



NEW JERSEY

Commercial Vehicle Size and Weight Guidebook



JANUARY 2024

DISCLAIMER

Information contained in this guidebook regarding the fees/permits listed and the various laws and regulations governing commercial motor vehicle operations in New Jersey are subject to change without notice. This guidebook is produced solely as a convenience to the public and the State assumes no warranty or representation given or the use of any of the material provided or for unintentional omissions, errors, or misprints which appear in this guidebook.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
FAST Act	Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
lbs.	Pounds (weight)
mm	Millimeters
N.J.A.C.	New Jersey Administrative Code
NJDOT	New Jersey Department of Transportation
NJMVC	New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
N.J.S.A.	New Jersey Statutes Annotated
OS/OW	oversize/overweight
USC	United States Code

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This guidebook is intended to provide information on New Jersey's commercial vehicle size and weight laws, as well as information on the permitting process for vehicles that exceed size and weight limitations outlined in state statute, in a simple, user-friendly format.

This guidebook is not a substitute for state statute or regulation. For your convenience, the guidebook contains a number of references to sections of New Jersey Regulations and Statutes throughout the text. Please refer to these documents for legal guidance. The documents can be found at the following locations:

- **The New Jersey DOT Permit Website:** <https://nj.gotpermits.com>
- **The New Jersey Office of Legislative Services:** <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/office-of-legislative-services>.

1.2 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

This guidebook can be used to help answer some frequently-asked questions from the motor carrier community. These questions are listed below.

What are the dimensional limitations for specific truck and truck-trailer configurations? There are limits to the width, height, and length of vehicles and loads operating in the State of New Jersey. Section [2.1](#) of this guidebook provides specific limits for common configurations and exceptions. A vehicle or vehicle combination exceeding these limits may apply for a permit.

What weight limits apply in New Jersey? There are limits to the weight that can be carried on each axle. Detailed information on these weight limits is available in Section [2.2](#) of this guidebook. A vehicle or vehicle combination exceeding these limitations may apply for a permit.

If I have an overdimensional or overweight load, how can I move that load in New Jersey? A vehicle combination exceeding the size and weight limits may apply for a permit. Available permit types and fees are specified in Section [3](#) of this guidebook.

What is the difference between a divisible load and a non-divisible load? In order to obtain an OS/OW permit, the vehicle, or load being carried must be “non-divisible.” A “non-divisible” load is a load that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in such a manner, so that the weight and dimensional limitations are not exceeded. More information and examples of divisible and non-divisible loads are provided at the beginning of Section [3](#).

What types of permits are available? There are four types of permits available for moving overdimensional and/or overweight loads in New Jersey. In addition, there are three types of emergency permits available under specific state and/or Federal state-of-emergency declarations. Section [3](#) lists and describes all of these permits.

What permits are available during emergencies? When are emergency permits valid? There are three emergency permit types available under certain conditions. The three types are listed in Section 3.5’s Figure 1 and described in more detail in Section [3.5](#) of this guidebook.

How do I obtain permits? The New Jersey Department of Transportation issues permits on behalf of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission. More information about obtaining permits can be found in Section [4](#) of this guidebook and on NJDOT’s permits website, <http://nj.gotpermits.com>.

Do I need special insurance in order to haul overdimensional or overweight loads? Yes. As described in Section [5.1](#) obtaining a permit does not serve as a defense against civil action for damages caused by a motor carrier. Also, there are insurance coverage thresholds that permit applicants must meet, which are detailed in Section [5.2](#) of this guidebook.

Do I need to have an escort? As detailed in Section [5.5](#), operation under an OS/OW permit will require the accompaniment of escort vehicles when operating at night and/or when the permitted dimensions exceed certain thresholds. These requirements are stated on the permit.

What safety apparatus (e.g., signs, flags, lights, etc.) are required? Sections [5.6](#), [5.7](#), and [5.8](#) of this guidebook provide detailed descriptions of requirements regarding signage, overhang load placement, warning flags, lamps and reflective devices.

Are there special vehicle registrations required for certain equipment types? Yes. The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) has different registration requirements for various commercial vehicle operations. These requirements are outlined in various MVC Registration Codes. Additional information regarding regulations for common commercial vehicle codes is provided in Section [6](#) and all other registration codes and associated fees can be found on MVC's website at: <https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/commvehinfo.htm>.

If I'm moving a load that crosses state lines into another state, do I have to comply with the rules in that state? Where can I find more information about size and weight regulations in neighboring states? The New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT) issues permits that are valid on state routes in New Jersey. New Jersey DOT does not issue permits on behalf of other states or bi-state authorities. Applicants must apply for permits in other states that cover trips to, from, or within those jurisdictions. Section [7](#) provides links to permitting information available from agencies in surrounding states and to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

Can I use a New Jersey permit on the New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway south of Exit 105, or Atlantic City Expressway? Permits may ***not*** be used on these facilities without the express approval of the tolling authority.

Where can I find more information and answers to more questions about obtaining and operating with permits in New Jersey? Go to New Jersey DOT's permitting website, <http://nj.gotpermits.com>.

1.3 KEY UPDATES AND CHANGES SINCE THE 2017 GUIDEBOOK

This guidebook updates NJDOT's guidance on size and weight limits and permitting in the State of New Jersey. This guidance differs from the previous guidebook, which was published in 2017, in the following ways:

- Federal law considers fluid milk to be a non-divisible load, and thus eligible for overweight permits, as explained in [Section 3](#);
- Federal law has updated size and weight limits for several vehicle and combination types, including:
 - [Vehicle and overhang lengths for stinger steered automobile transporters](#);
 - Weight and allowable transport provisions for [covered heavy duty tow and recovery vehicles](#);
 - Weight limits for [emergency vehicles](#); and
 - Weight limits for [natural gas vehicles](#).
- This version of the guidebook provides new narrative text and a summary table explaining the different types of [emergency hauling permits](#) that are available, and the situations in which each can be used.
- This version of the guidebook includes revised text clarifying [Code 23 trailer permit](#) applicability/types.
- This version of the guidebook includes other minor edits to improve clarity and readability.
- The companion Reference Guide was transformed from a tri-fold brochure to a wall-sized map with guidance information.

2 LEGAL SIZE AND WEIGHT LIMITS

Any vehicle, and vehicle combination, operating on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property within the State of New Jersey must operate within the size and weight limitations outlined in Title 39 of the New Jersey Statutes, Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulation, specifically N.J.S.A. 39:3-84—Vehicles, dimensional, weight limitations; routes, certain; prohibited. **A vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting a load exceeding these dimensions in any respect requires a special permit for movement over on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property within the State of New Jersey.**

Further information on these permits can be found in Section [3](#) of this guidebook. The definitions for vehicle, and combinations of vehicles are as follows:

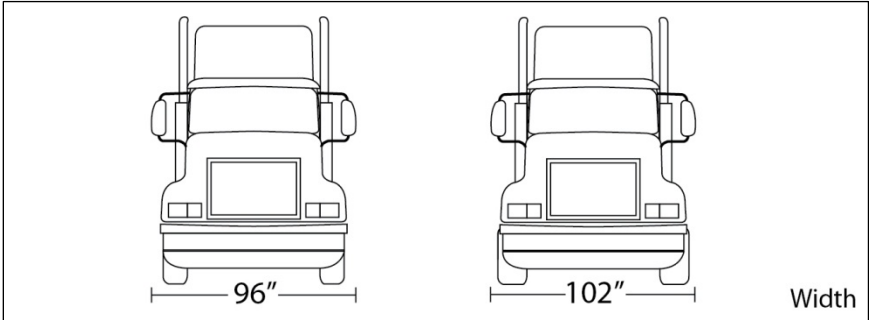
- A “vehicle” includes, but is not limited to, commercial motor vehicles, trucks, truck tractors, tractors, and road tractors.
- A “combination of vehicles” includes, but is not limited to, vehicles as heretofore designated, when those vehicles are the drawing or power unit of a combination of vehicles and motor-drawn vehicles, such as, but not limited to, trailers, semitrailers, or other vehicles.

2.1 SIZE LIMITATIONS

This section describes the maximum dimensional limits for width, height and length for any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in this State.

2.1.1 Width—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(1)

Width	96 inches on routes that are not National Network or NJ Access Routes
	102 inches on National Network and NJ Access Routes

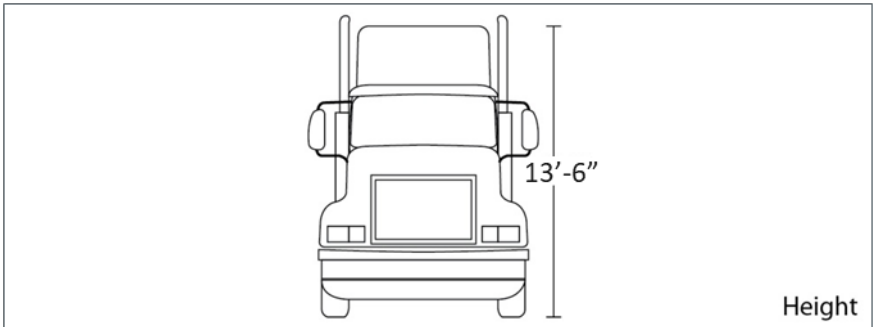


Overall width is defined as the distance between the widest points of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, inclusive of the load. As the diagram above shows, the maximum width of a commercial vehicle traveling within the State of New Jersey is 102 inches (or 8 feet 6 inches). In some instances, rules and regulations may be promulgated for those public roads, streets or highways or public or quasi-public property in this State, where it is determined that the interests of public safety and welfare require the maximum outside width be no more than 96 inches.

A complete list of route designations, including the 102-inch truck route network can be found on the New Jersey DOT website at <https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/freight/trucking/pdf/largetruckmap.pdf>.

2.1.2 Height—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(2)

Height	13 feet, 6 inches
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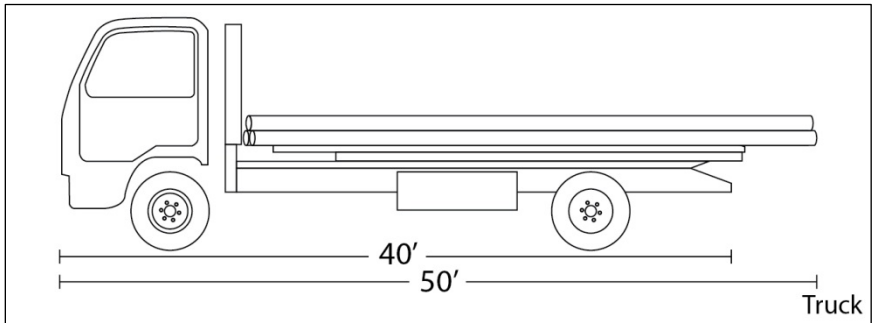
Overall height is defined as the distance from the ground to the highest point of the vehicle, inclusive of the load. The maximum height of any commercial vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof, traveling within the State of New Jersey is **13'-6"** on all highways, except as otherwise identified, as shown in the height diagram above.

2.1.3 Length

<u>Truck</u>	50 feet
<u>Truck-Semitrailer Combinations</u>	62 feet
<u>Truck-Trailer Combinations</u>	62 feet
<u>Maxi-Cube Vehicles</u>	34 feet for each cargo box, 60 feet from front of first cargo box to rear of second cargo box 65 feet overall combination vehicle
<u>Trailers and Semitrailers</u>	53 feet on National Network and access routes 48 feet on other routes 41 feet kingpin to center of rear axle
<u>Trailers with Non-Divisible Loads</u>	63 feet
<u>Saddlemount and Saddlemount with Fullmount Combinations</u>	75 feet on the National Network and reasonable access routes
<u>Tandem Trailer Combinations</u>	28 feet for each trailer in the combination
<u>Automobile Transporters</u>	65 feet overall length, 3 feet front overhang, 4 feet rear overhang
<u>Stinger-Steered Automobile Transporters</u>	80 feet overall length, 4 feet front overhang, 6 feet rear overhang
<u>House Type Trailers</u>	35 feet for a single unit 45 feet for a towing vehicle and semi-trailer combination 50 feet for a towing vehicle and trailer combination
<u>Towaway Trailer Transporter Combination</u>	82 feet

Overall length is defined as the distance from the front of the vehicle to the back of the vehicle, inclusive of the load. The maximum length of a commercial vehicle traveling within the State of New Jersey varies by configuration type. A summary of maximum lengths is provided in the table on the previous page and in the Reference Guide that accompanies this guidebook. The Reference Guide is available at <https://nj.gotpermits.com>.

