

Oversize and Overmass Permits Frequently Asked Questions



How much does a Permit cost?

All Permits are \$72 until 30th June 2012.

What is the GST on the Permit fee?

No GST is payable.

I've heard I can apply for or renew my Permit over the Internet, where do I go?

Click here to go to - myRTA.com and click the link to Heavy Vehicle Online Permits. You can renew existing Annual Permits, and if your vehicle has already been issued a permit in NSW you can apply for trip and annual permits. You'll need your RTA customer number and name, and vehicle VIN number, all shown on your RTA registration papers, and a valid credit card. If your load carrying vehicle has not had a Permit issued to it in NSW before, then you will need to send us a Vehicle Nomination Form - Online Permits to make your vehicle known to our systems and to obtain a Customer Number, click here for one - [Heavy vehicle forms](#). At this time, for SPV's (*cranes, drill rigs etc*) the system can only renew existing annual permits, not issue original or trip permits.

Where can I get an application form?

Click here - [Heavy vehicle forms](#) (*and don't forget to bookmark / add to favourites*). There are 3 Class I forms to choose from

1. Load Carrying Permit – for vehicles that are oversize or overmass because of the indivisible load being transported.
2. Special Purpose Vehicle or Agricultural Vehicle Permit – for vehicles (except Tow Trucks) built for a purpose other than carrying a load and that exceed a mass or dimension limit by construction (including water carried by concrete pumps and fire trucks).
3. Mobile Crane Journey Permit – for mobile cranes that already have a NSW Class I Permit and require travel on a route not currently available for oversize / overmass travel.

You can fill out the form electronically, simply check the Highlight Fields box and the parts you can type into will be highlighted, then print it off, sign where required and fax or scan it to the Special Permits Unit at spu@rta.nsw.gov.au **Note: Unsigned applications will not be accepted.**

How long does it take to get a Permit issued?

After receipt of a fully completed application that meets permit criteria its advisable to give seven (7) business days. Some applications for exceptional loads (extreme dimensions or mass), or for travel at difficult locations take longer to assess and you may be asked to provide your route assessment and traffic management plan. In some cases there may be additional fees payable for bridge and route assessments. There is no guarantee that the RTA will issue a permit for every application received. Applications are frequently held up because of missing information including overheight clearance letters from other Authorities, or failed credit card details, or missing route details. Online applications are prioritised.

Who does the Permit get issued to?

A Permit is issued to the Registered Operator (the name on the registration certificate), and cannot be issued in any other name such as a temporary hirer.

What is an indivisible item?

It is something that cannot be divided without extreme effort, expense or risk of damage to it. The RTA reserves the right to determine whether a load is divisible.

Where can I view and download Gazette Notices (Permit Notices) on the RTA website?

Click here - [Permit Notices](#)

I need a copy of the Operating Conditions book, where can I get one?

From your nearest RTA Motor Registry or Click here - [Operating Conditions](#) to download a .pdf copy. This is NOT a permit and is intended to be used with a Vehicle Specific Permit as it contains all the standard conditions

that apply to operation under the Permit **in addition** to operational requirements set out in the Class 1 Oversize Notices.

What Pilot Requirements must I comply with?

Depending on the vehicle's dimensions, time of travel and location, the general pilot vehicle requirements are listed in the relevant [Oversize Notice](#) and [Operating Conditions](#) Booklet.

What if I need more than 6 copies?

Send an email to [Special Permits](#) giving a name and contact phone number, how many copies you need, and an address for the courier to deliver to (*no postal address please*).

I need a map of routes for B Doubles / Road Trains / 4.6 metre high vehicles, where can I get one?

The RTA no longer publishes maps, because they are constantly changing as roads are opened up or removed. Instead, we have an interactive mapping system on the RTA web site; follow this link to [Restricted Access Vehicle \(RAV\) maps](#).

Can I get a permit just for my semi trailer because it's oversize?

