



Texas  
 Department of Motor Vehicles  
 Motor Carrier Division  
 4000 Jackson Avenue  
 Austin, Texas 78731

PHONE: (800) 299-1700 option 2  
 (phone shuts down 30 minutes early)

HOURS: 8:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. Mon. - Fri.  
**CENTRAL TIME**

Legal Limits	DESIGNATED HIGHWAYS	ALL OTHER ROADS
Weight:		
Single	20,000	20,000
Tandem	34,000	34,000
Tridem	42,000	42,000
Gross weight	80,000	80,000 Unless otherwise posted. <i>Federal Bridge Formula applies.</i>
Width:	8'6"	8'6"
Height:	14'	14'
Length:		
Single unit, buses	45'	45'
Semi-trailer	59'	59'
Twins/doubles	28'6"	28'6"
Autotransporters	59'	59'
Rocky mtn. doubles	Not allowed	Not allowed
Turnpike doubles	Not allowed	Not allowed
Triples	Not allowed	Not allowed
Saddlemounts	2 units maximum	2 units maximum
<b>TOLERANCE</b>	Agricultural and Non-Agricultural commodities may exceed the allowable axle weight tolerance by 10% and may exceed the allowable gross weight by up to 5% never to exceed 84,000 lbs. Tolerances are above the maximum allowed for the particular vehicle or combination and are enforced based on the "outer bridge" distance.	
<b>TIRE WIDTH</b>	650 lbs. per inch width.	

**ACCESS**

A permitted vehicle may deviate from a permitted route between the highways authorized on the permit and a terminal or facility for food, fuel, repair or rest having an entrance within one mile of the nearest ramp or intersection provided the vehicle will not cross under or over any structure. When re-entering the permitted route, the vehicle should abide by the restrictions as when existing.

**OVERHANG**

3' front, 4' rear. Single unit motor vehicles with permanently attached booms are not considered as having front and rear overhang as a result of the boom. The boom is not considered as a load, it is considered as a portion of the vehicle.

**EXEMPTIONS****Poles, Pilings and Unrefined timber:**

Provides that poles, piling or unrefined timber may be transported from the point where the timber is felled to a wood processing mill, provided the length of the vehicle and load does not exceed 90 feet and provided that the distance traveled does not exceed 125 miles. Such vehicles are exempt from the 4" rear extension limitations. Movement during daylight hours only.

**Permit Limits****ROUTINE ISSUE****Weight:**

Single	25,000	22,500
Tandem	46,000	41,400
Tridem	60,000	54,000
Quad	70,000	63,000
Five Axles	81,400	73,260
Trunnion	60,000	54,000

\*On Restricted Routes:  
if axle is 10' wide

**Gross weight:**

5 axles	105,000
6 axles	119,000
7 axles	129,000
8 axles	Depends on axle configuration.

\*Load zone = 10% less max perimttable

Length: 125' Maximum overhang is 30'.

Width: 20' 16' usual max. on interstate

Height: 18'11"

If load exceeds any of these dimensions or weights, refer to the section on Super Loads. Over 125', 20' wide, 18' 11' high requires route inspection. MCD Form 306A

Vehicles 200,001 lbs. and over requires a BOL showing the load weight. This information is required for Superloads as well ( see section on Super Loads).

**PERMITS VALID FOR**

Single trip permits are valid for 5 days.

Manufactured housing (mobile homes) permits are valid for five (5) consecutive days.

**ACCEPTABLE PERMIT FORMAT**

An electronic copy of the permit is acceptable unless the permit is printed on special paper or has a gold seal.

**EXTENSIONS/REVISIONS**

Allowed for change of trucks due to breakdown and/or dimensions as long as changes are not made to routes. Time extensions for weather related problems or mechanical problems. Intermediate route may be changed. If the permit effective date has not begun, origin and destination may be changed. The Department must be contacted by telephone, changes cannot be written on the permit.

**OPERATING TIME**

One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Vehicles not exceeding 10' wide, legal height, and overhang that complies with legal limits (3' front, 4' rear) or 100' long may operate on the interstate 24 hours a day.

May travel continuously with weight only.

Railroad Crossing Hotline 888-877-7267

**WEEKEND TRAVEL**

No travel restrictions unless indicated on the permit.

**LIFT AXLES**

A lift axle is considered a legal weight bearing axle as long as it is on the ground and carrying its fair share of the load.

**DIVISIBLE LOADS**

It is the Department's policy to limit the issuance of permits to those vehicles or loads which cannot be reasonably dismantled or disassembled and transported as a legal load and furthermore, to require that all reasonable steps be taken to reduce the load to legal limits of weight or dimension including proper distribution over the load-carrying axles, or in the event this cannot be done, then to reduce the load to a minimum at such time a loaded commodity creates a single overdimension.

