

New Jersey Commercial Vehicle Size and Weight Guidebook

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission



March 2017

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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 who 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 Statute 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:

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/ols.asp



SECTION 1 – LEGAL HAULING LIMITATIONS

Commercial vehicles, and vehicle combinations, 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 New Jersey State Statute, specifically N.J.S.A. 39:3-84. A vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting a load, exceeding these dimensions in any respect, requires a Special Permit for movement over New Jersey highways

Further information on these permits can be found on page 17 of this booklet. The definitions for vehicle, and combinations of vehicles are as follows:

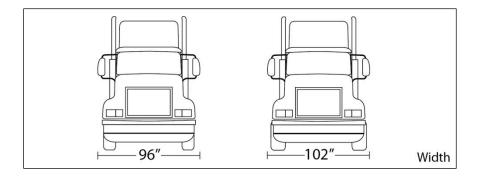
A "vehicle" includes, but is not limited to, commercial motor vehicles, trucks, truck tractors, tractors, and road tractors.

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.

1.1 – LEGAL DIMENSIONAL LIMITATIONS

The following constitute 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.

Width: N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(1)



Overall width is defined as the distance between the widest points of the vehicle, or combination of vehicles inclusive of the load. The maximum width of a commercial vehicle traveling within the State of New Jersey is:

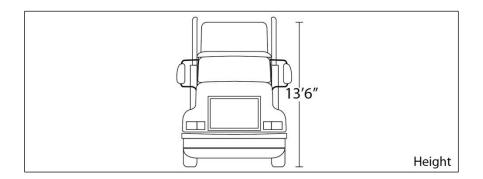
Width = 102" (or 8'6") on the National Highway Network and the New Jersey 102" Truck Route Network (see NJAC 16:32); and

Width = 96" or 8' on all other highways.

A complete list of route designations, including the 102" truck route network can be found on the New Jersey DOT web site at <u>http://www.state.nj.us/</u> <u>transportation/freight/trucking/map.shtm</u>.



Height: N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(2)



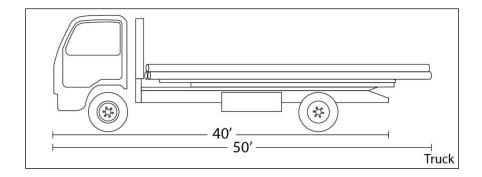
Overall height is defined as the distance from the ground to the highest point of the vehicle, inclusive of the load. The maximum height of a commercial vehicle traveling within the State of New Jersey is:

Height = 13'6" on all highways.

Length

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.

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

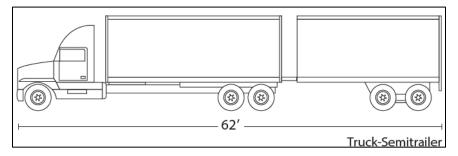


A truck is defined as a motor vehicle designed, used or maintained for the transportation of property. The maximum length of a truck is:

Length = 40' on all highways; and

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

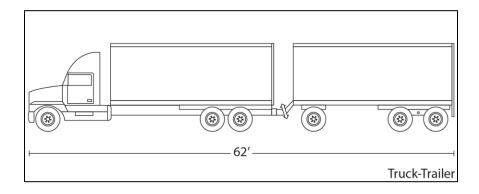
Truck-Semitrailer Combinations: N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(3) (4)



The maximum length for truck-semitrailer vehicle combination is as follows:

Length = 62' on all highways.

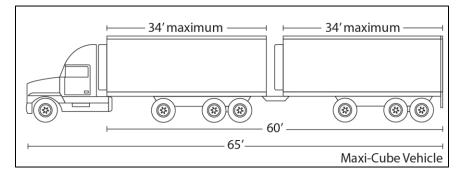
Truck-Trailer Combinations: N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(3) (4)



The maximum length for truck-trailer vehicle combination is as follows:

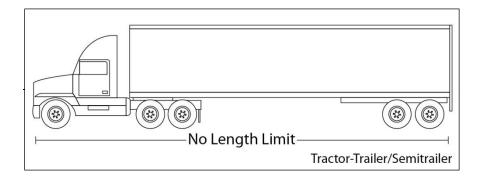
Length = **62'** on all highways.

Maxi-Cube Vehicles



These 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 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.

