

# WEST VIRGINIA

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Department of Transportation  
State Capitol Complex  
Building 5, Room 303  
Charleston, WV 25305

Hours: 7:30am – 4:00pm, Monday - Friday  
Phone: (304)558-9547

Website to Motor Vehicle Laws : <http://www.legis.state.wv.us>  
Select WV Code. Browse to Chapter 17C, Article 17-1 through 18-1  
Website to Legislative Rules: [www.wvsos.com/csrdocs/wordDocs/157-05.doc](http://www.wvsos.com/csrdocs/wordDocs/157-05.doc)  
Websites to Apply On Line: <http://wv.gotpermits.com> (for West Virginia permits only – no convenience fee) or [www.gotpermits.com](http://www.gotpermits.com) (multi-state site – convenience fee added). Website for More West Virginia Hauling and Permit Information: [www.transportation.wv.gov](http://www.transportation.wv.gov) - Use Permits link, then Hauling Permits Link.

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## LEGAL LIMITS

### Interstate Highways

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| GVW         | 80,000 |
| 0 (steer)   | 20,000 |
| 0 (single)  | 20,000 |
| 00 (tandem) | 34,000 |

-Federal Bridge Formula applies to all other combinations  
TOLERANCE: None

### US and WV Routes

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| GVW                                  | 80,000 |
| Axle Limit                           | 20,000 |
| Single Unit Tandem (3 axles total)   | 60,000 |
| Single Unit Tridem (4 axles total)   | 70,000 |
| Single Unit Quadrum (5 axles total)  | 73,000 |
| Tractor-Semi Trailer (5 axles total) | 80,000 |
| Tractor-Semi Trailer (6 axles total) | 80,000 |
| Combination Tandem w/2 axles         |        |
| Trailer (5 axles total)              | 80,000 |
| Combination Tridem w/2 axles         |        |
| Trailer (6 axles total)              | 80,000 |

TOLERANCE: 10%

### Local Service Routes

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| GVW         | 65,000 |
| 0 (steer)   | 20,000 |
| 0 (single)  | 20,000 |
| 00 (tandem) | 34,000 |

TOLERANCE: 10%

|               |       |   |          |  |                   |
|---------------|-------|---|----------|--|-------------------|
| WIDTH         | 8'    | Local Service routes with lanes under 10' wide Interstate, US and WV routes, also local service routes with lane 10' or greater   | 45'      | unlimited overall length on Interstates and National Network Highways  |                   |
|               | 8'6"  |   |          |  |                   |
| HEIGHT LENGTH | 13'6" | Interstate, US and WV Routes single unit (inclusive of front and rear bumper) semitrailer (measurement from tractor rear axle to trailer first axle cannot exceed 37') doubles, triple trailers not allowed overall length on US, WV, and County Routes | 65'      | motor home (exclusive of front and rear bumper) combination travel trailer and tow vehicles (exclusive of front and rear bumper) |                   |
|               | 40'   |   | 97'      | Driveway Saddle Mount Vehicles   |                   |
|               | 53'   |   | OVERHANG | 3'   | front (all loads) |
|               | 28'   |   |          | 6'   | rear (all loads)  |
|               | 70'   |   |          |  |                   |

## TYPES OF PERMITS

Single Trip – Issued for oversize and overweight. Vehicle and route specific.

Superload – Issued for size and/or weight exceeding single trip limits. Vehicle and route specific.

Blanket:

Regular – Annual permit issued for moderately oversize and/or overweight. Vehicle specific but not route specific.

Seagoing - Annual permit for moderately overweight seagoing containerized cargo. Vehicle specific but not route specific.

Mobile Home Blanket – Annual permits for mobile homes 14' wide or less. Vehicle specific but not route specific.

Manufactured Commodity Permit – Annual permit for commodities manufactured for interstate commerce. Vehicle and Route specific.

Mobile Home Single Trip – Vehicle and route specific.

All permits issued through either one of the “gotpermits” sites or through the Central Permit Office in Charleston. Both <https://wv.gotpermits.com> and [www.gotpermits.com](http://www.gotpermits.com) are self-issue sites; you are required to select routes and run an analysis. If it passes, you may print your permit and travel; if it does not, you must forward it for Central Permit Office review.

## PERMIT LIMITS

### SINGLE TRIP

#### WEIGHT

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| 0 (single)  | 28,000  |
| 00 (tandem) | 45,000  |
| 000 (tri)   | 50,000  |
| 0000 (quad) | 55,000  |
| Gross       | 120,000 |

|         |                                    |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| WIDTH:  | 16'                                |
| HEIGHT: | No limit if routes can accommodate |
| LENGTH: | No limit if routes can accommodate |

### SUPERLOAD PERMIT

Weights or dimensions exceeding any of the limits for single trip permits are superloads.

