

Signs, Flags and Lights

ALABAMA

Oversize Load" signs front and rear of any overwidth or overlength vehicle. Flags must be placed at front and rear corners of any over dimensional load or vehicle. Over 4' rear overhang requires lights at night. (Over 5' needs permit, and can't run at night). There are no sign or flag requirements for overheight only or overweight only loads.

ARIZONA

All overwidth vehicles or loads exceeding 9' in width shall display "Oversize Load" signs.

All overwidth loads and vehicles must be flagged with red flags 12" square or larger on extremities. Any front or rear overhang must be flagged or lighted. Up to 10' overhang may travel at night, but must be lit and flagged. There are no sign or flag requirements for overheight only or overweight only loads.

ARKANSAS

"Oversize Load" signs required on all loads exceeding legal width, height or length.

Red flags 18" square are required on rear corners on all loads exceeding legal width, height or length. There are no sign or flag requirements for overweight only loads.

CALIFORNIA

Signs and flags are required on vehicles over 8'6" wide, over 80' long, or with over 10' overhang. Signs are also required when overweight only. For night running, amber marker lights are required at front corners of load and one on left outside extreme edge, visible from front and sides, and red at rear corners visible from rear and sides. Los Angeles County also requires the amber lights at all protrusions and at 5-foot intervals completely around the load (and red in the rear), not over 5 feet above ground level. When a rear overhang is 4' or greater, it requires at least two lights or rear light bar at night. Rear light bar not needed on long load in daylight unless turn signals and brake lights are hidden by load.

COLORADO

"Oversize Load" signs are required front and rear for all oversize loads. They are not required and should not be used for overweight only loads. Flags are required at all four corners of any extremities for wide and over length loads, and at the end of load projections greater than 4 feet.

For night travel of wide loads, a flashing yellow light mounted on front of the vehicle and two or three mounted to the extreme rear are required. Over length or with rear overhang (over 10') may run at night with a flashing yellow light mounted to front of vehicle and from one to three cluster lights mounted to overhang (red for rear overhang, yellow for front overhang). For night travel with legal overhang (10' rear or less) but greater than 4' rear, a red light or lantern plainly visible for 500 feet is required at the end of load projection.

CONNECTICUT

"Oversize Load" signs are required on loads over 10' wide or 13'6" high. Over 4' of overhang must be flagged during the day and lighted at night. Flags are required on all corners of the permitted vehicle on any oversize or overweight load, and on widest points of wide loads.

DELAWARE

Warning signs are required for all oversize movements. "Oversize Load" signs are to be displayed on all vehicles and loads exceeding legal width, length or rear overhang. Flags are required at the extremities on all over width loads. On loads with rear overhang in excess of 4', one flag is required at the extreme rear of the load if it is 2' wide or less at that point; 2 flags required if it is over 2' wide.

FLORIDA

Flags are required on all over width, over height and over length loads, and with 3' front or 4' rear overhang. Flags must be red or orange and 18" square placed on all four corners and all protrusions, projections and overhangs. "Oversize Load" signs required on all loads exceeding 10' wide, over legal length or 14' high. Loads exceeding 10' wide, or over 4' rear overhang need 360 degree amber warning light on tractor. Width over 12', height over 14'6", length 85' or over, requires two 360 degree amber warning lights, one on tractor and one at rear of load.

GEORGIA

"Oversize Load" signs are required on all permit loads. Flags are required on all four corners and extremities of oversized loads.

IDAHO

Requirements are specified on Idaho permit. "Oversize Load" signs are required on all overwidth loads. Flags are required on all four corners and extremities of overwidth loads and on rear overhang exceeding 4'. Overweight only loads do not require signs or flags.

ILLINOIS

Flags are required on the extremities of all oversize vehicles or loads and all protruding objects. "Oversize Load" signs are required on loads over 10' wide, 14'6" high and/or 75' long. All oversize/overweight permit loads must display an operable oscillating, rotating or flashing amber light or lights on the tractor. Size of the light(s) is not specified, but it must be visible from both sides and the front, and must be strong enough to be seen for at least 500 feet in the daytime. When visibility of the light is blocked from the rear, and for loads over 80' long or combinations over 100' long require a second light is required mounted 10' of rear of the object, mounted as high as practical over it, and is required.