Tractor-Trailer/Semitrailer:



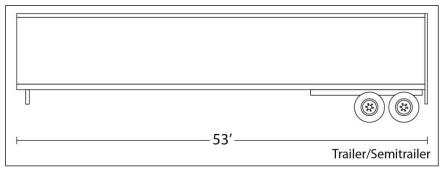
A tractor is defined as a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn.

There is **no maximum overall length** for a tractor-trailer/semitrailer combination on highways in the State of New Jersey so long as the trailer/ semitrailer lengths are in compliance with 39:3-84a4.

Trailer/Semitrailer: N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.a(4)

A trailer 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 no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.

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.



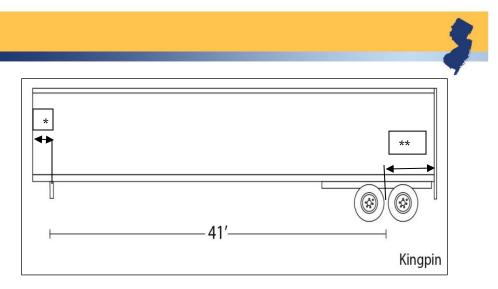
The maximum length of both a trailer/semitrailer is:

Length = 53' on all highways (when overall width does not exceed 8').

Length = **53**' on the National Highway Network and the New Jersey 102" Truck Route Network (when overall width is 8'6").

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

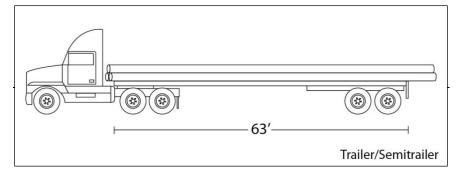
http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/freight/trucking/map.shtm.



* The kingpin of the trailer shall not be set back further than 3.5 feet from the front of the semitrailer

** Measured from the center of the rear tandem axles to the rear of the semitrailer shall not exceed 35% of the semitrailer's wheelbase

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'**.



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**'.

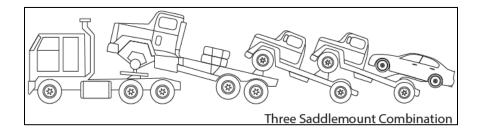
| ŀ | 48' | Trailer/Semitrailer |
|---|-----|---------------------|

The maximum length of a trailer/semitrailer or trailer combination is 48 feet overall when configured in the following combinations:

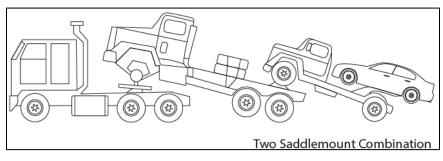
- truck/trailer
- truck/semi-trailer or
- trailer combination

<u>Saddlemount and Saddlemount with Fullmount Combinations:</u> 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 (Figure 12). 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 NN and reasonable access routes.

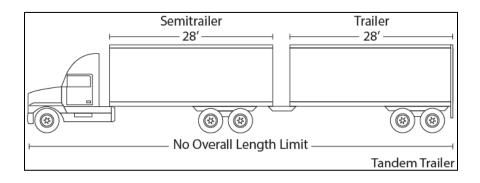


No combination of vehicles will exceed two drawn vehicles and a power unit in intrastate operation (two saddle mounts). (Also see 39:4-54)



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

The maximum overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle, as set forth in this section, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, when operated as part of a combination of vehicles consisting of two motor-drawn vehicles and a drawing or power unit vehicle which is not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo or loads (e.g., a truck tractor), shall not exceed 28 feet for each motor-drawn vehicle in the combination of vehicles.



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

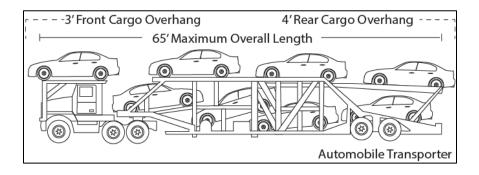
http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/freight/trucking/map.shtm.