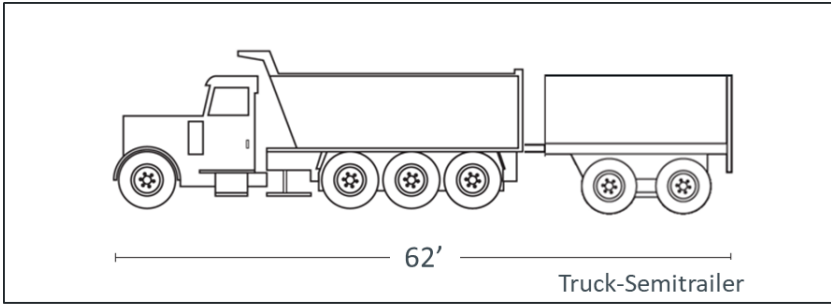
2.1.3.1 *Truck—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(3)*



A truck is defined as a motor vehicle designed, used or maintained for the transportation of property. The maximum length of a truck, as shown in the diagram above, is:

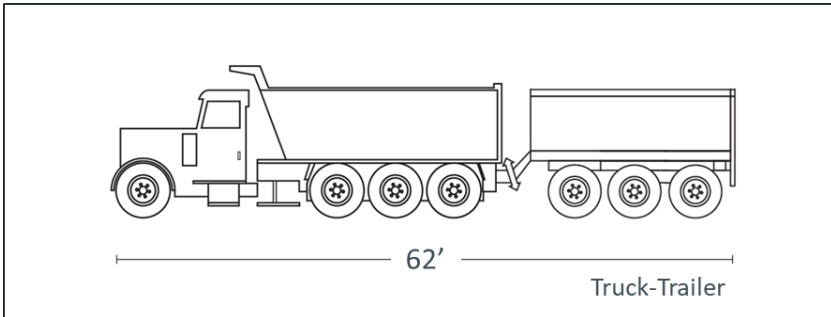
- Vehicle Length = **40'** on all highways.
- Length = **50'** when **transporting non-divisible loads** such as poles, piling, structural units, or other articles which cannot be dismembered, divided, or dismantled.

2.1.3.2 Truck-Semitrailer Combinations—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(3);(4)



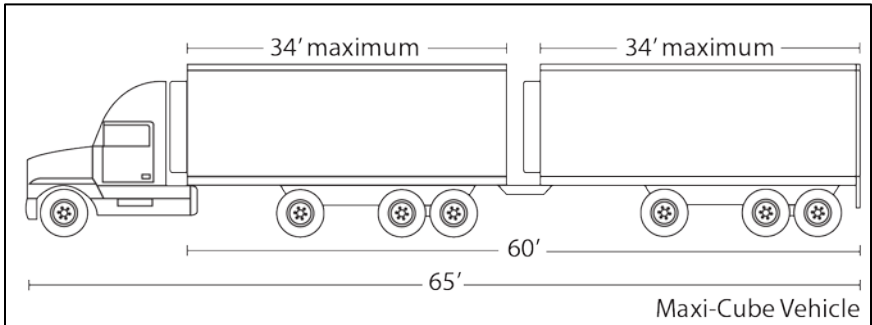
The maximum length for truck-semitrailer vehicle combination, as shown in the diagram above, is **62'** on all highways.

2.1.3.3 Truck-Trailer Combinations—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(3)



The maximum length for truck-trailer vehicle combination, as shown in the diagram above, is **62'** on all highways.

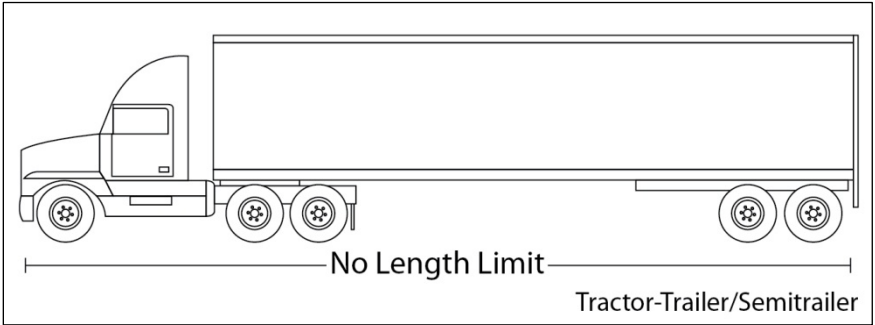
2.1.3.4 Maxi-Cube Vehicles—23 CFR § 658.13(e)(4)



Maxi-cube vehicles are combination vehicles consisting of a straight truck and a trailing unit, both of which are designed to carry cargo. The truck has a detachable or permanently mounted cargo box which may be loaded or unloaded through the trailing semitrailer or trailer.

In order to qualify as a maxi-cube vehicle under 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 658.13(e)(4), neither cargo box may exceed 10.36 m (34 feet) in length, excluding the drawbar or hitching device; the distance from the front of the first to the rear of the second cargo box may not exceed 18.29 m (60 feet), including the space between them; and the overall length of the combination vehicle may not exceed 19.81 m (65 feet), including the space between the cargo boxes. These maximum lengths are shown in the diagram above.

2.1.3.5 *Truck Tractor-Trailer/Semitrailer Combination—23 CFR § 658.13(b)(3)*



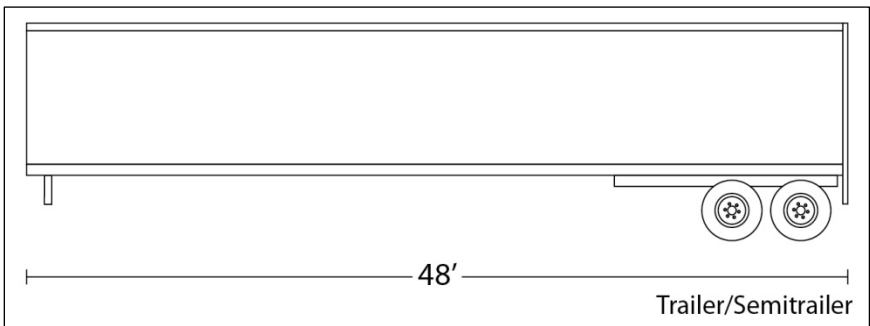
A truck tractor is defined as a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load drawn.

There is **no maximum overall length** for a truck tractor-trailer/semitrailer combination on highways in the State of New Jersey, as the diagram of a tractor-trailer/semitrailer above shows. However, there are maximum lengths for trailers and semitrailers, specified in Section [2.1.3.6](#).

2.1.3.6 Trailers and Semitrailers—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(4)

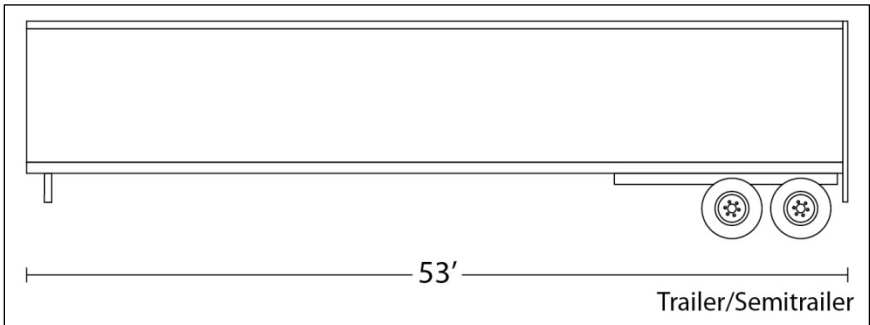
A trailer is defined as a vehicle with or without motive power, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle. This definition does not include pole trailers.

A semitrailer is defined as a vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that some part of its weight and that its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.



As the diagram above shows, the maximum length of a trailer/semitrailer or trailer combination is 48 feet overall when configured in the following combinations:

- Truck/trailer.
- Truck/semi-trailer.
- Trailer combination.



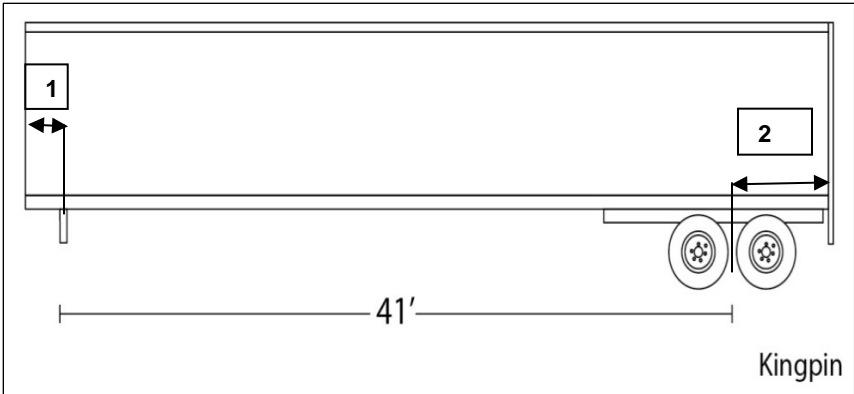
As the diagram above shows, the maximum length of a semitrailer shall not exceed 53 feet when operated as part of a combination of vehicles consisting of one motor-drawn vehicle and a drawing or power unit vehicle.

Semitrailers greater than 48 feet in length but not more than 53 feet in length must be transported using the National Network unless seeking food, fuel, rest, repairs or to reach a terminal by the direct route (that is, the shortest travel distance). Upon completing each trip, the large truck should return to the National Network in a manner consistent with reaching its next terminal. Trips off of the National Network or the New Jersey Access Network onto all other local unrestricted roadways should only be for the purpose of accessing a terminal on those roadways, by the shortest distance.

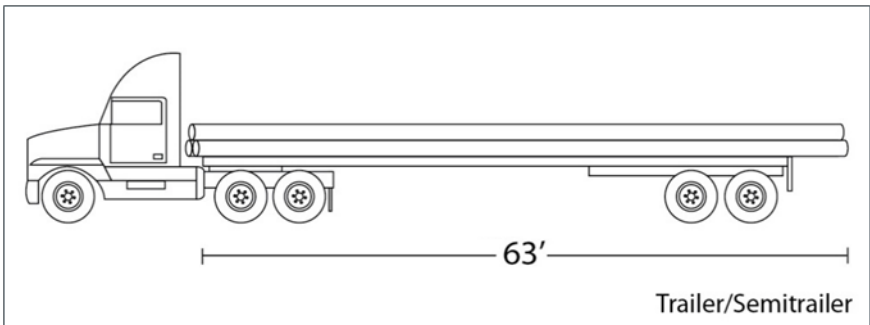
The National Network, and 102" Truck Route Network can be found on the New Jersey DOT website at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/freight/trucking/pdf/largetruckmap.pdf>.

For trailers that are **greater than 48', and up to 53'** in length, the distance between the **kingpin** and the center of the rear axle **cannot exceed 41'**, as shown in the diagram below.