INDIANA

"Oversize Load" signs are required on all permitted vehicles/loads. Flags (18" square) are required on oversize movements, one at each corner and one on each side at widest point. Vehicles must travel with low-beam headlights on for all oversize loads.

IOWA

"Oversize Load" signs and flags are required when a vehicle and load exceeds 75' in length, 8'6" width, and/or 14'4" in height. Flags are required for rear overhang exceeding 4 feet on all permitted vehicles/ loads. Flags should be mounted at each front corner of the towing unit, at each rear corner of the load, and at any wide points/protrusions of the load. An amber revolving light at least 7" high and 7" in diameter is required on the towing unit whenever length exceeds 85', front overhang exceeds 25' or rear overhang exceeds 10' (light should be on the load in the rear) or weight exceeds 80,000 lbs. An escort can be used in lieu of amber light.

KANSAS

"Oversize Load" signs are required for all loads moving under a permit. Red flags must be attached to each side of widest part of wide load, and to the rear of all overlength loads. If overhang is over legal limits, end of overhanging object must be flagged and "a lamp shall be placed at the end of the load to make the overhang more visible during periods of hazy daylight." Overweight only loads need "Oversize Load" signs when running in daylight, but they must be taken off if running at night.

KENTUCKY

"Oversize Load" signs are required for all loads exceeding 10'6" wide. Flags are required on all four corners of any wide load and extremities. Over-length must be flagged, no sign requirements.

LOUISIANA

"Oversize Load" signs are required for all loads exceeding 10' wide, over 75' long or exceeding legal overhang. Flags are required on all over width loads. Flags must be placed on all four corners of the load and at any protrusions. Over-length must be flagged, no sign requirements. Rear overhang over 4' must be flagged. NO sign or flag requirements for height only.

MAINE

"Oversize Load" signs and flags required for all over width and over length permit loads. Signs should be mounted at front bumper and at rear of load. Flags (18" x 18") should be mounted at corners of load and widest extremities. Over 4' rear overhang must be flagged (two flags if overhang is more than 2' wide). Run with headlights on low beam (not required if overweight only), and flashing, rotating amber light or light bar on top of cab. Movement when not oversized requires that load signs be removed or covered and that amber beacon lights be extinguished.

All over-dimension moves require headlights on low beam, and flashing, rotary or amber lights on top of cab.

MARYLAND

"Oversize Load" or "Wide Load" signs are required if the vehicle and load exceeds 9' in width.

MASSACHUSETTS

"Oversize Load" sign required on rear of an oversize vehicle that does not require an escort. Mount red flags on extremities and corners for any over-width or over-length vehicle. For all O/D loads made during hours of darkness, a flashing amber light shall be in operation above the highest point of the vehicle and visible from the front and rear of the vehicle.

MICHIGAN

"Oversize Load" signs required on front of vehicle and on rear of load for any overdimensional load. An overwidth or overlength vehicle/load requires flags at each corner of the load, with an additional flag at the widest point on each side of the load if it extends beyond the corner flags. When rear overhang is 4' or more, the extreme rear of the load must have a flag for daytime running, and a red light or lantern at night.

MINNESOTA

"Oversize Load" signs required when escorts are required or when over 12' wide. At night, required signs must be lighted or reflective and visible from at least 500ft. Load and vehicle unit(s) must be outlined every 20 feet in lights. Flags (18" square) are required whenever rear overhang exceeds 4', or when vehicle/load exceeds 9' in width or 75' in length. Flags should be mounted at tip of overhang, at corners and widest points of load. An overwidth or overlength vehicle/load requires flags at each corner of the load, with an additional flag at the widest point on each side of the load if it extends beyond the corner flags. Overhang exceeding 4' requires light at night. Flashing amber lights are usually required on the permit when over 12' wide.

MISSISSIPPI

"Oversize Load" signs are required for all loads exceeding 12 feet wide. Flags are required on all corners of loads (mounted at a height of approximately six feet above the pavement) on loads exceeding 10 feet wide. Loads over 12' in width require flashing amber lights

mounted on the rear of the load and flags on the front corners or the load. Over-length loads and overhang in excess of 4 feet must be flagged.