1.2 – VEHICLE SIZE LIMIT EXCEPTIONS

There are a couple of 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 as follows:

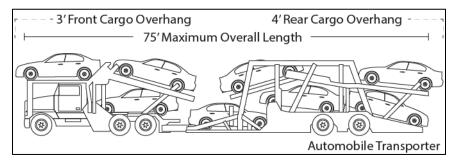
Automobile Transporters: N.J.A.C. 13:20-38 / NJSA 39:3-84a(10)

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 is as follows:

Length = **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 is as follows:

Length **= 75'** exclusive of the load (overhang is limited to 3' in the front and 4' in the rear)

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

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

W =8';

H = 13'6";

- L = 35' for a single unit;
- L = 45' overall for a towing vehicle-semitrailer combination; and

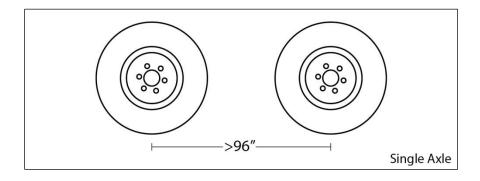
 $L = 50^{\circ}$ overall for a towing vehicle-trailer combination.

A house type trailer vehicle, or vehicle combination, exceeding these limitations must may apply for a permit. Further information on oversize permits can be found on page 17 of this booklet.

1.3 – LEGAL WEIGHT LIMITATIONS

The maximum vehicle weights for vehicles, and combinations of vehicles, operating within the State of New Jersey are outlined 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 on page 17 of this booklet.

Single Axle



A single axle is defined as an individual axle whose axle center is spaced more than 96" from the center of the next axle. 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 is as follows:

Weight = 22,400 lbs.

Groups of Two or More Axles

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 Formula¹ is as follows:

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

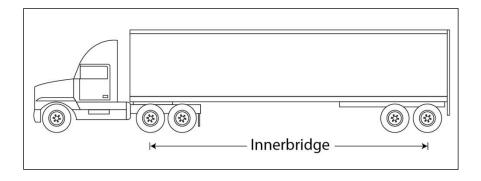
¹ http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/publications/brdg_frm_wghts.



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.

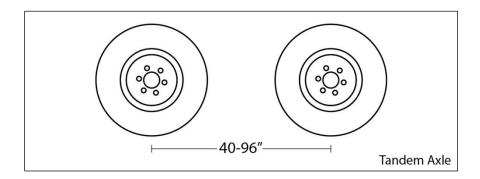
This formula is used to determine the maximum weight allowed on all multiaxle groups including tandem axle, tri-axle quads, etc. as well as the innerbridge and overall gross vehicle weight.



The innerbridge is defined as the distance from center of the second axle to the center of the last axle of a vehicle, or combination or vehicles. 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 weight allowance of a vehicles is determined by the Federal Bridge Formula, they both have maximum values outlined in the law. These values are as follows:

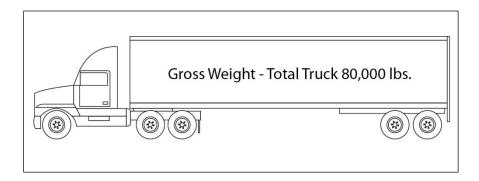
Tandem Axles



A tandem axle is defined as consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles where the difference between axle centers is more than 40", but less than 96" apart. The maximum weight allowed on axle group of this type is as follows:

Weight = 34,000 lbs.

Gross Vehicle Weight N.J.S.A. 39:3-84.4



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 as follows: Weight = 80,000 lbs.



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.

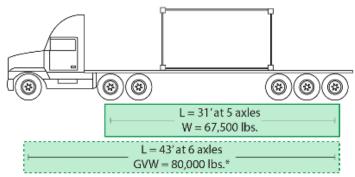
The following chart summarizes the weight allowances calculated by the Federal Bridge Formula: as outlined in N.J.S.A. 39:3-84b(5)

On any highway in this State which is part of, or designated as part of, the National Interstate System, as provided at 23 U.S.C. s.103(c), the total gross weight, in pounds, imposed on the highway or other surface by any group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed that listed in the following Table of Maximum Gross Weights, for the respective distance, in feet, between the axle centers of the first and last axles of the group of two or more 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.

