



South Carolina
Department of Transportation
P.O. Drawer 191
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

PHONE: (803) 737-6769
(877) 349-7190
HOURS: 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
EASTERN TIME

Legal Limits	DESIGNATED HIGHWAYS	ALL OTHER ROADS
Weight:		
Single	20,000	22,000
Tandem	34,000	36,000
Tridum	35,200	36,000
Gross weight	80,000	80,600
	<i>Federal Bridge Formula applies.</i>	
Width:	8'6"	8'6"
Height:	13'6"	13'6"
Length:		
Single unit, buses	40'	40'
Semi-trailer*	53'	53'
Twins/doubles	28'6"	Not allowed
Auto/boat transporters	75'	75'
Rocky mtn. doubles	Not allowed	Not allowed
Turnpike doubles	Not allowed	Not allowed
Triples	Not allowed	Not allowed
Saddlemounts	75'	75'
*53' Trailers must be equipped with a rear under-ride guard. The distance between the kingpin and the center of the rear axle assembly or to the center of the tandem axle assembly if equipped with two axles must be no greater than 41'.		
TOLERANCE	10% of true gross weight. Does not apply to vehicles exceeding 75,185 lbs.	
TIRE WIDTH	Not applicable.	
ACCESS	5 miles from designated system.	
OVERHANG	3' front and 6' rear overhang, Saddlemount: 3' front, 4' rear overhang. 3' front on trailers.	

EXEMPTIONS

Gross weight upon any wheel shall not exceed 8,000 lbs. on high pressured pneumatic tires. Gross weight shall not exceed 10,000 lbs. on low pressured pneumatic tires.

Fire apparatus, road machinery or implements, and products of husbandry, including farm tractors, timber equipment, liquid fertilizer storage facilities and vehicles or combinations of vehicles used to transport, store or spread lime, nitrogen or other soil improvement products for agricultural purposes. These vehicles cannot exceed 12' wide and 90,000 lbs. Products of husbandry are exempt up to 16' w. They must be moved only in clear weather conditions during daylight hours.

A permit is not required for structural material, a pole, log, pipe under 80' when transported on a stretch trailer

Permit Limits	ROUTINE ISSUE
Weight:	
Single	20,000
Tandem	40,000
Tridum	60,000
Quad	80,000
Gross weight:	<i>Additional weight may be requested/granted but ONLY after Bridge Department review.</i>
5 Axles	90,000
6 Axles	110,000
7 Axles	130,000
Length:	125' loads on pole trailers. 100' mobile homes. 15' rear overhang w/escort on trailers less than 48'. 40' on 2 axle trucks. 45' on 3 axle trucks.
Width:	16'
Height:	Must be at least 6" less than any overhead structure on route.
Overhang:	15' rear overhang & 3' front overhang on a trailer 53' or less. Trailers longer than 53' are allowed to have 1/3 of the load overhang the rear of the trailer.

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

SASHTO: 100' long, 14' high, 14' wide, 120,000 lbs.

PERMITS VALID FOR

Single trip permits are valid for seven (7) consecutive days.

ACCEPTABLE PERMIT FORMAT

Must have paper permit and permit must be signed.

EXTENSIONS/REVISIONS

Are granted at the Department's discretion because of weather, road conditions or other circumstances which are beyond the control of the vehicle operator.

Must be in writing and only one thing can change on the permit. A new permit must be obtained after one week.

OPERATING TIME

Sunrise to sunset Monday through Sunday.

WEEKEND TRAVEL

Sunrise to sunset Monday through Sunday.

LIFT AXLES

Considered legal as long as it is a full weight bearing axle.

DIVISIBLE LOADS

The load must be reduced to the least possible dimension and/or weight. A load shall be so transported by a vehicle so that the least width or length dimension becomes the width of the load.

EXCEPTIONS

The hydraulic boom and bucket permanently attached to a vehicle used in the maintenance and construction of electric service lines shall not be considered as a load provided that they shall not extend more than 8' beyond the foremost part of the vehicle with legal weight and dimensions.

Forestry equipment or road machinery are exempt from the laws and promulgated rules and regulations governing size and weight except when it exceeds 12' wide or 90,000 lbs. gross weight.

SELF-PROPELLED EQUIPMENT

The limitations as to length of vehicle and load shall not apply to any load upon a self-propelled pole carrier when transporting poles, logs or pipe; nor structural material which cannot be dismantled, provided that no pole, log, pipe or other material exceeding 80' in length shall be transported unless a permit has first been obtained.