- 1 The kingpin of the trailer shall not be set back further than 3.5 feet from the front of the semitrailer
- 2 Measured from the center of the rear tandem axles to the rear of the semitrailer shall not exceed 35% of the semitrailer's wheelbase



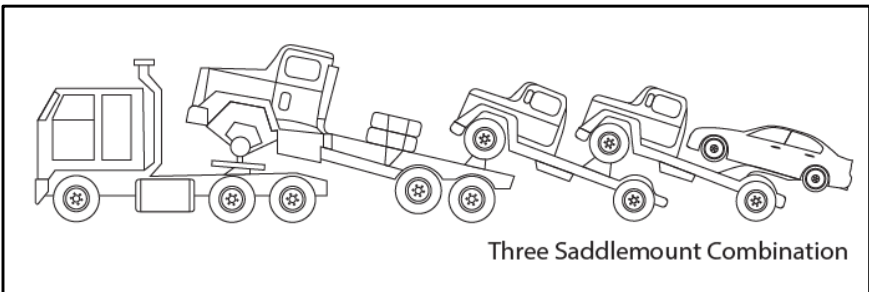
When transporting **non-divisible loads** such as poles, piling, structural units, or other articles which cannot be dismembered, divided, or dismantled, the maximum trailer length is **63'**, as the diagram above shows.

2.1.3.7 Saddlemount and Saddlemount with Fullmount Combinations— N.J.S.A. 39:3-84a(5)

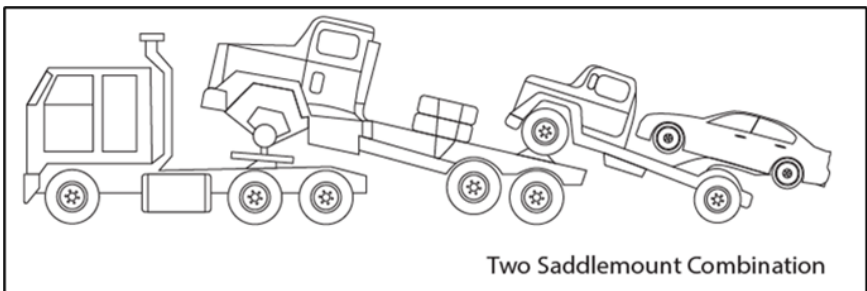
Saddlemount and saddlemount with fullmount combinations consist of a truck tractor towing other vehicles. The front axle of each towed vehicle is mounted on top of the frame of the vehicle in front. A fullmount is a vehicle mounted entirely on the frame of the first or last vehicle in the combination (the automobile in the two saddlemount diagrams below is fully mounted). States must allow the towing vehicle to pull at least three other vehicles and the combination to have a 22.86 m (75-foot) *minimum* overall length on the **National Network and reasonable access routes**. This configuration is shown in the “Three Saddlemount Combination” diagram below.

The National Network, and 102” Truck Route Network can be found on the New Jersey DOT website at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/freight/trucking/pdf/targettruckmap.pdf>.



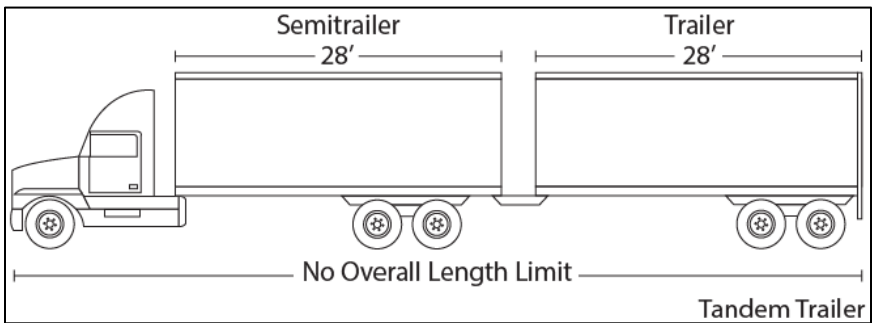
No combination of vehicles will exceed two drawn vehicles and a power unit in **intrastate** operation off of the National Network (two saddle mounts), as shown in the diagram below. (Also see N.J.S.A. 39:4-54)



2.1.3.8 Tandem Trailer Combinations—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(6)

The maximum overall length of tandem trailers, which are the trailers in double-trailer truck combinations, shall not exceed 28 feet for each trailer in the combination, as the “Tandem Trailer” diagram below shows. This limitation does not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, built and utilized solely to transport other motor vehicles. Tandem trailers may lawfully operate on routes designated by the Commissioner of Transportation. Those routes are shown on the New Jersey Large Truck Map, available at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/freight/trucking/pdf/largetruckmap.pdf>.

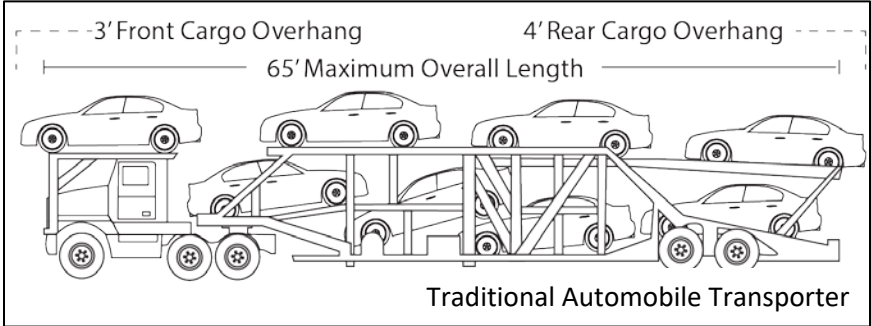


2.1.4 Vehicle Size Limit Exceptions

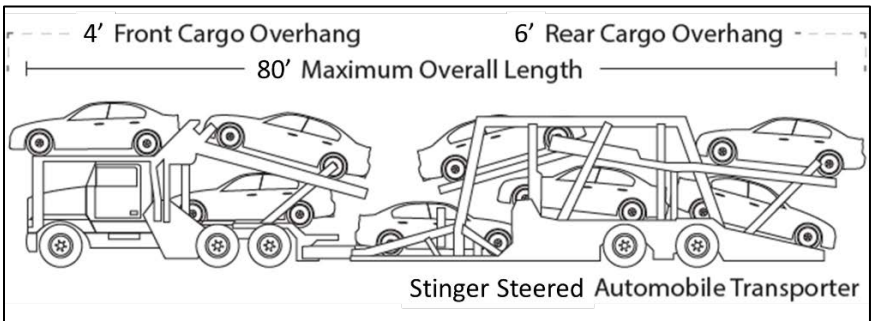
There are some exceptions to the dimensional limitations set forth in New Jersey Statute. They are either outlined in the statutes themselves or in N.J.A.C. These exceptions are listed in the following three sub-sections.

2.1.4.1 Automobile Transporters—N.J.A.C. 13:20-38; N.J.S.A. 39:3-84a(10)

Automobile transporters are defined as any vehicle combination designed and used specifically for the transport of assembled (capable of being driven) highway vehicles. The two primary types are the “traditional automobile transporter” and the “stinger-steered combination.”



A traditional automobile transporter is defined as an automobile transporter wherein the fifth wheel hitch is located on the frame of the truck tractor over the rear axle(s) of said truck tractor. The maximum length for a traditional automobile transporter, as shown in the diagram above, is **65'** exclusive of the load (overhang is limited to 3' in the front and 4' in the rear).



A stinger-steered combination is defined as an automobile transporter consisting of a truck tractor semitrailer wherein the fifth wheel hitch is located on a drop frame located behind and below the rearmost axle of the power unit. The maximum length for a stinger-steered automobile transporter, as specified in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.2(i) and shown in the diagram above, is **80'** exclusive of the load (overhang is limited to 4' in the front and 6' in the rear).

2.1.4.2 House Type Trailers—N.J.S.A. 39:3-8

The maximum dimensions for a non-recreational private utility or house-type trailer are as follows:

- Width = 8'.
- Height = 13'-6".
- Length = 35' for a single unit.
- Length = 45' overall for a towing vehicle-semitrailer combination.
- Length = 50' overall for a towing vehicle-trailer combination.

A house type trailer vehicle, or vehicle combination, exceeding these limitations may apply for a permit. Further information on oversize permits can be found in Section [3](#) of this guidebook.

2.1.4.3 Towaway Trailer Transporter Combination—49 CFR § 31111(a)

Section 5523 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) amended 49 CFR § 31111(a) to include the term "towaway trailer transporter combination," which means a combination of vehicles consisting of:

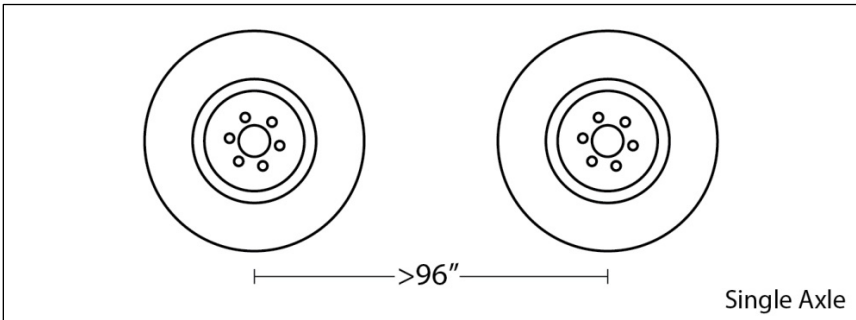
- A trailer transporter towing unit (which means a power unit that is not used to carry property when operating in a towaway trailer transporter combination).
- Two (2) trailers or semitrailers with a total weight that does not exceed 26,000 pounds; and in which the trailers or semitrailers carry no property and constitute inventory property of a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer of such trailers or semitrailers.

Federal law does not allow an overall length limitation of less than 82 feet on a towaway trailer transporter combination. [49 CFR § 31111(b)(1)(H)]. N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.2(j) specifies that a permit is required if the length of such a combination exceeds 82 feet.

2.2 WEIGHT LIMITATIONS

The maximum vehicle weights for vehicles, and combinations of vehicles, operating within the State of New Jersey are detailed in N.J.S.A. 39-3-84b. A vehicle, or vehicle combination, exceeding these limitations may apply for a permit. Further information on oversize permits can be found in Section [3](#) of this guidebook.

2.2.1 Single Axle—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84b(3)



A single axle is defined as an individual axle whose axle center is spaced more than 96'' from the center of the next axle, as shown in the diagram above. A group of axles whose axle centers are spaced less than 40'' apart also are considered a single axle for purposes of weight allowance. The maximum weight allowed on a single axle is 22,400 lbs.

2.2.2 Groups of Two or More Axles—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84b(5)

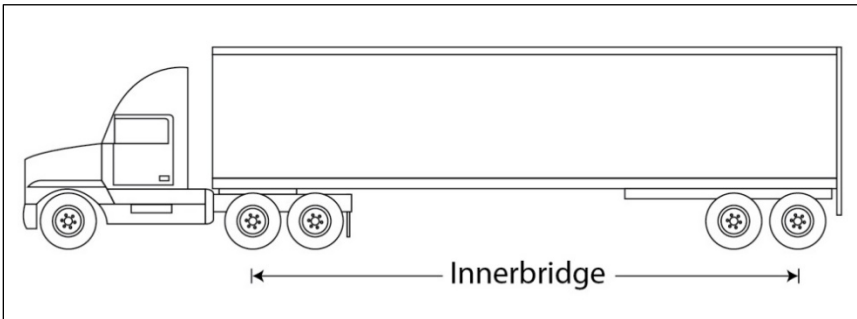
The maximum weight allowed on groups of two or more axles is determined by the Federal Bridge Formula. This is done to ensure that they meet Federal weight limit requirements to prevent severe overstressing of highway bridges. The Federal Bridge Formula is:

$$W = 500 \left[\frac{LN}{N-1} + 12N + 36 \right]$$

Where:

- **W** = The overall gross weight on any group of two or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds.
- **L** = The distance in feet between the outer axles of any group of two or more consecutive axles; and
- **N** = The number of axles in the group under consideration.