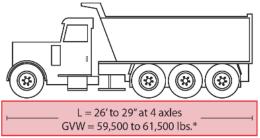
| Federal Bridge Formula Chart | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| L (feet) | 2 Axles | 3 Axles | 4 Axles | 5 Axles | 6 Axles | 7 Axles |
| 9 | 39,000 | 42,500 | | | | |
| 10 | 40,000 | 43,500 | | | | |
| 11 | | 44,000 | | | | |
| 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 |
| 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 |

| Federal Bridge Formula Chart | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| L (feet) | 2 Axles | 3 Axles | 4 Axles | 5 Axles | 6 Axles | 7 Axles |
| 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 |

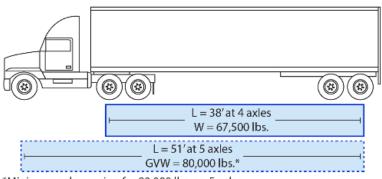
Using the Federal Bridge Formula Chart on pages 16 and 17, the maximum allowable weight and axle spacing for common vehicle configurations include:



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



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



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



SECTION 2 – EXCEEDING LEGAL SIZE AND WEIGHT LIMITATIONS

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. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeding weight limitations, maximum dimensional limitations for width, height and length, set forth in this Title, 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 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).

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.

The following table contains some examples of both non-divisible and divisible loads.

| Non-Divisible Loads (Can Permit) | Divisible Loads (Cannot Permit) |
|--|--|
| Construction Equipment, Mobile/ Modular Homes, Wind Power Components, Large Generators, etc. | Sand, Gravel, Garbage, Mulch, Fuel, Stone, etc. |

Loads that do not meet this 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).

2.1 – PERMIT TYPES AND FEES

There are four 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.
- Code 23 Special Oversize 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.

Exception: A vehicle operating under a code 23 Lifetime permit, will not require an additional single trip permit when transporting a load which is confined to the dimensional limits of the vehicle. A vehicle transporting a load which exceeds the dimensional limits of the vehicle will require a special trip permit in addition to the Lifetime permit.

- Code 23 Overweight/Oversize 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.

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 singletrip permit is outlined in the following table:

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

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

Code 23 Special Oversize Trailer Permit (Lifetime)

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.

Upon receiving a Code 23 Registration the trailer is eligible to apply for a Code 23 Oversize 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 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 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 defined in 1 above).
- 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 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 below, when the vehicle falls within the dimensional limits specified in conditions #1 thru #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 below, 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 \$12.60.

Code 23 Overweight/Oversize 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 \$12.60. 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.
- 2. This permit type is only available for those trailers hauling heavy equipment/machinery as specified under N.J.S.A. 39:4-26.

- This permit is to be used to transport heavy machinery/equipment when the combined weight of the vehicle and/or 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 Special Oversize Trailer Permit* above.

b) When the carrier does NOT possess a *Code 23 Special Oversize Trailer Permit* described above.

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.

Ocean Borne Container Permit (Annual)

An Ocean Borne Container Permit can be obtained for a 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 following weight limitations:

| Maximum | Maximum | Maximum |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Gross Weight | Tandem Weight | 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 tractor/semitrailer combination and the maximum tire load limit in N.J.A.C. 13:18-1.10(a)2 as well as comply with the Federal Bridge Formula. 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 flat fee of \$117.60.



SECTION 3 – PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS

There are a number of requirements and conditions associated with operating under an OS/OW permit. 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 Annotated 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.

3.1 - PERMIT LIABILITY: N.J.A.C 13:18-1.7(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.

3.2 – 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;
- \$300,000 for bodily injury or death to two or more persons in any one occurrence; and

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 the above 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 coverages (minimum shown above);
- 5. Vehicles covered under policy described;
- 6. Ten-day cancellation clause; and
- 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.)

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

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 a 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 when lighted lamps are required.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

3.4 - 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.

For all vehicles, as long as the vehicle and/or load complies with legal length limits, there is no maximum load overhang limit.

3.4 – 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 follows:

| | # Escort Multilane Highways Escort Location | | # Escorts Two-Lane Highways Escort Location | |
|--------------|---|---|---|------|
| Dimension | 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 |

When traveling under a waiver allowing travel at night from sunset to sunrise three escort vehicles are required: one will precede the load, one will follow the load, and one will travel in the adjacent lane alongside the load on all highways having three or more lanes. On roadways with less than three travel lanes, the third escort will follow the load.

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

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.