Two or more commodities may be hauled as one load provided legal axle and legal gross loads are not exceeded, and provided no illegal dimension of width, length or height is created or made greater by the additional commodities.

**EXCEPTIONS**

None.

**SELF-PROPELLED EQUIPMENT**

These vehicles which exceed maximum permit weight may require bridge analysis and fee per mile permits. Single trip and quarterly permits for the movement of oversize/overweight mobile cranes will be issued.

The maximum permissible weight allowed per axle is up to 30,000 lbs. based upon the results of a weight analysis.

**INTERMODAL**

Single trip permits are not valid for OS/OW sealed containers. A weight tolerance permit can be used but not on the interstate.

Intermodal Shipping Container Port Permits are available and can be overweight and all other dimensions legal. This is an annual permit available for containers transported 30 miles of select Port Authorities.

Ports available:

- Port of Bayport
- Port of Freeport
- Port of Houston - Barbours Cut
- Port of Houston - IH610

These containers are transported from ship to train. Must have 6 or 7 axles. Fee: \$6,000.

**Types of Permits****Schedule of Fees:**

Single trip -		\$60
Plus highway maintenance fee		
80,001 - 120,000		\$150
120,001 - 160,000		\$225
160,001 - 200,000		\$300
200,001 and up		\$375
Manufactured housing not exceeding 20' wide, 18'11" high or 125' long		\$40
Fees for super-heavy permits are as follows, in addition to fees above:		
Permit maintenance Fee		\$35
Highway maintenance Fee		\$375
Vehicle Supervision fee		
a) \$500 if bridge analysis is performed by TXDOT (bridges or pavements)		
OR		
b) \$500 if analysis is performed by a state approved private engineers.		
\$35 multiples ordered within 30 days of approval.		
\$100 no bridges crossed		
Annuals issued for loads not exceeding 12' wide, 14' high, 110' long, or 120,000 lbs. Front overhang cannot exceed 25' and rear overhang cannot exceed 30'. Can be issued to the company or to a specific vehicle. If company specific, only 1 permit issued with a seal that is shared. Photo copies not allowed. Additional copies available for \$4000 per permit copy.		\$4,000
Portable buildings		\$15
Thirty Day - Not issued for overweight, issued for overwidth or overlength		\$120
Sixty Day		\$180
Ninety day		\$240
Self-propelled motor cranes Annual		\$100

**MANUFACTURED HOUSING/MOBILE HOMES**

Only single trip permits are issued for the movement of manufactured housing (mobile homes). The permits are valid for single movements and can be made only during daylight hours. The cost of the permit is \$40.00. Super heavy and oversize permit bonds are not required for the movement of oversize permits for manufactured housing.

Manufactured housing that exceeds 16' wide but does not exceed 18' wide must have a front escort on 2-lane highways, and when traveling on a highway of 4 or more lanes, a rear escort is also required. Manufactured housing that exceeds 18' wide shall have front and rear escort on all highways. Only single trips can be issued for portable buildings. Permits that exceed 16' wide should have front and rear escorts. These permits are valid only for a single continuous movement. Movement is for daylight hours. The maximum width of manufactured housing shall not exceed 20' wide, the maximum length shall not exceed 110' and the maximum height shall not exceed 16' high. They do not require a bond.

### **INFORMATION NEEDED TO ORDER A PERMIT**

Company name and address, phone number, USDOT number, type of equipment hauling load, year and make, serial number, license number, load description (manufacturer's housing serial number), overall dimensions, trailer ground clearance, overhang front and rear, axle spacing, axle load, number of tires, size of tires, origin, destination and routes.

#### **Escorts**

##### **When Escorts Are Needed:**

##### **# Escorts**

##### **On All Highways:**

- Width exceeding of 14' up to and including 16' as permit office determines for those less than 16' wide 1
- Width over 16' (Generally over 16' wide are not routed on Interstates or Expressways except for mfg. housing or HUD coded industrialized buildings) 2 (Front & Rear)
- Length over 110' up to 125' 1
- Length over 125' 2 (Front & Rear)
- Front Overhang over 20' up to 30' (front on 2 lane, rear on 4 lanes) 1 Front
- Rear Overhang over 20' up to 30' 1 Rear
- Height over 17' - contact utility companies 1 (Front w/pole)
- Height over 18' considered on individual basis If load is over in 2 dimensions that requires front and rear escorts (Exception: if load is over 110' long but not over 125' long, and has rear overhang over 20' - only 1 escort is required) 2 (Front w/pole & Rear)
- Manufactured Housing
  - Width over 16' up to 18' on 2-lane hwys, 1 Front
  - Width over 16' up to 18' on multi-lane hwys, 1 Rear
  - Width over 18' on all hwys. 2 (Front & Rear)

Note: Permits are processed by TXDMV. If application has to go to district, these permits are issued by TXDOT and additional pilots may be required regardless of dimensions.