No, permits are issued to a towing vehicle, and are registration specific. If the trailer is constructed oversize, it must be approved for registration as a non complying vehicle. Call Technical Enquiries 1300 137302 for advice on registering non complying vehicles.

Can I get an over mass permit for my rigid truck to carry more weight?

No, legislation only allows overmass permits to be issued to bogie drive prime movers towing a low loader, or a low loader / dolly, a jinker, or a platform trailer, that is loaded with a large indivisible item, or to an approved overmass plant trailer that does not carry a load, or an approved special purpose vehicle (*cranes, drill rig etc*).

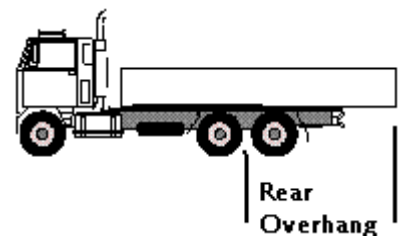
Can I get an over length permit for my rigid truck to carry a long load?

No. If the load is too long for your vehicle, a larger vehicle must be used. Over length permits are only issued to articulated prime mover combinations carrying a long load.

What is the difference between Rear Overhang and Rear Projection?

Rear projection is that part of the load that protrudes over the back of the vehicle body;

Rear overhang is measured from the centre of the rear axle (*if a single drive*) or the centre of the axle group to the rearmost part of the vehicle / load including any Rear Projection.



My semi and prime mover is over length. Can I get a permit so I don't get booked?

If you are carrying an oversize long load that cannot be divided to a smaller size (indivisible), then you can operate up to 25 metres long under the **General Class 1 Oversize (Load Carrying Vehicle) Notice 2007** [Permit Notices](#). For unladen travel or carrying a divisible load, you must not exceed 19 metres.

Where can I find out what the legal dimension limits are for Heavy Vehicles in NSW?

Vehicle Standards Information Sheet 05 (VSI-05) is published on the RTA web site, and details heavy vehicle general access dimension limits – click here for [Vehicle Standards Information Sheets](#)

I've changed the number plates on my truck; can I get my permit changed?

In some cases you may need to apply and pay for a new permit especially if any vehicle details are changed, or if it is a new vehicle with the same plates. Contact the Permits Unit for advice.

I applied for my Permit using the online system, but I haven't got it back yet.

This can happen if you have typed your email address incorrectly. Simply log on to [myRTA.com](#) and go to **Online Special Permits**, and select **Search for Permit**. You will need your application number, customer number etc. If the Permit has been issued, you will be given an option to **print**. If the online application is indicated as 'locked' it means that the permit is being assessed.

Can I apply online for my Conditionally Registered Vehicle?

No. Conditionally registered vehicles or Special Purpose Vehicles can not apply for a permit through the RTA online system. You will need to complete and submit an application form. [Heavy Vehicle Forms](#).

I've got an oversize load on my B Double / Road Train / B Triple / AB Triple. Where can I get a Permit for Oversize travel in NSW?

They are not available. Legislation specifically excludes Road Trains, and B Doubles, and vehicles carrying multi modal freight containers from being defined as Class 1 vehicles for the purposes of Schedule 2 of the Road Transport (Mass, Loading & Access) Regulation 2005. This means your combination cannot be oversize or overmass, so you must not exceed 2.5 metres wide or legal length, mass or height limits except 4.6 metres high in the case of approved vehicles such as car carriers, and livestock carriers

I've got a truck and dog trailer on airbags and I want to operate up to 50 tonnes. What do I need to do?

First, you must be registered as a Medium Rigid combination, check with your RTA Motor Registry or Customer Service 132213 as you may need to upgrade your rego. Then obtain and carry a copy of the **General Class 3 Truck and Dog Trailer Notice** either at the Motor Registry or download a copy from this link - [Permit Notices](#). This Notice will tell you what you must do and comply with, and what increased weight limits you can operate to.