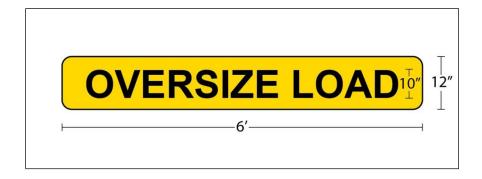


3.5 – SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS: N.J.A.C 13:18-1.13

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;" and
- 3. Must have a yellow background with 10" High black letters.



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 escort vehicle when it is following the load.

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.

3.6 – OVERHANG LOADS; PLACEMENT AND USE OF RED LAMPS AND FLAGS: N.J.A.C. 39:3-61.4

This section describes the use of red lamps and flags for moving loads that overhang the vehicle.

When moving a load with an overhang of 4 feet or more beyond the bed or body of a vehicle at the times when lighted lamps are required, the vehicle must display:

- 1) Two red lamps at the extreme rear end of the load that are visible from at least 500' to the rear;
- 2) Two red reflectors visible from the rear and located as to indicate the maximum width of the load when the width of the overhang load is in excess of 50% of the width of the vehicle or one red lamp if not in excess of 50% of the width of the vehicle; and
- One red lamp on each side of the vehicle visible from a distance of at least 500' to the side located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

At any other time, any vehicle with a load which extends beyond the side of the truck or more than 4' beyond the rear shall have red flags, not less than 18" square marking the extremities of the load at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

In addition, any vehicle transporting a load during the times when lighted lamps are required which projects beyond the sides of a vehicle shall be equipped with the following:

- 1) An amber lamp visible from the front and side at the foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity; and
- A red lamp visible from the rear and side at the rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity;

All projecting load markers shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.



3.7 - WARNING FLAGS ON PROJECTING LOADS: N.J.A.C. 393:87

Shipments operating under an OS/OW permit with a load that extends more than 102mm (4 inches) beyond the side of the vehicle or more than 1,219 mm (4 feet) beyond the rear of the vehicle must have red or orange fluorescent warning flags that are at least 457mm (18 inches) square marking the extremities of the load.

Flags must be located to indicate the maximum width of loads which extend beyond the sides and/or rear of the vehicle. If the projecting load is two feet wide or less, a single warning flag must be placed at the extreme rear of the load. If the projecting load is wider than two feet, two warning flags are required.

3.8 - LAMPS AND REFLECTIVE DEVICES: N.J.A.C. 393:11

Lamps and reflective devices help other drivers identify the edges of an OS/OW shipment. A complete list of regulations regarding lamps and reflective devices are found in Table 1 of §393.11.

Vehicles transporting a load which extends more than 102 mm (4 inches) beyond the overall width of the vehicle shall have:

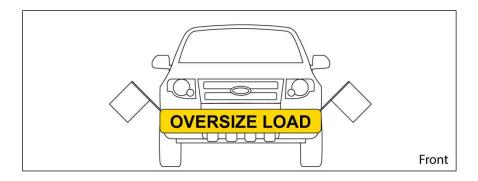
- An amber lamp at the front edge of the outermost extremity of the load, visible from the front and side;
- A read lamp at the rearmost edge of the outermost portion of the load that extends beyond the side of the vehicle, visible from the rear and side;
- 3) If the load does not measure more than 914 mm (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 with projects more than 1,219 mm (4 feet) beyond the rear of the vehicle, or which have tailboards or tailgates extending more than 1,219 mm (4 feet) beyond the body shall mark projections as followed during the hours when headlamps are required:

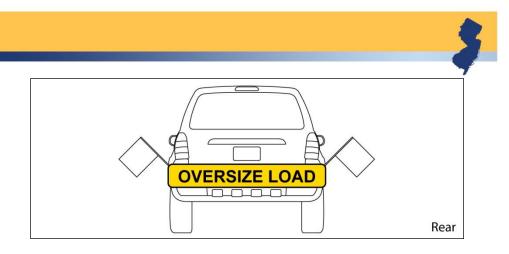
- One each side of the projecting load, one red side marker lamp, visible from the side, located to indicate the maximum overhang; and
- 2) On the rear of the projecting load, two red lamps, visible from the rear, one at each side of the load, and two red reflectors visible from the rear, one at each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

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

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):

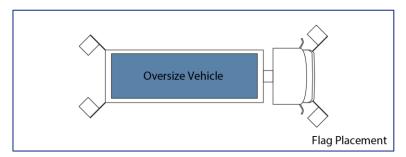


Warning flags shall be displayed on the two front corners of the preceding escort vehicle.