MISSOURI

"Oversize Load" signs are required on front and rear of the load vehicle when width exceeds 10'6", and on the rear of the load when overall length exceeds 90'. Flags are required at the extreme ends or projections of all overwidth and overlength loads.

MONTANA

Vehicle/load exceeding 10' in width require "Oversize Load" signs front and rear, and 5" flashing amber lights, revolving beacon or strobe light(s) are required at each end of the Oversize Load sign on the power unit, or a single beacon light may be used on top of the power unit as long as it is visible from all directions. If the light is blocked by the height/width of the load, the rear of the load should also have a light. "Long Load" sign must be displayed on the rear of combinations exceeding 105' on non-Interstate routes, and exceeding 120' on Interstate routes. Overlength load does not need signs if less than 110' total overall length.

NEBRASKA

"Oversize Load" signs are required on front of the vehicle and rear of the load when width exceeds 10'. Flags, at least 18" square, are required on all four corners of the vehicle/vehicles when the load exceeds 12' in width. Rear overhang of 4' or more must display a red flag at least 12" square during daylight hours, and a steady burning red light visible for at least 200' at night. Overlength or over 4' rear overhang can run at night with steady-burning red light.

NEVADA

All vehicles in excess of 8'6" width must display "Oversize Load" signs front and rear. Headlights must be on low beam. Signs shall only be displayed when necessary. Over 4' overhang should display flag.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

"Oversize Load" sign required on front of an oversize vehicle and on the rear of the vehicle or load, whichever provides the best rear display. Mount red flags (at least 12" square) on all extremities of the load when load extends over sides of trailer more than 4 inches. When rear overhang exceeds 4', 1 flag shall be displayed at the end of the overhang if less than 2' wide, and 2 flags if the overhang is over 2' wide. There are no special lighting requirements.

NEW JERSEY

"Oversize Load" or "Wide Load" signs required on all overwidth vehicles. Mount red flags on overwidth extremities and the corners of the load, or on the rear corners of an overwidth and overlength load. Low beam headlights and red tail lights (on both tractor and trailer) should be illuminated.

NEW MEXICO

"Oversize Load" or "Wide Load" signs required on front of towing unit and on rear of load for any oversize, overweight or overweight only load. Red flags at least 12" square must be affixed to front right and left sides of towing unit and to each corner of the load. Towing vehicles pulling oversize loads that exceed 12' wide may display an amber rotating flashing beacon atop the cab.

NEW YORK

"Oversize Load" signs are required to the front and rear on all oversized loads, including high loads. Red or orange fluorescent flags (18" square), mounted on staffs, are required at all corners at the extremities of load or trailer for any over width or over length load. (For night moves, use amber warning lights to front or side in place of flags, and red warning lights to rear). Overhang of 4' or more requires flags on staff at end of load or lights at night (two flags required at extremities of overhang if width of overhang is more than 2').

All headlights and external lights must be turned on for wide, high, or over length loads. For wide or high loads (over 8'6" wide or 13'6" high), power unit must have a minimum of one amber light (6" minimum to 9" maximum in size) located on top of the vehicle and visible in a 360-degree radius. In New York City, loads over 10' wide must have two flashing yellow lights at each end of the load; loads over 14' wide require two steady yellow lights attached to rear of the load.

NORTH CAROLINA

"Oversize Load" signs are required at front and rear for all loads exceeding 10 feet wide. Flags are required on each corner and at the widest point of the load for all loads over 8'6" wide, but the flags "...shall be so mounted as to not increase the overall width of the load." Rear overhang in excess of 4 feet requires a flag, or at night a red or amber light visible for at least 200 feet.

NORTH DAKOTA

"Oversize Load" sign is required on rear of the vehicle when overall length exceeds 75'. All overdimensional loads must have flags on the traffic side of the load front and rear. Overwidth and overheight loads only require flags, not signs.