INTERMODAL

Maximum gross weight for which a permit will be issued is 100,000 lbs. on 5 or more axles (40,000 lbs. per tandem 55,000 tridem). The permit must also be accompanied by the International Bill of Lading or the permit will not be honored. Minimum trailer length is 40 feet.

MANUFACTURED HOUSING/MOBILE HOMES

The trailer of the mobile home shall be equipped with satisfactory brakes. No person shall drive a vehicle which is towing a mobile home at a speed in excess of 45 m.p.h. The driver shall remove the mobile home from the traveled way to allow any closely following traffic to pass and proceed.

The towing vehicle of a mobile home 10' wide or less shall be a 3/4 ton or larger truck or tractor with dual rear wheels. The towing vehicle for a mobile home 12' wide shall be a 1-1/2 ton or larger with dual rear wheels. The towing vehicle for a home over 12' wide and up to 15' wide shall be a 2-1/2 ton truck or tractor with dual rear wheels.

The mobile home shall not exceed 80' in length as measured from the center of the ball cup on the trailer hitch to the extreme end of the mobile home. The permittee shall provide signs, front and rear, red flags displayed at each outer four corners of the home. A front escort must be present on all mobile homes which exceed 12' in width up to and including 14' width on 2-lane highways.

Types of Permits

•Single Trip Permit \$30.00			
Excessive Width over 16'	\$35.00	Excessive Width over 20'	\$45.00
Excessive Width over 18'	\$40.00	Excessive Width over 22'	\$50.00
Road Machinery	\$10.00		
•Multiple Trip permit (Annual)	\$100.00	Annual Permit Transfer Fee for out-of-state	
•House Moving License (Annual)	\$100.00	trucks being replaced	\$10.00
•Superload App. Fee (non-refund)	\$100.00		
	(applied to superload fee when issued)		
Superload Engineering analysis over 130,000 lbs	\$100.00		
Superload Engineering analysis over 200,000 lbs.	\$200.00		
Superload Engineering analysis over 300,000 lbs.	\$350.00		
•Superload Impact Fee for all over 130,000lbs - \$3.00/1,000lbs			
•Additional Mega Impact Fee for all over 500,000lbs - \$.05/1,000lbs/mile			

Multi Trip Permit

A truck-specific, multiple trip permit shall be issued for the movement of a non-divisible load, mobile home or containerized cargo. The default allowances are as follows:

- 1) Non-divisible loads: up to 14 wide, 13'6 high and 90,000 lbs gross weight on 5 or more axles (not to exceed 40,000 lbs. per tandem).
- 2) Mobile Homes: up to 14 wide, 13'6 high and legal weight.
- 3) Containerized Cargo: up to 8'6 wide, 13'6 high and 90,000 on 5 or more axles (not to exceed 40,000 lbs. per tandem).

- A Multiple Trip Permit is valid for one (1) year from the date of issuance.
- Multiple Trip Permits may travel all US, SC and Interstate routes (unless posted for load) with the maximum dimensions defined above. Travel on secondary routes is prohibited; an additional route specific permit must be obtained from the permit office when traveling on secondary roads.
- Multiple Trip Permits for Non-Divisible loads and Mobile Homes can obtain a route specific permit for loads up to a maximum height of 15 feet and up to 130,000 lbs. gross weight.

INFORMATION NEEDED TO ORDER A PERMIT

Name and address of applicant, US DOT # load description, vehicle description (tractor unit, license, trailer license, complete VIN #), trailer length, overall dimensions, actual gross weight, total axles, axles weights and spacings, front and rear overhang, origin and destination routes.

Escorts

<u>When Escorts Are Needed:</u>	<u>#Escorts</u>
<u>On 2-Lane Highways:</u> • <u>Width</u> over 12' up to 14'	1 Front
<u>On All Highways:</u> • <u>Width</u> over 14' to 16' • <u>Width</u> over 16' (requires approval of co. resident engineers and then state oversize permit department) • <u>Rear Overhang</u> of 15' on a less than 48' trailer; 10' on 48' & 53' trailers • Permittee is responsible for vertical clearances • No specific escort needs given for height and length	2 (Front & Rear) 2 (1 Front & 1 Rear) & 2 police Rear escort and flags (or an amber light - see truck signs and lights section)

VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

Escorts are required to have a "Wide Load" sign, a rotating amber beacon displayed on top of the vehicle and radio contact between the escort and towing vehicle at all times. Turn signals and brake lights must be in working order and must be displayed.