Can I get a permit to run a Class 3 truck and dog trailer at more than 50 tonnes or with a long load?

No.

Can I carry or tow an Oversize load with a car or station wagon?

No, Permits are not available for light vehicles. The NSW Legislation (*Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005*) authorising Class 1 Permits for oversize vehicles and loads is limited to trucks and other commercial vehicles that meet the following criteria -

- any vehicle having a GVM exceeding 4.5 tonnes,
- any combination having a GCM exceeding 4.5 tonnes,
- any combination that includes a vehicle with a GVM exceeding 4.5 tonnes.

Light vehicles are limited to carrying loads that don't project more than 150mm from the sides of the vehicle and in doing so not exceed a total width of 2500mm. Contact the **RTA Technical Enquiries hotline 1300 137302** for more information regarding light vehicles mass & dimension limits.

If my combination is only overheight, can I travel anytime?

Under a permit provided you don't exceed 2.5 metres wide, or a legal length limit, and the loaded height doesn't exceed 4.8 metres then you have 24 hour travel. If you are loaded to more than 4.8 metres high you can only travel during the daytime. If you are in a night travel zone or on a night travel road then you can travel between 1.00 am and sunrise.

Can an oversize vehicle travel through tunnels in Sydney?

No. All tunnels in Sydney are **closed** to vehicles that exceed

- 2.50 metres wide, or
- 4.30 metres high, or
- 12.50 metres long for a rigid vehicle, or
- 19.0 metres long for a single trailer combination, or
- 26.0 metres long for a complying B Double combination.

Can I travel Oversize during Peak Hours in Sydney?

This information is from the 3 General Class 1 Oversize Notices 2007 - refer to Part 6: Travel Zones. [Permit Notices](#)

During Peak Hours, if you are wider than 2.5 metres, or longer than 22 metres then you can't travel in the

- Sydney, Gosford and Wollongong Metropolitan Zones,
- Newcastle Inner Zone, or on
- The F3 Freeway between the Hawkesbury River and the Kariong Interchange.

During Peak Hours if you are wider than 3.2 metres, then you can't travel in the

- Newcastle Metropolitan Zone outside the Newcastle Inner Zone.

Peak Hours are Monday through to Friday between the hours of

- 7.00 am to 9.00 am, and
- 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

If you are wider than 3.5 metres or longer than 25 metres then you can't travel in the Sydney Metropolitan Zone after 6.00 am on a weekday.

What about on Clearways or Transit Lanes in Sydney?

This information is from the 3 General Class 1 Oversize Notices 2007 - refer to Part 6: Travel Zones. [Permit Notices](#)

On Clearways and Transit Lanes in the Sydney Metropolitan Zone only, if you are wider than 2.5 metres or longer than 22 metres then you can't travel between the hours of -

- 6.00 am to 10.00 am, and
- 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

If you are wider than 3.5 metres or longer than 25 metres then you can't travel in the Sydney Metropolitan Zone after 6.00 am on a weekday.

Where can I find information about travel conditions for public holiday periods?

The Oversize Notices and Operating Conditions have all the information relating to travel restrictions for public holiday periods. The RTA Heavy vehicle website has information on travel restrictions for state wide oversize travel curfews. [State wide Oversize Travel Curfews](#).

I want to travel at Higher Mass Limits, how can I?

Information relating to the [Intelligent Access Program](#) can be found at their website.

How can I contact the Special Permits Unit?

We are open on weekdays, not Saturday or Sunday or Public Holidays.

Email	spu@rta.nsw.gov.au
Fax	1300 361 570 (24 hours)
Phone	1300 656 371 (8.30 to 4.30 Mon to Fri)
Post	PO Box 94, Glen Innes, NSW, 2370

Do you have a Mailing List?

Yes. By subscribing to our mailing list you will receive update notifications relating to oversize travel i.e. road closures etc... [Mailing List](#)