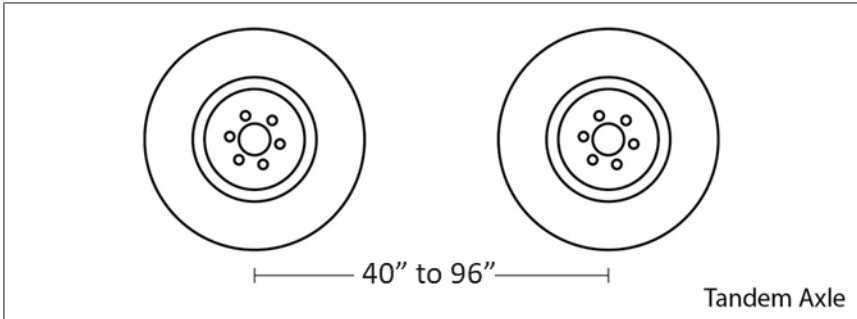
This formula is used to determine the maximum weight allowed on all multi-axle groups including tandem axle, tri-axle quads, etc. as well as the inner-bridge and overall gross vehicle weight.



The inner-bridge is defined as the distance from the center of the second axle to the center of the last axle of a vehicle, or combination of vehicles, as shown in the diagram above. This is an often-overlooked axle group that is subject to weight limits as calculated using the Federal Bridge Formula.

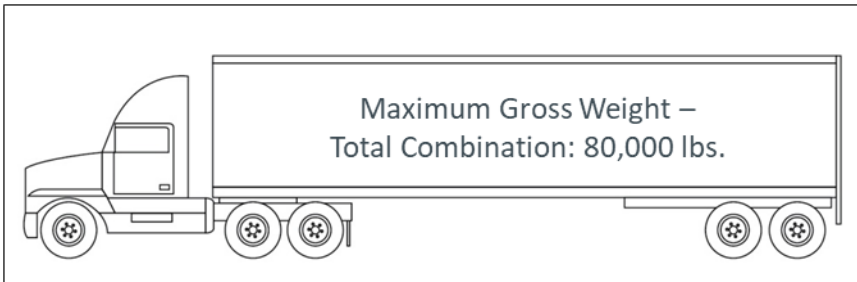
While the maximum weight allowed on a **tandem** axle group as well as the maximum overall **gross vehicle weight** is determined by the Federal Bridge Formula, they both have maximum values outlined in the law.

2.2.2.1 Tandem Axles—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84b(2)



A tandem axle is defined as consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles where the difference between axle centers is 40" or more, but no more than 96" apart, as shown in the diagram above. The maximum weight allowed on axle group of this type is 34,000 lbs.

2.2.2.2 Gross Vehicle Weight—N.J.S.A. 39:3-84b(4)



The gross vehicle weight is defined as a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents. The maximum overall gross weight of a vehicle is 80,000 lbs., as shown in the diagram above.

NOTE: Compliance with bridge formula weight limits may require axle weights lower than the standard weight limits of 34,000 pounds for a tandem axle set and a gross weight lower than the standard 80,000-pound limit.

[Table 1](#) summarizes the weight allowances calculated by the Federal Bridge Formula as outlined in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84b(5). It shows the maximum gross weights of two or more consecutive axles of any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including the load or contents. Column L corresponds to the

respective distance, in feet, between the axle centers of the first and last axles among the consecutive axles under consideration; except that in addition to the weights specified in that Table, two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more. The gross weight of each set of tandem axles shall not exceed 34,000 pounds and the combined gross weight of the two consecutive sets of tandem axles shall not exceed 68,000 pounds. The cells highlighted in colors correspond to the diagrams of vehicles and vehicle combinations that follow the table.

These weight limitations apply on any highway in New Jersey which designated as part of the National Interstate System, as provided at 23 U.S.C. 103(c).

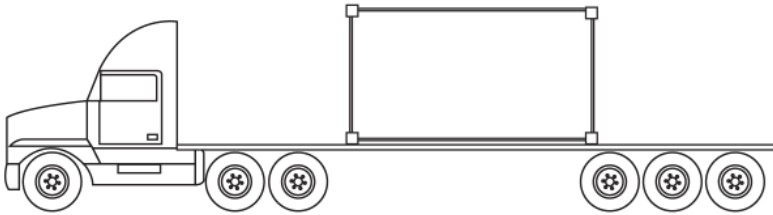
TABLE 1 FEDERAL BRIDGE FORMULA CHART

L (feet)	2 Axles	3 Axles	4 Axles	5 Axles	6 Axles	7 Axles
9	39,000	42,500				
10	40,000	43,500				
11		44,000				
12		45,000	50,000			
13		45,500	50,500			
14		46,500	51,500			
15		47,000	52,000			
16		48,000	52,500	58,000		
17		48,500	53,500	58,500		
18		49,500	54,000	59,000		
19		50,000	54,500	60,000		
20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000	
21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500	
22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000	
23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000	
24		54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500	74,000
25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	74,500
26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	75,000
27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,500
28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	76,500
29		57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	77,000
30		58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	77,500
31		59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	78,000
32		60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	78,500
33			64,000	68,500	74,000	79,000
34			64,500	69,000	74,500	80,000
35			65,500	70,000	75,000	80,500

L (feet)	2 Axles	3 Axles	4 Axles	5 Axles	6 Axles	7 Axles
36			66,000	70,500	75,500	81,000
37			66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500
38			67,500	71,500	77,000	82,000
39			68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500
40			68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500
41			69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000
42			70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500
43			70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000
44			71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500
45			72,000	76,000	81,000	86,000
46			72,500	76,500	81,500	87,000
47			73,500	77,500	82,000	87,500
48			74,000	78,000	83,000	88,000
49			74,500	78,500	83,500	88,500
50			75,500	79,000	84,000	89,000
51			76,000	80,000	84,500	89,500
52			76,500	80,500	85,000	90,500
53			77,500	81,000	86,000	91,000
54			78,000	81,500	86,500	91,500
55			78,500	82,500	87,000	92,000
56			79,500	83,000	87,500	92,500
57			80,000	83,500	88,000	93,000
58				84,000	89,000	94,000
59				85,000	89,500	94,500
60				85,500	90,000	95,000

Note: Weights highlighted in gray exceed the Federal gross vehicle weight limit of 80,000 pounds on the Interstate System.

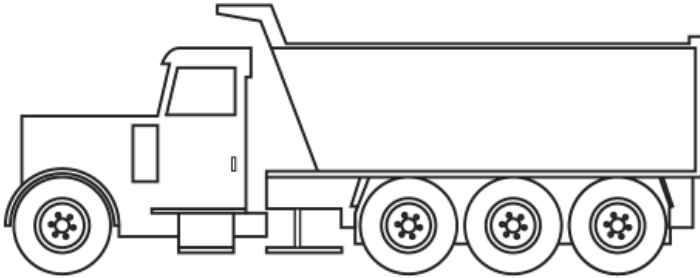
Using the Federal Bridge Formula Chart in Table 1, the maximum allowable weight and axle spacing for common vehicle configurations include:



L = 31' at 5 axles
W = 67,500 lbs.

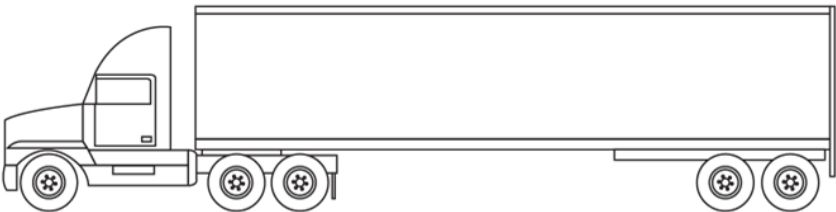
L = 43' at 6 axles
GVW = 80,000 lbs.*

*Minimum axle spacing for 80,000 lbs. on 6 axles



L = 26' to 29' at 4 axles
GVW = 59,500 to 61,500 lbs.*

*Axle spacing and weight range for typical Class 7 dump trucks



L = 38' at 4 axles
W = 67,500 lbs.

L = 51' at 5 axles
GVW = 80,000 lbs.*

*Minimum axle spacing for 80,000 lbs. on 5 axles

2.2.3 Special Weight Limit Provisions Detailed in the FAST Act

The FAST Act of 2015 amended 23 U.S.C. § 127 with respect to the weight limits and other provisions for several vehicle and/or load types on the Interstate System, including covered heavy-duty tow and recovery vehicles, emergency vehicles, and vehicles fueled by natural gas. Details are provided as follows.

2.2.3.1 Covered Heavy-Duty Tow and Recovery Vehicles—N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.2(e)

The FAST Act defines a “Covered Heavy-Duty Tow and Recovery Vehicle” on the Interstate System as a vehicle that is transporting a disabled vehicle from the place where the vehicle became disabled to the nearest appropriate repair facility; and has a gross vehicle weight that is equal to or exceeds the gross vehicle weight of the disabled vehicle being transported. The weight limitations under 23 U.S.C. § 127 do not apply to a covered heavy-duty tow and recovery vehicle. [23 U.S.C. § 127(m)].

Off of the Interstate System, N.J.S.A. 39:3-84(c) states that a heavy-duty tow truck, as defined in section 1 of P.L.1999, c.396 (C.39:3-84.6), is allowed, in combination with the towed unit or units, to exceed the axle, dimensional and maximum gross weight limits for tow trucks and towed unit combinations; except that the limit shall not exceed 150,000 pounds gross combined weight. This provision shall not affect the application of section 6 of P.L.1950, c.142 (N.J.S.A.39:3-84.4) concerning driver liability for damages and does not provide an exemption to exceed the height and weight restrictions marked or posted on a bridge or overpass in the State.

The vehicle combination may not travel on the public highways more than 75 miles from the point where such disablement occurred. If the disablement occurred on a limited access highway, the distance to the nearest exit of such highway shall be added to the 75-mile limitation.

A heavy-duty tow truck **may not exceed 45 miles per hour** when operating in combination with the towed unit or units at a combined weight more than 80,000 pounds, or when one or more of its axles exceeds the limitations prescribed in [Table 1](#), or the tow truck in combination with the towed unit exceeds maximum length and width standards as prescribed by law.

2.2.3.2 *Emergency Vehicles FAST Act—23 U.S.C. § 127(r)*

On the Interstate system, a state shall not enforce against an emergency vehicle a vehicle weight limit (up to a maximum gross vehicle weight of 86,000 pounds) of less than—24,000 pounds on a single steering axle; 33,500 pounds on a single drive axle; 62,000 pounds on a tandem axle; or 52,000 pounds on a tandem rear drive steer axle. An "emergency vehicle" means a vehicle designed to be used under emergency conditions: to transport personnel and equipment; and to support the suppression of fires and mitigation of other hazardous situations. [23 U.S.C. § 127(r)].

2.2.3.3 *Natural Gas Vehicles—N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.2(g)*

On the Interstate system, a vehicle, if operated by an engine fueled primarily by natural gas, may exceed any vehicle weight limit (up to a maximum gross vehicle weight of 82,000 pounds) under 23 U.S.C § 127, by an amount that is equal to the difference between: the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system carried by that vehicle; and the weight of a comparable diesel tank and fueling system. [23 U.S.C. § 127(s)]. N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.1(d) has been updated to incorporate this provision.

3 SIZE AND WEIGHT PERMIT TYPES AND FEES

TABLE 2 PERMIT FEES

Permit Type	Fee
Single-Trip OS/OW Permit - Oversize Fee	\$10 permit fee + \$1 for every 1' (or fraction thereof) > 14' in width + \$1 for every 1' (or fraction thereof) > 63' in trailer/load length for non-house trailers or >70' in trailer/load length for house trailers + \$12 transaction fee and 5% (of total fee) service charge
Single-Trip OS/OW Permit - Overweight Fee	\$10 permit fee + \$5 for every 2,000 lbs. > legal axle, or gross, weight limits + \$12 transaction fee and 5% (of total fee) service charge
Code 23 Trailer Permit and/or Code 23 Route-Specific Permit	\$0 permit fee + any applicable oversize and/or overweight fees + \$12 transaction fee and 5% service charge + <i>Annual trailer registration fee of \$209.50 must be paid to NJMVC (see Note 1 below and Section 6.1)</i>
Ocean Borne Container Permit (annual)	\$100 permit fee + \$12 transaction fee and 5% (of total permit fee) service charge
Emergency Permits	\$0. There are no fees for emergency permits.