OHIO

"Oversize Load" sign is required on front and rear of all oversized vehicles when vehicle or load is over 10' wide, over 14'6" high, or over legal length. Flags are to be displayed on all overdimensional vehicles and loads. Overwidth loads should bear flags at each corner of the vehicle or load, and two flags at the widest extremities of the vehicle or load. Overlength vehicles/loads and loads with a rear overhang of 4' or more shall display a single flag at the extreme rear if the over length or projecting part is two feet wide or less, and two flags if wider than 2 feet to indicate, located to indicate the maximum width. Overhang should be lighted at night. Headlights

must be on during the movement of any O/D vehicle or load

OKLAHOMA

"Oversize Load" signs are required on front of tractor and rear of load or trailer (whichever extends the farthest) on all oversized loads moving under permit. They are also required on two-lane highways when the load exceeds 59-1/2 feet in length. Flags are required at the widest point of any oversize load. Rear overhang of 4 feet or more must be flagged.

OREGON

"Oversize Load" are required on front of tractor and rear of load or trailer on all wide loads and vehicle/loads over 80' long. The sign must be reflectorized if operating at night. Flags are required on the outermost extremities of all wide loads. Traveling at night with a wide load, the outermost extremities must be illuminated by lamps or marker lights (amber forward and intermediate side markers, red rearward markers). Rear overhang of 4' or more must be marked with a flag or, in darkness or visibility less than 500, with red end load lights. When width exceeds 10' on a two-lane highway, or 12' on a multi-lane highway, amber warning lights are required, on the cab, unless operating with a minimum of two pilot cars. See the Oregon provision sheet 82A for specifications.

PENNSYLVANIA

"Oversize Load" signs are required on front of tractor and rear of load or trailer (whichever extends the farthest) on all oversized loads unless otherwise specified in the permit. Signs must be removed or covered when the vehicle/load is no longer oversize. Flags are required at the widest points of any oversize load. Rear overhang of 4' or more must be flagged, or have a red light attached to the end of the load during darkness. Headlights and rear lamps of a permitted vehicle must be on during movement when traveling with pilot car(s).

RHODE ISLAND

Warning signs are required for all oversize movements. "Oversize Load" signs are to be displayed on front of vehicle and on the end of the load for all loads exceeding legal width, length or rear overhang. Wide loads require at least two flags and up to six flags mounted at the widest extremities. Overlength vehicles/loads require one flag if load is less than 2' wide, and two flags if load is greater than 2' wide. Less than 2' of overhang requires one flag; greater than 2' of overhang, two flags required, one on each corner.

SOUTH CAROLINA

"Oversize Load" signs are required at front and rear for all loads exceeding 12' wide, and flags are required on each corner. A rotating amber beacon or strobe light is required on rear of loads exceeding 12' wide up to 14' wide. When width is over 14' wide up to 16' wide, a rotating amber beacon or strobe is required on each outer rear corner of the load. For any rear overhang of 4' or more, a red flag must be displayed at the extreme rear of the load, and a rotating amber beacon light or strobe light must be displayed there when traveling from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, or when windshield wipers must be used or inclement weather or other conditions reduce visibility below 500 feet.

SOUTH DAKOTA

All overdimensional vehicles and loads must display flags. Flags must be attached to all corners of vehicles or loads wider than 8'6" and to corners of any load extending beyond the width of the hauling vehicle. Flags are also to be attached to load projections exceeding 3 feet in front of the vehicles front bumper, or more than 4 feet beyond the rear of the trailer. If the front or rear projection is not wider than two feet, at least one flag is needed on the projection, and 2 flags are required on the projection if it is over 2 feet in width.

"Oversize Load" or "Oversized Load" signs are required front and rear on all permit vehicles that exceed a width of 12 feet or a length of 95 feet, or that operate during nighttime hours. Signs must be reflectorized when used for night moves. Signs must be covered or removed when they are not required.

Load projections must be lighted for nighttime running with amber lights, red lights, and reflectors. The specific requirements of nighttime lighting are listed on the South Dakota permit.

