570) 963-4067

District 5-0  
1002 Hamilton Blvd  
Allentown, PA 18101  
(610) 871-4167

District 8-0  
2140 Herr Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17103  
(717) 787-5918

District 11-0  
45 Thomas Run Rd  
Bridgeville, PA  
15017  
(412) 429-4806

District 2-0  
70 PennDOT Dr.  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
(814) 765-0513

District 6-0  
7000 Gecedes Blvd  
King of Prussia, PA 19406  
(610) 205-6787

District 9-0  
1620 N. Juniata Street  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
(814) 696-7261

District 12-0  
P.O. Box 459  
N. Gallatin Avenue Ext.  
Uniontown, PA 15401  
(724) 439-7344

District 3-0  
715 Jordan Avenue  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
(570) 368-4276

District 10-0  
2550 Oakland Avenue  
Box 429  
Indiana, PA 15701  
(724) 357-2832

**For more information please contact:**

**Comdata**

**(800) 749-7174**

**To obtain and order permits from Comdata please call:**

**(800) 749-7166**