No limit on weight but all loads must pass a bridge analysis.

No limit on dimensions (except for overhang – see below) but overall size must be suitable for the route.

### BLANKET PERMIT – REGULAR

Annual permit for oversize and/or overweight.

May be used for modular homes and most other nondivisible loads excluding mobile homes.

Size and weight limits are listed below:

| Interstate & Other<br>Divided Routes | US and<br>Selected Routes | All Other<br>Routes | Axle Limits<br>All Routes |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 14' 6" high                          | 14' 0" high               | 13' 6" high         | 28,000 pounds single      | For OW Permit |
| 14' 0" wide                          | 12' 0" wide               | 12' 0" wide         | 45,000 pounds tandem      | For OW Permit |
| 95' 0" long                          | 75' 0" long               | 75' 0" long         | 50,000 pounds tri         | For OW Permit |
| 15' 0" overhang                      | 10' 0" overhang           | 10' 0" overhang     | 20,000 pounds single      | For OS Permit |
| 110,000 pounds                       | 90,000 pounds             | Legal Weight        | 34,000 pounds tandem      | For OS Permit |

#### **BLANKET PERMIT – SEAGOING**

Annual permit for overweight seagoing containerized cargo.

Travel is allowed on Interstate and other divided routes, US routes and Selected routes.

Maximum gross weight allowed is 90,000 pounds with a single axle limit of 28,000 pounds, tandem axle limit of 45,000 pounds, and tridem axle limit of 50,000 pounds.

#### **BLANKET PERMIT – Mobile Home**

Annual permit for mobile homes 14' wide or less. Except for width, Single Trip limits listed below apply.

#### **BLANKET PERMIT – MANUFACTURED COMMODITY**

Annual permit for commodities manufactured for interstate commerce, maximum weight is 120,000 pounds and approval is contingent on an engineering analysis performed by an engineering consulting firm familiar with WVDOH design requirements. Permit not valid on Interstate highways.

#### **SINGLE TRIP MOBILE HOME PERMIT**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Combination Length | 110'   |
| Mobile Home Length | 80'    |
| Width              | 16'    |
| Height             | 15' 6" |

#### **ALL PERMITS**

**OVERHANG:** 15' front 30' rear

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#### **FEEES**

Single Trip - \$20.00 for overweight or overdimensional plus \$.04 per ton mile for overweight.

Superload – Same fee as for single trip.

Blanket (Regular) - \$200 for each oversize permit or \$500 for each oversize and overweight permit.

Blanket (Seagoing) - \$150 for 1-15 permits.

Blanket (Mobile Home) - \$200 for each permit.

Blanket (Manufactured Commodity) - \$500 for each permit.

Single Trip Mobile Home - \$20.00 per trip.

Low Impact Monitors - \$150 for the first bridge, \$100 for the second bridge, and \$50 for each additional bridge up to a maximum of \$750. Permit monitors may be assigned in certain situations, with their fees determined on a case-by-case basis.

Payment for permits can be made by major credit card or escrow account (through Bentley Services) or through a wire service company.

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#### **GENERAL PERMIT RESTRICTIONS**

Single Trip and Superload permits are good for (5) five days. Single Trip Mobile Home permits are good for ten (10) days. No travel is permitted on holidays. Divisible load permits are not available. School bus hour or other curfew may be applied.

Travel for oversize vehicles which are 14' 0" or less wide and any length, height, or weight (except for loads approved at low impact) is allowed on all routes except the West Virginia Turnpike\* (when requested) from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week.

**\*The West Virginia Turnpike allows weekend travel for loads no more than 95' long and/or with no more than 15' combined overhang, and/or no more than 14'6" high and/or with a gross vehicle weight of no more than 110,000 lbs.**

**Oversize vehicles exceeding these dimensions travel from sunrise to sunset, Monday through Friday on all routes (excluding the West Virginia Turnpike). Oversize vehicles exceeding these dimensions and traveling on the WV Turnpike must follow the following travel times.**

**14'-1" to 18'-0" wide - Sunrise to sunset Monday-Thursday**

**18'-1" to 24'-6" wide - Sundays only before noon**

**Width > 24'-7" Limited approval due to toll plaza limitations**

**Travel for vehicles that are overweight up to and including 110,000 pounds on the WV Turnpike, and 135,000 pounds on all other state routes but not oversize is allowed (when requested) 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Travel for vehicles exceeding these dimensions may be granted 24 hour a day travel when night travel is required by an adjoining state.**

**Routes which cannot safely accommodate the above dimensions or weights may be rerouted or denied or have more restrictive travel times.**