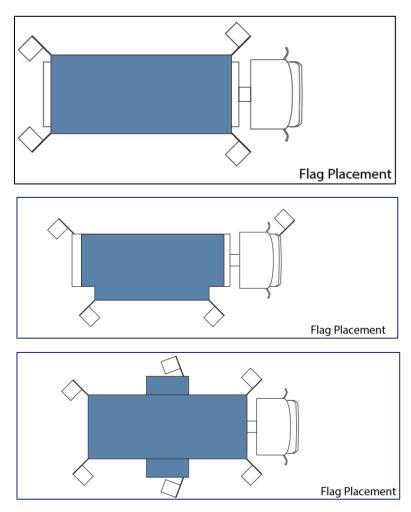


Warning flags shall be displayed on the two rear corners of the following escort vehicle.

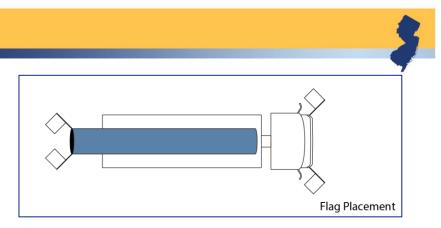
• Warning flags shall be placed at the four corners of an oversize vehicle.



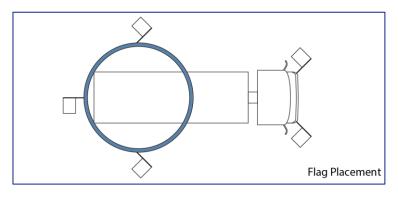
• When a vehicle, whether oversize or not, is transporting a load which projects beyond the sides of the vehicle the warning flags shall be placed at the four corners of the load rather than the vehicle.



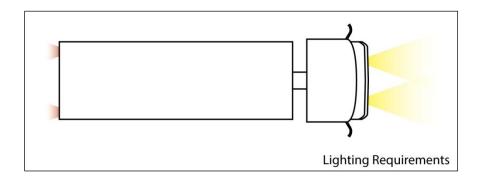
• If the load projects only beyond the rear of the transporting vehicle, two flags shall be placed on the two rear corners of the load (top right diagram).



 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.



3.10 - LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS: N.J.A.C 13:18-1.15



Low beam headlamps and red tail lamps shall be illuminated on all **escort** vehicles, the towing vehicle and the towed vehicle throughout the duration of operation.

3.11 – OBTAINING A SIZE AND WEIGHT PERMIT

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is now issuing size and weight permits on behalf of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) for all oversize vehicles. Carriers may apply for permits on-line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by visiting the Department's permit web site. Permits also can be obtained through a registered permit service company. A list of current permit service companies registered with New Jersey as well as information on ordering permits on-line can be found at <u>http://nj.gotpermits.com</u>.

For inquiries regarding emergency permits, and all general permitting support, please contact the permit office at (609) 530-6089. Staff will be available to assist you between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Eastern, Monday through Friday.

When applying for a permit, the following information may be required:

- Name, address, email address, and telephone number of the permit applicant;
- Carrier 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; and

• The name of the insurance provider, policy number, and expiration date.

Once a 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.

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

MVC has different requirements for various commercial vehicle operations. These requirements are outlined in various MVC Registration Codes. A review of the most commonly used codes by the construction industry are listed below for quick reference. Additional information regarding regulations and all other registration codes and associated fees can be found on MVC's website at:

http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/Commercial/Commercialvehicle.htm

Code 23 Trailer Registration

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 fee of \$209.50. This registration is trailer specific and is valid for a period of one year.

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).

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 Section 2.1 of this Guidebook or our web site at:

www.state.nj.us/mvc/Commercial/oversize.htm

Code 41 Constructor Registration (39:3-20b)

The chief administrator is also authorized to issue registrations for commercial motor vehicles having three or more axles and a gross weight over 40,000 pounds but not exceeding 70,000 pounds, upon application therefor and proof to the satisfaction of the chief administrator 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.