Signs, Flags, Lights**SIGNS**

Signs should display "Wide Load" or "Oversize Load" with black letters 10" high and 7' wide on yellow background. Signs are to be displayed on the front and rear of the load on loads over 12' wide.

FLAGS

All warning flags shall be red or orange and at least 18" square and placed at all four corners.

LIGHTS

A rear rotating amber beacon or strobe light is required on vehicles greater than 12' wide. A rotating amber beacon or strobe light is required on each outer rear corners if greater than 14' wide.

Insurance

The Department may require insurance or other security as it deems necessary. The granting of a permit does not waive any liability or responsibility of the applicant which might accrue for any property damage, including damage to highways, or for personal injuries.

The Department may require the vehicle owner or operator to furnish a certificate showing the amount of public liability and property damage insurance carried. The Department may also require owner or operator to furnish a bond or certified check payable to the Department to indemnify it for all damage that may be done to the highway.

Must carry minimum insurance of \$1,000,000 for automobile/general liability.

Weigh Stations

Aiken on I-20
Lexington at Jct. I-20 and 378
Newberry - I-26
Rockhill North of Rockhill on I-77
Fairplay on I-85
Spartanburg at Jct. of I-85 and 29
Savannah on I-95

Restricted Travel

Movement is prohibited on Saturday and Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day on all SC, US and secondary routes East of I-95, to include US-521 from Manning to Georgetown and from Georgetown to the North Carolina State line and all routes in the Myrtle Beach vicinity.

Whenever possible, overdimensional vehicles should be routed over highways having 12' wide lanes. Exceptions to this are in case of emergencies or where there is good cause to show that such movement is in the public interest.

No 12' wide loads or mobile homes are to be moved over state highways in close proximity of large urban areas between the hours of 7:00 - 9 A.M. and 3:00 - 6:00 P.M. on school days and 4:30 - 6:00 P.M. on other days.

Drivers shall remove the towing vehicle along with the load or mobile home from the traveled way to allow any closely following traffic (5 vehicle maximum) to pass and proceed.

No movement shall be allowed during inclement weather such as heavy rain, or fog when visibility is restricted to less than 1,000'. Movement shall be prohibited during periods of high winds or when highways are slippery or hazardous.

Drivers going in or out of the following ports WILL BE required to have a Transportation Workers Identification Card (TWIC) issued by the Transportation Safety Administration:

Charleston

SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

No restrictions.

Holidays

Travel is restricted on the following holidays:

New Year's Day	Thanksgiving Day
Independence Day	Christmas Day
Labor Day	Memorial Day

No travel is allowed on the day of the holiday.

The State Permit Office will be closed on the above mentioned holidays as well as Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Confederate Memorial Day, Veterans Day, day after Thanksgiving, and two additional days at Christmas, but travel will not be restricted on these days.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Fines

Overdimension Only - \$100

New Axle Fine

A new axle fine amount was provided by the legislature this year. When a vehicle is found to not be in violation of the weight limits, and is no more than 5% over axle limits (including the 10% tolerance) then a \$25.00 fine may be levied. **If paid within 14 days no additional assessments may be added.** If not within the 14-day grace period, the ticket will be written for \$56.75, which includes \$31.75 in additional assessments.

Gross Violations

Operators are fined for gross weight violations only.

For gross weight violations of the law, the statutory scale of fines is as follows:

Pounds of Excess Weight	Amount of Fine	Additional Assessments (if not paid within 14 days)
1-1500	\$ 25.00	+ \$ 31.75
1501 - 2500	45.00	+ 33.75
2501 - 3500	60.00	+ 35.75
3501 - 4250	135.00	+ 61.75
4251 - 5250	180.00	+ 66.25
5251 - 6250	300.00	+ 103.25
6251 - 7 250	460.00	+ 119.25
7251 - 8250	600.00	+ 183.25
8251 - 1 0,250	700.00	+ 203.25
10,251 and over	10 cents/ea. lb.	+ additional assessments in \$11.00 increments

Super Loads

Super loads are considered to be all loads over 130,000 lbs. on 7 axles, 125' long, 16' wide. Height restrictions will depend on routes to be taken. Include diagram with axle spacing, axle weight and proposed routes. In excess of 130,000 lbs. the application goes to the Bridge Department for approval. Superload fee \$3.00 per 1,000 lbs.

Proof of insurance required when gross vehicle weight is 180,000 lbs. or greater and/or the overall width is 16' or greater.

Requires 5 days for processing.

For more information please contact:

Comdata

(800) 749-7174

To obtain and order permits from Comdata please call:

(800) 749-7166