Note 1: Some equipment types require registration with New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC), including Code 23 trailers as noted in the table above. Registration fees for Code 23 trailers and other common equipment types are listed in Section 6. A list of MVC registration fees is available on MVC's website at <https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/commfees.htm>.

Note 2: A vehicle owned or operated by the United States, the State, or any government or local subdivision shall be charged only the transaction fee of \$12 plus a service charge of 5% of the total permit fee.

Any vehicle or combination of vehicles found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in this State must operate within the size and weight limitations outlined in Title 39 of New Jersey State Statute, specifically N.J.S.A. 39:3-84, which were summarized in Section [2](#) of this guidebook.

Any vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeding the limitations for width, height, length, or weight found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in this State shall require the carrier to obtain an oversize/overweight (OS/OW) permit. These permits allow for a carrier hauling non-divisible loads to temporarily exceed size and weight limitations outlined in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84. The permit must be in the possession of the operator of the vehicle for which the permit was issued N.J.S.A. 39:3-84d(1) or (2). The authority to issue these permits is outlined in the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 13:18).

New Jersey does not issue permits on behalf of the South Jersey Transportation Authority for the Atlantic City Expressway and the New Jersey Turnpike Authority for the New Jersey Turnpike and the Garden State Parkway. Links to more information regarding size and weight limits and necessary permitting from these and other agencies in and surrounding New Jersey are available in Section [7](#) of this document.

Any person driving any vehicle subject to and in excess of statutory weight limitations and permit requirements upon any highway or highway structure, whether temporary or permanent, shall be liable for all damage which the highway or highway structure may sustain as a result of any such operation. Damage may be recovered in a civil action brought by the authorities in control of such highway or highway structure. The fact that the vehicle causing the damage was being operated within the authorized size and weight limitations or permitted by a special permit shall not be accepted as a defense (N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.4).

In order to obtain an OS/OW permit, the vehicle, or load being carried must be “non-divisible.” A “non-divisible” load is a load that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in such a manner, so that the weight and dimensional limitations prescribed in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84 are not exceeded. This provision is outlined in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.9.

Table 3 contains some examples of both non-divisible and divisible loads. Section 1409 of Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 and N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.2(d) have defined fluid milk as a non-divisible load.

TABLE 3 EXAMPLES OF NON-DIVISIBLE AND DIVISIBLE LOADS

Examples of Non-Divisible Loads (Permitting Available)	Examples of Divisible Loads (Permitting Not Available)
Construction Equipment, Mobile/ Modular Homes, Wind Power Components, Large Generators, Fluid Milk, etc.	Sand, Gravel, Garbage, Mulch, Fuel, Stone, etc.

Loads that do not meet these criteria and can be broken down into loads of smaller sizes or weights, are considered divisible, and are not eligible for transport under an oversize/overweight permit in the State of New Jersey. All divisible loads must be hauled at legal size and weight as defined in N.J.S.A. 39-3-84.

The one exception to this requirement is for sealed containers of the type commonly used for the conveyance of freight transportation in international oceangoing commerce, bearing the seal of the United States Custom Service, the seal of another governmental agency or the seal of the shipper. This exception is outlined in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.2(c).

There are four (4) different types of OS/OW permits available for hauling loads above legal size and weight limits. They are as follows:

1. **Single-Trip OS/OW Permit (5 day):** Used for the transport of any non-divisible OS/OW load.
2. **Code 23 Overdimensional Trailer Permit (Lifetime):** Used for the movement of an empty trailer exceeding eight feet in width, but not over ten feet in width in combination with vehicles exceeding fifty-five feet in length but not more than seventy feet in overall length. This permit is valid for the life of the trailer, as long as the Code 23 registration remains valid.

3. **Code 23 Overweight/Overdimensional Route Specific Permit (30 day):** Traditionally used for the transport of heavy construction equipment or machinery. No excess weight fees apply.
4. **Ocean Borne Container Permit (Annual):** Used for the transport of sealed ocean borne containerized cargo.

In addition, there are three (3) emergency hauling permit types available under certain emergency conditions.

5. Emergency Hauling Permits, including:
 - a. **Preplanned Non-divisible Load Emergency Permit**
 - b. **Unplanned Non-divisible Load Emergency Move Permit**
 - c. **Unplanned Divisible Load Emergency Move Permit (Federal Declared Emergency Only)**

More details about each of these permit types are provided in the remainder of Section 3.

3.1 SINGLE-TRIP OS/OW PERMIT (5 DAY)

A single-trip permit allows a carrier to haul a non-divisible load above legal size and/or weight limitations and is valid for a single trip within a period of five days. In the event the one-way trip cannot be completed within the valid life of the single-trip permit due to hazardous road conditions or vehicle breakdown, a one-day extension may be granted provided that the request is made to the DOT before the permit has expired. Permit restrictions are assigned based on requested dimensions and weights. The cost of a single-trip permit is specified in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.6 and outlined in Table 4.

TABLE 4 OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT FEE STRUCTURES

Oversize Fee ¹	Overweight Fee	Transaction Fee
\$10	\$10	\$12
+	+	+
\$1 for every 1' (or fraction thereof) > 14' in width	\$5 for every 2,000 lbs. > legal axle, or gross, weight limits	5% of total cost of permit
+		
\$1 for every 1' (or fraction thereof) > 63' in trailer/load length		

¹ There is an additional fee of \$1 for every 1' (or fraction thereof) >70' in Overall length for House related moves.

*Note that vehicles that are oversize and overweight are charged the oversize fee(s) **and** overweight fee(s) outlined in Table 3.*

3.2 CODE 23 OVERDIMENSIONAL TRAILER PERMIT

N.J.S.A. 39:4-26 (Code 23) allows for the registration of trailers or semitrailers used for the transportation of road building machinery, vehicles, traction engines, rollers, structural units incapable of dismemberment or other apparatus or machinery of unusual size or weight over the highway. This registration is available from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission for a fee of \$209.50 per year. This fee and fees for other equipment registrations are listed on NJMVC's website, at <https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/commfees.htm>.

Upon receiving a Code 23 Registration (more information on registration is available in Section [6.1](#) of this guidebook) the trailer is eligible to apply for a Code 23 Overdimensional Trailer Permit. This permit is to be used on the roadways of this state to move either an empty Code 23 registered trailer that exceeds the dimensional limits set forth under N.J.S.A. 39:3-84(a), OR a Code 23 oversize trailer with a load that does not exceed 80,000 lbs. GVW or any of the weight limitations specified under N.J.S.A. 39:3-84(b). This permit is trailer specific and is valid statewide. This permit type is subject to the following conditions/limitations:

1. Trailer can exceed 8 feet in width, but not more than 10 feet in width. The load shall not exceed the dimensional limits of the trailer (as described in Section [2.1](#)).
2. Truck/trailer combination exceeding 55 feet in length, but not more than 70 feet, in overall length.
3. Combined vehicle and cargo weight shall not exceed 80,000 lbs GVW or any other weight limitations specified under 39:3-84(b).
4. **This permit is valid for the life of the trailer or as long as the Code 23 registration remains valid.**
5. This permit may be also used to cover the overdimensional permit requirements when used in conjunction with a Code 23 Overweight/Oversize Route Specific Permit, described in Section [3.3](#), when the vehicle falls within the dimensional limits specified in conditions #1 through #3 above.

This Code 23 *Overdimensional Trailer Permit* is considered invalid if any of the above conditions are not met. If any of the above conditions are not met, the carrier must apply for a Code 23 Overweight/Overdimensional Route Permit, described in Section [3.3](#), for each one-way trip and pay any associated excess size fees.

There is no base fee for this permit, however it is subject to the standard transaction fee of \$12 and 5% service charge as detailed in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.6.

3.3 CODE 23 OVERWEIGHT/OVERDIMENSIONAL ROUTE SPECIFIC PERMIT (30 DAY)

A Code 23 Overweight/Oversize Route Specific Permit is a special permit category that is used for the transport of heavy construction or road building machinery that exceeds the weight, or weight and size limits, specified under N.J.S.A. 39:3-84. This permit is to be used to transport overweight and overdimensional road building machinery, construction related equipment or any apparatus/machinery of unusual size or weight along or across a public roadway. These permits are primarily used for overweight loads but may be used to cover loads that are both overweight and overdimensional. In order to obtain this permit, the trailer must have a valid Code 23 registration. Operation under this permit is subject to the requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 39:4-26 and is limited to the hauling of a single piece of equipment.

The permit is route specific, is valid for 30 days, and is subject to the standard transaction fee of \$12 and 5% service charge detailed in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.6. No excess weight fees apply.

This permit type is subject to the following conditions and limitations:

1. This permit to be used in conjunction with a Code 23 registered trailer (more information on Code 23 registration is available in Section [6.1](#) of this guidebook).
2. This permit type is only available for those trailers hauling heavy equipment/machinery as specified under N.J.S.A. 39:4-26.
3. This permit is to be used to transport heavy machinery/equipment when the combined weight of the vehicle and load exceeds any of the weight limits specified under 39:3-84. No excess weight fees apply.
4. This permit may also be applied when the following overdimensional conditions exist with a loaded Code 23 registered trailer. Excess size fees shall apply in each of these cases:
 - a. When the combination vehicle exceeds the dimensional limits (10 feet in width and/or 70 feet in overall length) described under the *Code 23 Overdimensional Trailer Permit* described in Section [3.2](#).

- b. When the carrier does NOT possess a *Code 23 Overdimensional Trailer Permit* described in Section [3.2](#).
 - c. When the load exceeds the confines of the Code 23 registered trailer, including width and/or length overhang.
5. These permits are valid for non-Divisible loads only.
 6. These permits are route specific.
 7. These permits are valid for each one-way trip.
 8. These permits are valid for a period of 30 days.

3.4 OCEAN BORNE CONTAINER PERMIT (ANNUAL)

An Ocean Borne Container Permit can be obtained for a truck tractor semitrailer combination engaged in the overweight transportation of sealed containers of the type commonly used for the conveyance of freight transportation in international ocean-going commerce. Moves made under this permit type must be of legal dimensions and are subject to the weight limitations shown in Table 5.

TABLE 5 OCEAN BORNE CONTAINER PERMIT WEIGHT LIMITATIONS

Maximum Gross Weight	Maximum Tandem Weight	Maximum Tri-axle Weight
90,000 lbs	38,000 lbs	56,400 lbs

Individual vehicle(s) shall conform with the axle weight limitations set forth in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84, where the per axle weight limitation does not exceed 38,000 lbs. for one tandem axle unit only in a truck tractor/semitrailer combination and the maximum tire load limit in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.10(a)2.

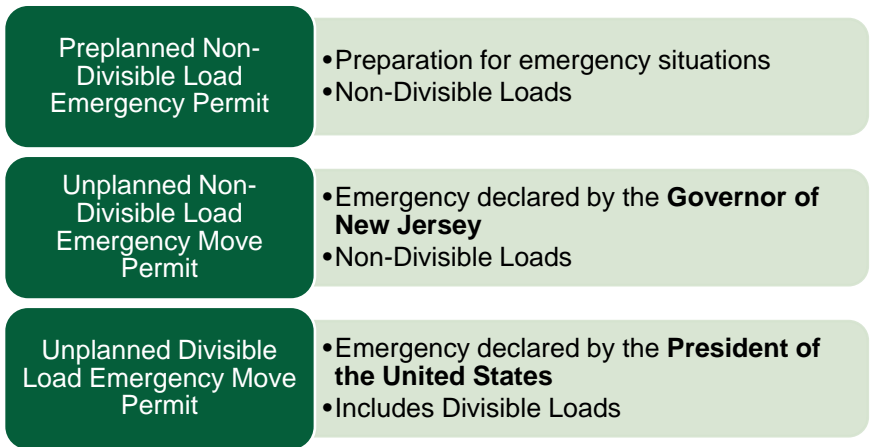
Additionally, this permit is valid on the state highway network with the exception of those structures that are listed as restricted on the permit itself. Ocean borne container permits must have a raised State seal, be in the possession of the driver or operator of the vehicle and are valid for a period of 365 days and have a fee of \$100 plus \$12 transaction fee and 5% service charge.