### **VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS**

Vehicles shall have two flashing lights or one rotating amber or amber and blue beacon of not less than 8" diameter on top of the vehicle, which shall be visible from both front sides and rear; shall have one red 12" square flag mounted on each of the four corners of the vehicle; and shall have an "Oversize" or "Wide Load" sign mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle; the sign shall have a yellow background with black letters at least 8" but not to exceed 10" in height.

#### **Signs & Flags**

##### **SIGNS**

Signs are required on escort vehicles only reading "oversize load" or "wide load". Vehicles used to transport pipes and poles may exceed 3' front and 4' rear overhang provided that the overall length of the vehicle and its load does not exceed 65' in length. These vehicles must display red or orange flags no less than 12" square and displayed so that the entire area is visible to the driver of a vehicle approaching from the front and rear. Signs shall be at least 5' but not to exceed 7' in length.

Yellow background with black letters 8" but not to exceed 10" high with a brush stroke at least 1.41 inches wide.

**FLAGS**

Flags 12" square to be placed at the widest extremities of overwidth loads and at rear of overlength loads or w/excess rear overhang of 4'.

**Insurance**

Minimum coverage of \$500,000 combined single limit excluding cargo. Must have TX MCR# or bond on file to haul oversize/overweight loads. Loads exempt are manufactured housing, portable buildings, oil well equipment, unladen lift equipment. Must carry minimum insurance of \$750/500/10 for all ICC carriers.

**Weigh Stations**

I-10 3 miles E. of Seguin EB, WB  
I-35 2 miles N. of San Marcos SB  
I-45 1 mile N. of Centerville SB  
US 59 4 miles W. of Edna WB  
US 59 20 miles E. of Victoria EB  
US 77 1/2 mile S. of Riviera NB, SB  
US 287 1 mile W. of Childress EB, WB

**Restricted Travel**

Time restrictions are noted on the permit. Time permit curfews are also located at:  
[https://www.txdmv.gov/sites/default/files/body-files/Time\\_Permit\\_Curfews.pdf](https://www.txdmv.gov/sites/default/files/body-files/Time_Permit_Curfews.pdf)

No movement during hazardous road conditions or when visibility is less than 2/10 of a mile.

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:

Beaumont, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Lake Jackson, Galveston, Houston, La Porte, Port LaVaca, Port Arthur, Texas City, and Victoria

**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>

**SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS**

No restrictions.

**Holidays**

The State Permit Office will be closed on:

New Year's Day	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	President's Day
Memorial Day	Independence Day	Labor Day
Veterans Day	Thanksgiving Day	Thanksgiving Day After
Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Christmas Day After

Only Manufactured houses are restricted to travel on national holidays.

**Fines**

Third offense penalties within a year, doubles the penalties on a single axle and tandem axle up to a maximum of \$2500.00

<u>Amount over legal weight limits (lbs)</u>	<u>Fine Range</u>
1 to 2,500	\$100 - \$500
2,501 - 5,000	\$500 - \$1,000
5,001 and over	\$1,000 - \$2,000

On gross weight penalties, the third offense within a year of the previous conviction doubles the penalty to a maximum of \$20,000

<u>Amount over legal weight limits (lbs)</u>	<u>Fine Range</u>
1 to 2,500	\$100 - \$500
2,501 - 5,000	\$500 - \$1,000
5,001 to 10,000	\$1,000 - \$2,500
10,001 to 20,000	\$2,500 - \$5,000
20,001 to 40,000	\$5,000 - \$7,000
40,001 and over	\$7,000 - \$10,000

**Super Loads**

Loads exceeding 254,300 lbs. or loads that exceed 200,000 with less than 95 feet of axle spacing are considered Super Loads.

The following information must be submitted:

- 1) Load description and complete dimensional information regarding the load to include load description, type of equipment that will be used to move the load, axle spacings, tires per axle, tire size on each axle, and weight per axle.
- 2) TxDOT approved outside engineer selection from their system.
- 3) Loading diagram to be submitted to the outside engineer.

Issuance time varies depending on load.

**For more information please contact:**

**Comdata**

**(800) 749-7174**

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

**(800) 749-7166**