Vehicles with this registration are subject to the following restrictions and conditions:

The weight limitations provided at R.S. 39:3-84b. (1); R.S. 39:3-84 b. (2); and R.S. 39:3-84 b. (3) relative to maximum gross axle weights shall not apply to vehicles registered as "constructor" or to a combination of vehicles of which the "constructor" vehicle is the drawing vehicle as provided at R.S. 39:3-20, the provisions of R.S. 39:3-84b. (5) (bridge formula) shall apply to vehicles registered as "constructor" or to a combination of vehicles as provided in R.S. 39:3-20, except that for any vehicle registered as a "constructor" or any combination of

vehicles of which the drawing vehicle is registered as a "constructor," the provisions of R.S. 39:3-84b.(5) 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.

 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 R.S.39:3-84.

Code 39 Solid Waste Registration (39:3-20c)

The chief administrator is also authorized to issue registrations for each of the following solid waste vehicles: two-axle vehicles having a gross weight not exceeding 42,000 pounds; tandem three-axle and four-axle vehicles having a gross weight not exceeding 60,000 pounds; four-axle tractor-trailer combination vehicles having a gross weight not exceeding 60,000 pounds. Registration is based upon application to the chief administrator and proof to his satisfaction that the applicant is actually engaged in the performance of solid waste disposal or collection functions and holds a certificate of convenience and necessity therefor issued by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Vehicles with this registration are subject to the following conditions:

The weight limitations provided at R.S. 39:3-84b. (1); R.S. 39:3-84 b. (2); and R.S. 39:3-84 b. (3) relative to maximum gross axle weights shall not apply to vehicles registered as "solid waste" vehicles or to a combination of vehicles of which the "solid waste" vehicle is the drawing vehicle as provided at R.S. 39:3-20, except that said limitations shall apply to vehicles registered as "solid waste" when operated on any highway which is part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, as provided at 23 U.S.C. s. 103(e). Except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of R.S. 39:3-84b. (5) shall apply to vehicles registered as "solid waste" or to a combination of vehicles of which the "solid waste" vehicle is the drawing vehicle as provided in R.S. 39:3-20, Vehicles registered as



"solid waste" or a combination of vehicles of which the "solid waste" vehicle is the drawing vehicle shall be limited to a maximum gross vehicle weight, including load or contents, as shown on the registration certificate of that vehicle.

Code 56 Contractor Equipment-In-Transit Registration (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; or
- Rollers or other machinery of the kind owned or controlled by it.

The director must be satisfied with the financial responsibility of such person, partnership or corporation to meet any claim for damages arising from an accident. Satisfactory evidence of such responsibility must be filed with the director prior to approval.

<u>Plates:</u>

- 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 thru 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

- 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 snow plows.
- Code 56 plates shall be displayed on both the front and rear of each vehicle or piece of equipment being transported as specified under 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 39:3-84 shall be required to obtain a special permit.

Please visit the NJDOT website for further information when a permit is required and for instructions on how to apply for permits. For direct access to NJDOT's Superload on-line permitting website go to: https://nj.gotpermits.com/njpass/login.asp

Insurance Requirements:

- A photocopy of the Certificate of Insurance must contain the following information:
 - Name and address of the insured
 - Policy number and expiration date
 - Proper coverage
 - List all equipment registered
- The Certificate of Insurance will be retained by the Agency

Initial Registrations:

- Complete the application for vehicle registration (BA-49) and include the following:
 - Owner information
 - Authorized signature, indicating the title of office



- Leave vehicle description blank
- Provide Certificate of Insurance or photocopy
- Pay initial registration fee
- All Code 56 registrations have an expiration date of March
- Title issuance and sales tax are not applicable to the issuance of Code 56 registrations

Renewal Registrations:

- Complete application for registration (BA-49)
- Submit Certificate of Insurance or photocopy, which must be in force at time of application
- Pay renewal registration fee

Replacement Plates:

- Complete application for registration (BA-49)
- Submit Certificate of Insurance or photocopy
- Pay replacement plate fee

Duplicate Registrations:

- Complete application for vehicle registration (BA-49)
- Submit Certificate of Insurance or photocopy
- Up to five registrations may be issued as duplicates
- Pay replacement plate fee

prepared by

New Jersey Department of Transportation

in cooperation with

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission

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