**Mobile homes up to and including 14' wide can move from sunrise to sunset, Monday through Friday and sunrise until noon on Saturday. Mobile homes greater than 14' wide up to and including 16' can move sunrise to sunset, Monday through Thursday and sunrise until 3:00 pm on Friday. Mobile homes greater than 16' wide are not allowed.**

**Weekend travel, when allowed, is given upon request. Haulers should note on their application if they desire weekend travel.**

**Bulldozers may be hauled with the blades on, so long as the blade is angled away from oncoming traffic and the total width of the load is not more than 14'. If the load is more than 14' wide, the blade must be taken off and hauled on a separate trailer (if the load is also overweight).**

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## **INSURANCE**

**Not required to be on file with the permit office (except mobile home). Operators must obtain a minimum of \$350,000 coverage.**

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## **PERMIT INFORMATION REQUIRED**

**Single Trip and Superload – Tractor and trailer information; load (make and model) information; overall dimensions; load weight and gross weight; axle spacings; axle weights; origin and destination; effective dates; routes to be traveled. Revision for dates of travel, tractor and trailer license numbers.**

**Blanket – Company name, address, phone number, and power unit license plate number.**

**Mobile Home Blanket – Company name, address, phone number, insurance information, and power unit license plate number.**

**Manufactured Commodity Blanket – Company name, address, phone number, overall dimensions, gross weight, axle spacings, axle weights, origin, destination, routes traveled, and approved engineering analysis.**

**Single Trip Mobile Home – Company name and address, Driver's name, insurance information, origin and destination, travel dates, license number, make and year of tow truck, mobile home make, serial number, license number and size.**

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## ESCORTS AND SIGNS

### ESCORT REQUIREMENTS – Overwidth and/or Loads

Escort vehicles must be in compliance with WV Administration Regulation Section 3, Title 157-05.

| <u>Highway Lanes</u>  | <u>Escort Requirements</u>   | <u>Days of Travel</u> |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|
|                       | Overall width 10' 6" to 12'<br>Escort vehicle with Oversize Load sign required:    |                       |
| 2 lane                | At front   | Seven days            |
| 4 lane                | None   | Seven days            |
|                       | Overall width 12' 1" to 14'<br>Escort vehicle with Oversize Load sign required:    |                       |
| 2 lane                | At front and rear  | Seven days            |
| 4 lane                | At rear  | Seven days            |
|                       | Overall width 14' 1" to 15' *<br>Escort vehicle with Oversize Load sign required:  |                       |
| 2 lane                | At front and rear  | Mon. thru Fri. **     |
| 4 lane                | At front and rear  | Mon. thru Fri.        |
|                       | Overall width 15' 1" to 16'<br>Escort vehicle with Oversize Load sign required:    |                       |
| 2 lane                | Two front and one rear ***   | Mon. thru Fri. and    |
| 4 lane Non-Interstate | Two rear and one front   |                       |
| Interstate            | Two rear   |                       |
|                       | Overall width 16' 1" and above<br>Escort vehicle with Oversize Load sign required: |                       |
| 2 lane and 4 lane     | As required by permit  | Sunday                |

\* Districts and Parkway may require additional escort or time restrictions

\*\* West Virginia Parkway Authority: Loads greater than 16' wide must be able to clear 2'9" high concrete barriers.

\*\*\* Loads more than 16' wide may move only on Sunday morning until noon.

### ESCORT REQUIREMENTS – Overlength Vehicles and/or Loads

Escort vehicles must be in compliance with WV Administration Regulation Section 3, Title 157-05

| <u>Highway Lanes</u> | <u>Escort Requirements</u>                       | <u>Days of Travel</u> |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------|
|                      | Length 75' to 95' *                              |                       |
|                      | Escort vehicle required with Oversize Load sign: |                       |

|        |         |                |
|--------|---------|----------------|
| 2 lane | At rear | Mon. thru Fri. |
| 4 lane | None    | Seven Days     |

Length 95' 1" to 100' \*

|        |  |                |
|--------|--|----------------|
| 2 lane | Escort vehicle required with<br>Oversize Load sign:<br>At front and rear | Mon. thru Fri. |
| 4 lane | At rear  | Mon. thru Fri. |

Length 100' 1"

|        |  |                |
|--------|--|----------------|
| 2 lane | Escort vehicle required with<br>Oversize Load sign:<br>At front and rear | Mon. thru Fri. |
| 4 lane | At front and rear  | Mon. thru Fri. |

**OVERHANG**

Front overhang Exceeds 10' \*\*

|        |   |                |
|--------|---|----------------|
| 2 lane | Escort vehicle required with<br>Oversize Load sign:<br>At front | Mon. thru Fri. |
| 4 lane | At front  | Mon. thru Fri. |

Rear Overhang Exceeds 10' \*\*

|        |  |                |
|--------|--|----------------|
| 2 lane | Escort vehicle required with<br>Oversize Load sign:<br>At rear | Mon. thru Fri. |
| 4 lane | At rear  | Mon. thru Fri. |

Pole or extendable trailer can legally carry a load of 80' in length (without permit) providing load is not overweight. Escorts are not required but are encouraged for safety.