3.5 EMERGENCY HAULING PERMITS

Certain events and conditions may result in an emergency situation or a formal emergency declaration by either the State of New Jersey or the Federal Government. For carriers needing to haul OS/OW loads to respond to these situations there is a set of emergency permits available to expedite operations. These permits are separate from the standard permit process and are only valid under emergency circumstances.

Figure 1, below, summarizes the three types of emergency hauling permits and the situations in which they are available.

FIGURE 1 TYPES OF EMERGENCY HAULING PERMITS



3.5.1 Preplanned Non-Divisible Load Emergency Permit

A Pre-Planned Non-Divisible Load Emergency Move Permit is a permit that is issued to carriers in order to transport an oversize/overweight **non-divisible** load along the roadways of this state in preparation for emergency situations only. These carriers usually transport equipment or provide a service in response to major unforeseen event/accident (such as train derailment, roadway/bridge collapse, storm response or utility outage). This permit is non-route specific and provides access to the statewide highway system only during these emergency situations. The operator must avoid the list of restricted structures associated with the requested vehicle load configuration when selecting a route to and from the emergency.

The list of restricted structures is associated only with the requested vehicle load configuration and is only valid for the axle loads and spacing defined in this permit. This list must be attached to this permit and carried with the vehicle. Failure to avoid these structures will invalidate this permit. This permit is valid for a period of one year and is not valid on toll roads. Under non-emergency conditions, the carrier must obtain a route specific Single Trip Permit.

3.5.2 Unplanned Non-Divisible Load Emergency Move Permit

An Unplanned Non-Divisible Load Emergency Move Permit is a special emergency permit type that allows for the transport of oversize/overweight **non-divisible loads** along the roadways of this state during a “**State Declared State of Emergency.**” This blanket permit is non-route specific and is only made available during a “State Declared State of Emergency” to allow for the quick movement of equipment or machinery within the state in response to an emergency event.

The operator must avoid the list of restricted structures associated with this permit when selecting a route to and from the emergency. The list of restricted structures is associated only with the requested vehicle load configuration and is only valid for the axle loads and spacing defined in this permit. This list must be attached to this permit and carried with the vehicle. Failure to avoid these structures will invalidate this permit. This permit is valid only for the period of emergency declaration. Under non-emergency conditions, the carrier must obtain a route specific Single Trip Permit.

3.5.3 Unplanned Divisible Load Emergency Move Permit (Federal Declared Emergency Only)

An Unplanned Divisible Load Emergency Move Permit (Federal Declared Emergency Only) is a special emergency permit type that allows for the transport of oversize/overweight **divisible loads** along the roadways of this state during a “**Presidential Declared State of Emergency.**” This blanket permit is non-route specific and is only made available during a “Presidential Declared State of Emergency” to allow for the quick movement of equipment or machinery into, out of, through or within the State in response to an emergency event. This permit allows for the movement of overweight/oversize divisible loads such as food, fuel, and relief supplies in support of emergency relief efforts.

The operator must avoid the list of restricted structures associated with this permit when selecting a route to and from the emergency. The list of restricted structures is associated only with the requested vehicle load configuration and is only valid for the axle loads and spacing defined in this permit. This list must be attached to this permit and carried with the vehicle. Failure to avoid these structures will invalidate this permit. This permit is valid only for the period of the Presidential Declared Emergency. Under non-emergency conditions, the carrier must obtain a route specific Single Trip Permit.

4 HOW TO OBTAIN A PERMIT

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) issues size and weight permits on behalf of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) for all oversize vehicles. Carriers may apply for permits online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by visiting the Department's permit website. Permits also can be obtained through a registered permit service company.

For inquiries regarding emergency permits, and all general permitting support, please contact the Trucking Services Permit Office at (609) 963-2085. Staff will be available to assist you between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern, Monday through Friday. You may also email inquiries to Superload.Permits@dot.nj.gov.

4.1 OBTAINING ROUTE-SPECIFIC PERMITS

When applying for a route-specific permit, such as a single-trip permit or route-specific Code 23 permit, the following information may be required (more information is available in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.5):

- Name, address, email address, and telephone number of the permit applicant.
- Carrier name and USDOT # (if applicable).
- Truck and trailer information, including, but not limited to, vehicle identification number, vehicle plate, make, model, year, and the type of vehicle combination.
- Load description.
- Overall dimensions (length, width, height).

- Axle configuration and weight on each axle.
- Overall gross weight.
- Requested dates of travel.
- Requested routes of travel, including locations of the entrance to and exit from the New Jersey State Highway System, including, but not limited to, the Interstate highways, the New Jersey Turnpike, the Garden State Parkway south of Exit 105, and the Atlantic City Expressway.
- The name of the insurance provider, policy number, and expiration date.

Once a route-specific permit application has been submitted to NJDOT it will be reviewed for acceptability of the route being used in conjunction with the vehicle's load and axle configuration. Applications for single-trip permits will be rejected where the vehicle's load and axle configuration overstress the structures being crossed on the anticipated route of travel. Rejected applications will identify the structures on the proposed route being overstressed. Applicants can either modify the vehicle's load, weight over each axle or axle spacing to lessen the load impact or choose an alternative route.

4.2 OBTAINING PERMITS THAT ARE NOT ROUTE-SPECIFIC

As described in Section 3, ocean borne container permits, Code 23 trailer permits, and all three Emergency Permit types are not route-specific permits. When applying for these permits, the following information may be required (more information regarding Ocean Borne Container permits is available in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.5):

- The name, address and telephone number of the permit applicant.
- Carrier name and USDOT # (if applicable).
- The name of the applicant's insurance provider and policy number required pursuant to 13:18-1.7(b).

To obtain permits for county, municipal, or toll roads in New Jersey, or to obtain permits in neighboring states or on facilities maintained by bi-state authorities, see the links provided in [Section 7](#).

5 HOW TO OPERATE WITH A PERMIT

Once a motor carrier obtains a permit, there are a number of requirements and conditions that must be met in order to operate safely and lawfully.

Some requirements are uniform across all permitted vehicles while others vary depending on the size and weight of the vehicle/load being hauled under the permit. These requirements and conditions are outlined in Section 13, Chapter 18, Subchapter 1 of the New Jersey Administrative Code. In addition to these requirements the Motor Vehicle Commission reserves the right to designate the routes of travel, speed limits, exact day and time of operation, or to impose any other restrictions which may be necessary to minimize traffic delays or safety hazards.

5.1 PERMIT LIABILITY—N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.7(a); N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.4

Any person driving any vehicle subject to and in excess of statutory weight limitations and permit requirements upon any highway or highway structure, whether temporary or permanent, shall be liable for all damage which the highway or highway structure may sustain as a result of any such operation. Damage may be recovered in a civil action brought by the authorities in control of such highway or highway structure. The fact that the vehicle causing the damage was being operated within the authorized size and weight limitations or permitted by a special permit shall not be accepted as a defense.

5.2 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS—N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.7(b)

An application for a permit shall not be accepted unless the applicant provides proof of coverage by insurance in the following minimum limits:

1. \$100,000 for bodily injury or death to any one person in any one occurrence.
2. \$300,000 for bodily injury or death to two or more persons in any one occurrence.
3. \$100,000 for damage to or destruction of property in any one occurrence.

The insurance policy shall contain a provision that there will be 10-day prior notice to the Motor Vehicle Commission in the event of cancellation or

termination of the insurance. Proof of insurance coverage must be in the form of an insurance certificate. This certificate must contain the following information:

1. Name and address of insured.
2. Policy number.
3. Policy expiration date.
4. Automobile coverage (meeting the aforementioned minimums).
5. Vehicles covered under policy described.
6. Ten-day cancellation clause.
7. Agent's signature.

The filing of an insurance certificate shall not be required in the case of an oversize permit issued for the operation of a private utility, or house type trailer or semitrailer. In such cases, the provision of the Security-Responsibility Law will apply. (N.J.S.A. 39:6-23 et seq.)

5.3 PERMIT CONDITIONS—N.J.A.C 13:18-1.9,10,11

5.3.1 Oversize Permit Conditions – Time of Day

Operation under an oversize permit is limited to the daytime hours of sunrise to sunset on any highway where clear space available for use by passing traffic is less than 10', including roadway and improved shoulder. Operation is prohibited when visibility is less than 500', and hazardous road conditions are present. In addition, an oversize permit shall not be valid when the vehicle or vehicle combination cannot be operated safely at a maximum speed of 40 miles per hour.

Lighted lamps are required any time from one half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

5.3.2 Oversize Permit Conditions – Holidays

Operation under an oversize permit is prohibited on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day;
- Memorial Day and the Friday before Memorial Day;
- Independence Day;
- Labor Day and the Friday before Labor Day;
- Thanksgiving Day and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day; and
- Christmas Day.

If the holiday falls on a Sunday, the operation shall not be permitted on the following Monday. If the holiday falls on a Saturday, the operation shall not be permitted on the preceding Friday.

5.3.3 Notifying Authorities of High Vehicles or Loads

When a permitted vehicle and/or load is in excess of 14' in height it is the responsibility of the permittee to notify all Public Utility Companies, N.J. Department of Transportation, County and Municipal Traffic Engineering Departments having control of overhead wires, cables, signal lights, and/or bridges which cross or extend over any of the highways along the permitted route before the move is made. This is outlined in N.J.S.A. 39:4-28. The permit shall be void for failure to make such notifications and/or to comply with the recommendations or request of any of the above offices.

5.3.4 Overweight Permit Conditions

Overweight permits issued to operate in excess of statutory weight limits, and of legal dimension, are authorized to travel 24 hours a day 7 days a week. An overweight permitted vehicle or vehicle combination shall be prohibited from operation when the load is incapable of being operated safely at a maximum speed of 40 miles per hour when lighted lamps are required (unless specific speed restrictions are otherwise noted on the permit). In addition, an overweight permit shall not be valid when visibility is less than 500' or when hazardous road conditions are present. Overweight permits shall not be valid for the operation of a vehicle or combination of vehicles where the gross weight, including load, exceeds 800 pounds per inch of tire width on any or all wheels. Vehicles registered in the State of New Jersey and operating under a

permit authorizing travel in excess of legal weight limits, must be registered at the maximum registration weight permitted in State Statute.

5.4 OVERHANG LIMITS—N.J.S.A. 39: 3-84 a(4)

For trailers/semi-trailers, rear overhang, as measured from the center of the rear tandem axles to the rear of the semitrailer, shall not exceed 35% of the semitrailer's wheelbase and the width of the semitrailer and the distance between the outside edges of the trailer tires shall be 102 inches.

For all vehicles, as long as the vehicle and/or load complies with legal length limits detailed in Section [2.1.3](#), there is no maximum longitudinal load overhang limit.

5.5 ESCORT REQUIREMENTS—N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.12

Operation under an OS/OW permit will require the accompaniment of escort vehicles when the permitted dimensions exceed certain thresholds. These requirements are stated on the permit. Escorts are assigned to permits as shown in Table 6.