TENNESSEE

All movements exceeding 10' in width and/or 75' in length require "Oversize Load" at front and rear. Loads over 75' overall length but not exceeding 85' require a rotating or strobe type amber light on the end of the load. Red flags are required on overwidth loads front and rear, and top and bottom each side where load is widest (or at the widest point if it is between the top and bottom). Red flags must be placed at the extreme rear end of overlength loads or when there is over 4' rear overhang. No sign or flag requirements are listed for overheight only loads. For overweight-only loads, you still need Oversize Load signs according to a scale officer, but the rules and regulations do not specify this.

TEXAS

Signs are only required on escort vehicles. Red flags should be placed at all extremities.

UTAH

Flags are required to mark all extremities on any load overhanging the sides and on all vehicles exceeding 10' in width, on all front overhangs exceeding 3' or rear overhangs exceeding 4', and on the trailer corners on overheight only loads. "Oversize Load" signs front and rear are required on all vehicles/loads exceeding 10' in width, or exceeding 14' in height, and must be displayed to the rear of any vehicle which exceeds 92' in length, whether loaded or empty. Overhang of 20' or more must have rotating, flashing or oscillating

amber light mounted at end of the overhang and at least 4' above ground level. See Operating Time section, above, for lighting during permitted night moves.

VERMONT

"Oversize Load" sign required on front of an oversize vehicle and on the rear of the vehicle or load, for any O/D move. Mount flags (at least 18" square) on corners and extremities of overwidth and overlength loads or vehicles. For overlength loads or rear overhang which exceeds 4 feet, one flag shall be displayed at the end of the overhang if less than 2 feet wide, and two flags if the overhang is 2 feet wide or greater.

Loads at and over 12 feet wide or 80 feet overall length require a flashing amber light on the towing vehicle. Signs are not required for movements that are overweight only.

VIRGINIA

"Oversize Load" signs are required on front and rear of the vehicle/load for all over-dimensional permit loads. Flags must be displayed on all four corners of all oversize loads, and at the widest extremities of the vehicle or load on wide loads and at the extreme rear of overlength loads. Flags must also be used on rear overhangs exceeding 4 feet, and a red light visible for at least 500 feet must be displayed if traveling at night. When vehicle/load exceeds 12' wide or 75' long, flashing amber lights, visible for 500', must be displayed on the tractor and at the upper rear end of the load or vehicle. However, amber lights are not needed if the load is accompanied by escort vehicles with amber flashing lights on each escort vehicle. Signs are not required for movements that are overweight only.

WASHINGTON

"Oversize Load" signs are required for all oversized loads at the front of the tractor at a height of 5' from ground level (or as high as practicable on the vehicle or load if it cannot accommodate the 5' height), and at the rear of the vehicle at a height of 5' to 7' from ground level (or as high as practicable on the vehicle or load if it cannot accommodate the 5' to 7' height). Signs are not needed for overweight only loads. Flags must be displayed on all four corners of all overwidth loads, and at the extreme ends of all protrusions, projections, or overhangs.

When night movement is allowed, loads projecting beyond the sides of the vehicle must have amber lights visible from the front and side at the outermost extremities. Rearmost edge of the projecting load must be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

WEST VIRGINIA

"Oversize Load" signs front and rear and six flags are required for all oversize loads. The flags should be displayed one on each side of the front bumper of the power unit and one on each top corner of the load. Overhang over 4' needs flag or flashing amber light. There are no sign or flag requirements for overweight only loads.

WISCONSIN

"Oversize Load" signs required when vehicle/load exceeds 10' wide or is overlength. They must be lit up to run at night. Flags (18" square) are required at front and rear corners of overwidth loads, and at the widest point of any load which is more than 4" wider than the vehicle or the front or rear corners of the load. When overlength, a single flag shall be fastened at the extreme rear of the load if the overlength or projecting portion is 2' wide or less, or 2 flags if over 2' wide.

Lighting rules for night moves are specified in the Wisconsin Permit General Provisions (MV2605) sheet.

WYOMING

All oversize loads/vehicles must display Oversize Load on both front and rear. Flags are to be placed on projections extending beyond sides of trailer. Over 4' of rear overhang must be flagged (daytime) or lighted at night. Night running, if allowed, requires an amber clearance light on each front corner and red clearance light on each rear corner of the load and a revolving amber light, amber strobe, or two-way flashing amber lights at least 4" in diameter mounted on the vehicle visible to both front and rear.