\* Districts and Parkway Authority may require additional escorts.

\*\* No escort required until overhang exceeds 10' front or rear.

**ESCORT REQUIREMENTS - Overheight Vehicles and/or Loads**

Escort vehicles must be in compliance with WV Administration Regulation Section 3, Title 157-05.

| <u>Highway Lanes</u> | <u>Escort Requirements</u>   | <u>Days of Travel</u> |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------|
|                      | Height Exceeds 15'   |                       |
| 2 lane               | Escort vehicle required with<br>Oversize Load sign:<br>Front pole car required | Mon. thru Fri.        |
| 4 lane               | In addition to any other escort  | Mon thru Fri.         |

Escort requirements must be stated within the permit. These requirements are the policy of the WV Division of Highways. Districts and Parkway Authority may require additional escort or movement requirements, but never less than those listed above.

\* Parkway (I-77/64 maximum height Yeager Bridge 15' 10". 16' in center of bridge.)

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## VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

The escort vehicles must weigh more than 2,000 pounds and have manufacturer's gross weight rating less than 26,000 pounds and must be properly licensed. Identification signs or placards showing the name of the company or the owner or driver of the escort vehicle shall be displayed on the escort vehicle in a conspicuous place on both the right and left side. The signs shall be at least 8" by 12" and shall contain the telephone number of the owner or driver plainly legible to the motoring public.

All escort vehicles must be equipped with the following equipment:

A rotating or strobe amber yellow plastic, acrylic or glass covered flashing light which is visible from at least 500 feet and has a horizontal placement which is visible from all directions 360 degrees.

Shall display bumper mounted or roof mounted yellow 5' x 12" signs reading "Oversize Load" with black letters 10 inches high, 1-1/2 inch wide brush stroke, which must be visible from front or rear.

Two flags, red or safety orange, a minimum of 18" square in size, shall be mounted at a 40 to 70 degree angle on the escort vehicle's roof rack or flags may be mounted on all four corners of the vehicle.

All for-hire escort vehicles shall contain the following miscellaneous equipment:

A CB radio, or any other two way communication device with the permitted load; two 5 lb. Fire extinguishers (type a-b-c); a slow sign with a handle with the word "STOP" on one side and "SLOW" on the other of not less than 18" in diameter with 6" letters suitable for directing traffic; a safety orange vest, shirt or jacket; a red hand held sign 18" in size; 2 oversize load banners, yellow with black lettering; three reflecting triangles or 18" traffic cones.

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## FINES

**OVERDIMENSION ONLY:** Maximum \$100 for first offense, up to \$200 for second offense in the same year, and up to \$500 for more than two offenses in the same year.

### OVERWIGHT FINES:

|                                  |        |                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1 to 4,000 lbs. overweight       | \$ 20  | 21,001 to 22,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 550   |
| 4,001 to 5,000 lbs. overweight   | \$ 25  | 22,001 to 23,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 575   |
| 5,001 to 6,000 lbs. overweight   | \$ 60  | 23,001 to 24,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 600   |
| 6,001 to 7,000 lbs. overweight   | \$ 70  | 24,001 to 25,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 625   |
| 7,001 to 8,000 lbs. overweight   | \$ 80  | 25,001 to 26,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 780   |
| 8,001 to 9,000 lbs. overweight   | \$ 90  | 26,001 to 27,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 810   |
| 9,001 to 10,000 lbs. overweight  | \$ 100 | 27,001 to 28,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 840   |
| 10,001 to 11,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 165 | 28,001 to 29,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 870   |
| 11,001 to 12,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 180 | 29,001 to 30,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 900   |
| 12,001 to 13,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 195 | 30,001 to 40,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 1,200 |
| 13,001 to 14,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 210 | 40,001 to 50,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 1,400 |
| 14,001 to 15,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 225 | 50,001 and over                  | \$ 1,600 |
| 15,001 to 16,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 320 |                                  |          |
| 16,001 to 17,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 340 |                                  |          |
| 17,001 to 18,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 360 |                                  |          |
| 18,001 to 19,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 380 |                                  |          |
| 19,001 to 20,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 400 |                                  |          |
| 20,001 to 21,000 lbs. overweight | \$ 525 |                                  |          |

Fines are calculated beginning at legal weight. Operators may be fined for either over axle or over gross, whichever produces the greater fine. Drivers may be given time to shift load to avoid an over axle citation.