TABLE 6 ESCORT REQUIREMENTS BY DIMENSION AND LOCATION

Dimension	# Escorts on Highways with 4 or More Lanes		# Escorts on Highways with Less than 4 Lanes	
	Escort Location		Escort Location	
	Front	Rear	Front	Rear
Width				
Exceeds 14'	0	1	1	0
Exceeds 16'	1	1	1	1
Length				
Exceeds 100'	0	1	1	0
Exceeds 120'	1	1	1	1

Note: When 3 escort vehicles are required, such as when a vehicle and/or load exceeds 16' in width or 120' in length, 1 should be in front, 1 should be in the rear, and the third should be in the adjacent lane alongside the

escorted vehicle on highways with 3 or more lanes, or in rear on highways with less than 3 lanes.

When traveling during the nighttime hours of sunset to sunrise under a waiver, one additional escort vehicle must be added to the escorts listed in [Table 6](#). If a vehicle and/or load is under the width and length dimensions shown in [Table 6](#), then one escort vehicle is required when operating with a waiver during nighttime hours. When one escort vehicle is required, it shall be in the rear behind the escorted vehicle on highways with 4 or more traffic lanes, and in front of the escorted vehicle on highways with less than 4 traffic lanes.

Front escort vehicles must maintain a distance of 200' to 500' from the front of the permitted vehicle(s). Rear escort vehicles must maintain a distance of 100' to 250' from the rear of the permitted vehicle(s).

Only private escorts are assigned to permitted loads and there currently is no certification requirement or certification process in place. There are no limitations on the size or type of vehicle that can be used as an escort vehicle. Carriers are responsible for scheduling and paying for their own escorts for each move.

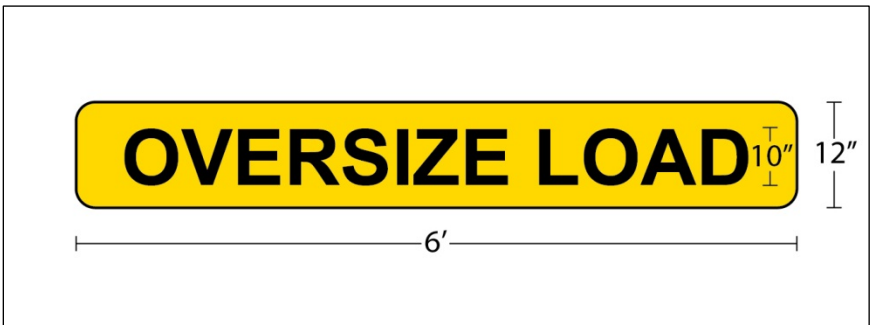
5.6 SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS—N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.13

As a condition of operation under an OS/OW permit either the permitted vehicle or escorts will be required to display a sign to alert the general motoring public of the size of the vehicle/load.

The sign must meet the following requirements:

1. Must be a minimum size of 6' Wide x 12" High.
2. Must have the term "WIDE LOAD or OVERSIZE LOAD".
3. Must have a yellow background with 10" High black letters.

An example of a compliant sign is demonstrated in the diagram below.



When no escorts are required for a permitted load the vehicle signs are to be displayed on the front and rear of the oversize vehicle combination.

When one escort vehicle is required, signs are to be displayed:

- On the front of the escort vehicle when it is preceding the load, and on the rear of the rearmost escorted combination; or
- On the rear of the escort vehicle when it is following the load, and the front of the frontmost escorted combination.

When two escorts are required, signs are to be displayed on the front of the escort vehicle preceding the load, and on the rear of the escort vehicle following the load.

5.7 LAMPS AND REFLECTIVE DEVICES—49 CFR §393:11; N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.15

Lamps and reflective devices help other drivers identify the edges of an OS/OW shipment. More information, including a complete list of regulations regarding lamps and reflective devices are found in Table 1 of 49 CFR § 393.11.

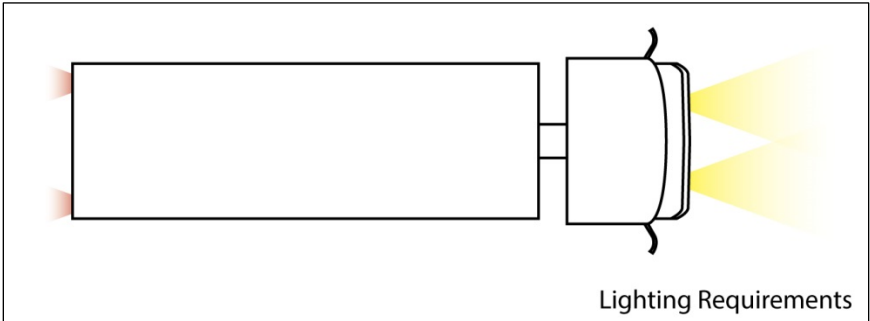
Vehicles transporting a load which extends more than 4 inches beyond the overall width of the vehicle shall have:

1. An amber lamp at the front edge of the outermost extremity of the load, visible from the front and side.
2. A red lamp at the rearmost edge of the outermost portion of the load that extends beyond the side of the vehicle, visible from the rear and side.
3. If the load does not measure more than 3 feet from front to rear, it will be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front, both sides, and rear. If the projection is located at or near the rear of the vehicle, it shall be marked by a red lamp visible from front, side, and rear.

Motor vehicles carrying a load which projects more than 4 feet beyond the rear of the vehicle, or which have tailboards or tailgates extending more than 4 feet beyond the body shall mark projections as followed during the hours when headlamps are required:

1. One each side of the projecting load, one red side marker lamp, visible from the side, located to indicate the maximum overhang.
2. On the rear of the projecting load, two red lamps, visible from the rear, one at each side of the load, and two red reflectors visible from the rear, one at each side of the load located to indicate maximum width.

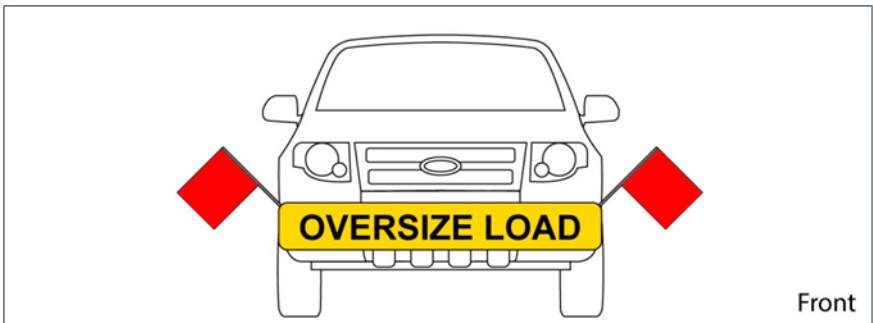
N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.15 requires low beam headlamps and red tail lamps to be illuminated on all **escort vehicles, the towing vehicle, and the towed vehicle** throughout the duration of operation, as shown in the diagram on the following page.



5.8 WARNING FLAGS—49 CFR § 393.87; N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.14; N.J.S.A. 39:3-61.4

As a condition of operation under an OS/OW permit, warning flags are required to be displayed at the extremities of the vehicle/load as well as the escort vehicles. Warning flags must be red in color and a minimum of 18" x 18" in size. Compliant displays include, but are not limited to, the following examples (signs and flags should not obstruct lamps, lights, or license plates):

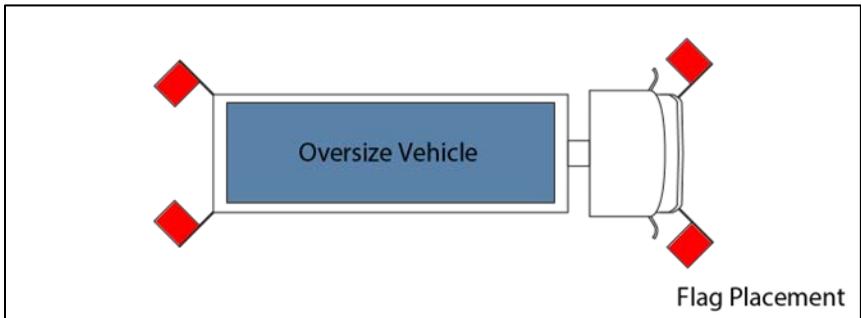
- Warning flags shall be displayed on the two front corners of the preceding escort vehicle, as shown in the diagram below.



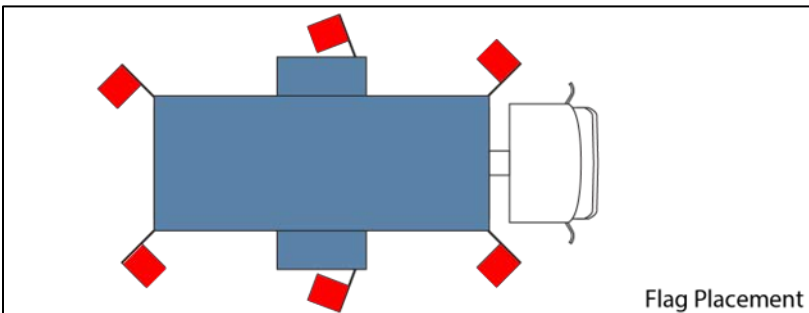
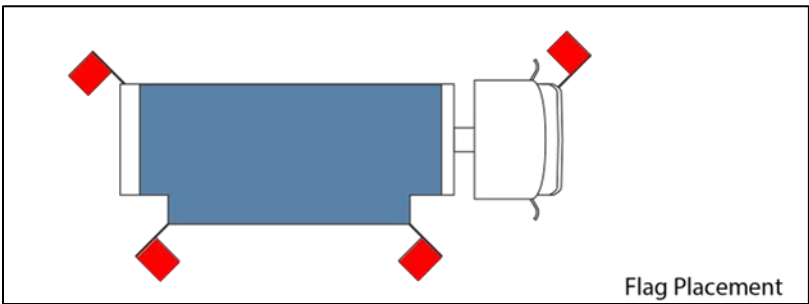
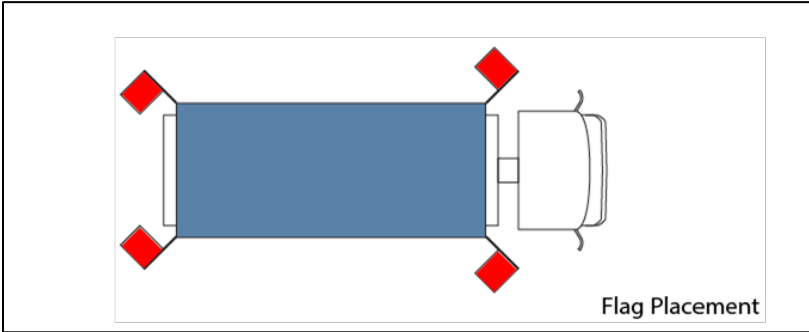
- Warning flags shall be displayed on the two rear corners of the following escort vehicle, as shown in the diagram below.



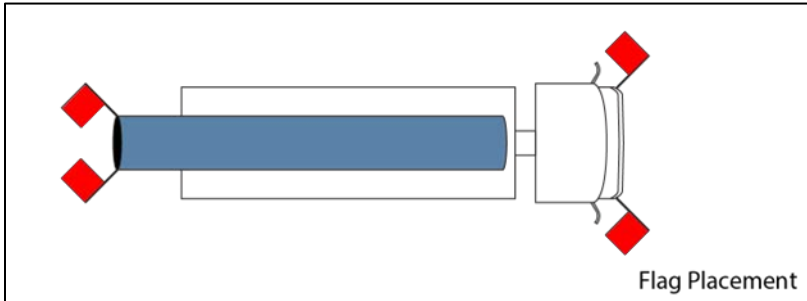
- Warning flags shall be placed at the four corners of an oversized vehicle, as shown in the diagram below.



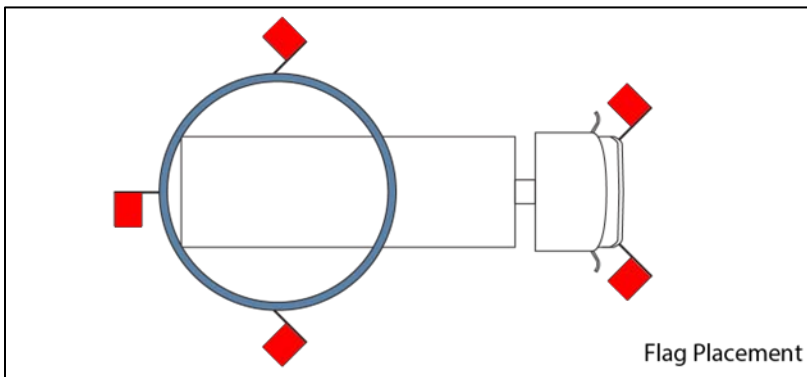
- When a vehicle, whether oversize or not, is transporting a load which projects beyond the sides of the vehicle, the warning flags shall be placed at the extremities of the load, rather than on the vehicle. Examples of flag placement on different types of loads are provided in the following three diagrams.



- If the load projects only beyond the rear of the transporting vehicle, two flags shall be placed on the two rear corners of the load, as shown in the diagram below.



- If the projecting load is round or some other shape without distinguishable corners, a warning flag shall be placed at the outermost extremity of the load on each side and/or to the rear of the vehicle. An example is shown in the diagram below.



6 ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

MVC has different registration requirements for various commercial vehicle operations. These requirements are outlined in various MVC Registration Codes. A review of some commonly used codes by vehicles and combinations that operate oversize and/or overweight are listed in this section for quick reference. Additional information regarding regulations and all other registration codes and associated fees can be found on MVC's website at:

<https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/commvehinfo.htm>.

Registration fees listed in Table 7 do not include any permit fees that may apply, as summarized in Section 3.

TABLE 7 REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Type	Registration Fee
Code 23 Trailer	\$209.50 per year
Code 41 Constructor	\$974 per year for 21,000 lbs. + an extra \$22.50 per 1,000 lbs. up to 70,000 lbs.
Code 39 Solid Waste	\$101.50 up to 5,000 lbs. + an extra \$11.50 per 1,000 lbs. up to 60,000 lbs.
Code 56 Contractor Equipment-in-Transit	\$135 per set of five

A complete list of NJ MVC commercial registration fees is available at <https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/vehicles/commfees.htm>.

6.1 CODE 23 TRAILER REGISTRATION—N.J.S.A. 39:4-26

N.J.S.A. 39:4-26 allows for the registration of trailers or semitrailers used for the transportation of “road building machinery, vehicles, traction engines, rollers, structural units incapable of dismemberment, or other apparatus or machinery of unusual size or weight” along or across a public road or highway in New Jersey. To register a Code 23 trailer, please visit any local motor vehicle agency office, complete the registration form, provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance with a description of operations that includes a Code 23 trailer, and pay the associated registration fee of \$209.50. This registration is trailer specific and is valid for a period of one year.

6.1.1 Code 23 Trailer Specifications/Limitations

When operating under this registration, the following specifications and limitations apply:

- Code 23 is restricted to transportation of one-piece (non-divisible) loads. Exception: Additional registration under N.J.S.A. 39:3-20(d) code (19) or (21), in conjunction with 39:4-26 (code 23) to transport more than one article which does not exceed any limitations set forth in 39:3-84.
- Subject to OS/OW permitting requirements and limitations of N.J.S.A. 39:3-84 and N.J.A.C. 13:18.
- Weight restricted to 800 lbs. per inch in width of tire on all wheels N.J.S.A. 39:4-27 and 39:3-82.
- Certificate of Liability Insurance required.
- Meet Minimum insurance coverage limits specified under 13:18-1.7(b).
- Subject to annual inspection provisions contained within the FMCSA regulations 49 CFR parts 393 and 396 (if the trailer meets definition of a commercial motor vehicle found under N.J.A.C. 13:60).

Trailers or semitrailers registered under this provision are subject to the OS/OW permitting requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:18 when the vehicle combination exceeds any of the size or weight limits defined in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84. Such trailers or semitrailers will be subject to overdimensional, and transaction fees specified under N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.6, but not subject to any excess weight fees, specified under N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.6(c).

6.1.2 How to Apply for a Permit to Operate a Code 23 Overweight/Oversize Trailer

After registering your trailer, you may apply for an oversize and/or overweight vehicle permit. For more information on permitting requirements and limitations associated with Code 23 registered trailers, please visit Sections [3.2](#), [3.3](#), and [4](#) of this guidebook or the MVC website at: <https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/overdimcode23.htm>.

6.2 CODE 41 CONSTRUCTOR REGISTRATION—N.J.S.A. 39:3-20b

All vehicles with a gross weight between 41,000 and 70,000 pounds with satisfactory proof that the applicant is actually engaged in construction work or in the business of supplying material, transporting material, or using such registered vehicle for construction work may apply for a Code 41 Constructor registration.

Plates are regular commercial plates and begin with the prefix "X".

Restrictions:

- Vehicles cannot operate on a highway at a speed greater than 45 miles per hour when carrying a load under 50 percent of the registered gross weight.
- Such commercial motor vehicle shall be operated in compliance with the speed limitations of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes and shall not be operated at a speed greater than 45 miles per hour when one or more of its axles has a load which exceeds the limitations prescribed in N.J.S.A.39:3-84, which are also described in Section [2.2](#) of this guidebook.
- Vehicle cannot exceed 30 miles (air mile radius) when carrying a load over 50 percent of the registered gross weight.
- The provisions of paragraph 5 of subsection b. of N.J.S.A.39:3-84 (maximum gross and axle weights) shall not apply; provided the vehicle or combination of vehicles is operated within an area that is 30 miles or less from the point established as a headquarters for the particular construction operation.

Special conditions (dual registration):

- Any vehicle registered as a Code 41 Constructor may also be dually registered as a Code 39 Solid Waste. The owner of the vehicle must present a photocopy of the title and pay the full fee for Code 39 Solid Waste.
- Proof of Business Engagement must be uploaded for online renewal. If the vehicle is registered with a weight of 55,000 lbs. or more, you must upload the Heavy Use Tax Form (2290) (https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/commercial/60_Day-rule_DMV.pdf) for online renewal.
- The owner will have two different sets of plates and two registrations for the vehicle. Both sets of plates must be displayed on the vehicle and both registrations must always be carried in the vehicle.

6.3 CODE 39 SOLID WASTE REGISTRATION—N.J.S.A. 39:3-20c

All vehicles engaged in solid waste disposal (trash collection) with the registration weight ceilings of:

- 42,000 pounds for a two-axle vehicle
- 60,000 pounds for:
 - Tandem three-axle vehicle
 - Four-axle vehicle
 - Four-axle truck tractor-trailer combination

Plates: Regular commercial plates that begin with "X".

Special conditions:

- Applicants must hold a "Certificate of Convenience and Necessity" issued by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners.
- Any vehicle registered as Code 39 Solid Waste may also be dually registered as Code 41 Constructor, but the owner of the vehicle must present a photocopy of the title and pay the full fee for the Code 41 registration.

- The applicant will have two different sets of plates and two registrations for the vehicle. Both sets of plates must be displayed on the vehicle and both registrations must be carried in the vehicle at all times.
- Vehicles registered as a Solid Waste Disposal Vehicle shall be limited to the allowable gross weight as shown on the registration certificate.
- Certificate of Convenience and Necessity must be uploaded for online renewal. If the vehicle is registered with a weight of 55,000 lbs. or more, you must upload the [Heavy Use Tax Form \(2290\)](#) for online renewal.
- While operating, the provisions of paragraph 5 of subsection b. of N.J.S.A. 39:3-84 (maximum gross and axle weights) shall not apply; except when the vehicle or combination of vehicles registered as “solid waste” is operated on any highway which is part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, as provided in 23 U.S.C. s.103.

6.4 CODE 56 CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT-IN-TRANSIT REGISTRATION—N.J.S.A.39:4-30

Any person, partnership or corporation may obtain general registration and plates with the word "temporary" or "in-transit" with regards to:

- Road building machinery
- Traction engines
- Rollers or other machinery of the kind owned or controlled by it.

Plates:

- Plates used for Code 56 must display the words “CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT IN-TRANSIT.”
- Plates will be issued in bundles of five sets (10 plates) with hyphenated numbers through five.
- Fee of \$135.00 per set of five.

Restrictions/Limitations:

- In-transit plates are to be used on vehicles/equipment such as:
 - Road-building machinery;
 - Backhoes;

- Front end loaders;
 - Well Drilling equipment (including any necessary attachments);
 - Cranes;
 - Arrow boards;
 - Chippers/Shredders;
 - Cement Mixers;
 - Compressors; or
 - Other self-propelled and towed pieces of equipment used in moving to and from the locations of any type of construction.
- No load may be carried on or in any vehicle or piece of equipment registered under Code 56 while moving to or from any construction site or while moving upon any public roadway.
 - Any vehicle towing a piece of equipment displaying a Code 56 plate must be properly registered.
 - Any vehicle with a Code 56 plate may not be used in combination with another vehicle or piece of equipment displaying a Code 56 plate.
 - Code 56 plates may not be used for snowplows.
 - Code 56 plates shall be displayed on **both the front and rear of each vehicle or piece of equipment** being transported as specified under N.J.S.A. 39:3-33, except for trailers or towed equipment where only one plate can be displayed.
 - Any vehicle exceeding the size and/or weight limitations as prescribed in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84 shall be required to obtain a special permit.

Please see Section [3](#) of this guidebook or visit the NJDOT website for further information when a permit is required and Section [4](#) for instructions on how to apply for permits. For direct access to NJDOT's Superload online permitting website go to:

<https://nj.gotpermits.com/njpass/>.

More information regarding insurance requirements, registration renewal, obtaining replacement plates, and acquiring duplicate registrations is available on the NJMVC website:

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/vehicles/commvehinfo.htm>

7 OTHER COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SIZE AND WEIGHT INFORMATION RESOURCES

7.1 KEY RESOURCES

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration:

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/>

New Jersey Department of Transportation Superload Online Permitting System:

<https://nj.gotpermits.com>

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) Commercial Vehicle Registration Information:

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/vehicles/commvehinfo.htm>

New Jersey State Police Transportation Safety Bureau

Phone: (609) 452-2601

7.2 OTHER STATES, JURISDICTIONS, AND BI-STATE AUTHORITIES

The guidance in this document applies promotes the safe movement of vehicles or combinations of vehicles exceeding the limitations for width, height, length, or weight found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in New Jersey. Other requirements may apply on private toll facilities, bi-state facilities, and in jurisdictions outside New Jersey. Links to more information about operation in those jurisdictions are provided as follows:

New Jersey Turnpike Authority (New Jersey Turnpike and Garden State Parkway):

<https://www.njta.com/contact-us>

South Jersey Transportation Authority (Atlantic City Expressway):

<https://www.sjta.com/acexpressway/rules.asp>

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (including the George Washington Bridge, Goethals Bridge, Outerbridge Crossing, Lincoln Tunnel, and Holland Tunnel):

<https://www.panynj.gov/bridges-tunnels/en/trucker-resources.html>

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission bridge load and size limits: <https://www.drjtbc.org/bridge-limits/>

New York City Department of Transportation:
<https://www1.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/motorist/oversize.shtml>

New York State Department of Transportation:
<https://www.dot.ny.gov/hypermits>

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation:
<https://www.penndot.pa.gov/Doing-Business/Permits/HaulingInformation/Pages/default.aspx>

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission:
<https://www.paturnpike.com/commercial/permits-restrictions>

Delaware Department of Transportation:
<https://deldot.gov/osow/application/>

Maryland State Highway Administration
<https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/cvo.aspx?did=ahps&Pa geld=23>

Connecticut Department of Transportation
<https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Permits/Highways/Oversize-Overweight-Permits>

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<https://nj.gotpermits.com>