

TDOT OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT PERMIT OFFICE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Last revised on 07/16/2018

Annuals

➤ Did the prices change?

Yes! As of January 1, 2017 all Annual Permit prices have changed and are now Truck Specific.

➤ What is truck specific?

Each permit now requires every truck to have its own permit. Each permit will have a VIN number assigned to it. A permit is not permissible for multiple trucks.

➤ Did you notify anyone of the changes?

Yes! The legislative changes that were made effective for January 1, 2017 were emailed and posted via the OS/OW Permit Office website. (<https://www.tn.gov/tdot/central-services/oversize---overweight-permits/news---memos.html>)

➤ How do I know if my vehicle needs a permit?

According to Tennessee Law, a vehicle or combination of vehicle and load requires a permit if any of the following dimensions are exceeded:

- Width: 8 feet and 6 inches
- Height: 13 feet and 6 inches
- Length:
 - 50 feet for truck tractor + semi-trailer combination
- Overhang: 60 inches or 5 feet (total for both front and rear)
- Weight:
 - 20,000 lbs. for single axle
 - 34,000 lbs. for tandem group
 - 80,000lbs or greater total gross weight vehicle

A permit is required if the vehicle or combination of vehicles and loads is overweight, over-width, over-length, or over-height. Commodity being hauled must be loaded so that the vehicle or vehicle and load combination presents the least dimension and exposure to the motoring public.

➤ **What if my truck breaks down or I get a new truck with my Annual Permit, can I change my VIN number?**

Annual Permit's may be amended **one time only**.

You will need to return the original permit with golden seal on it to the TDOT OS/OW Permit Office 505 Deaderick St. Suite 800 Nashville, TN 37243.

Please indicate the new permits VIN number. *double check to ensure accuracy due to having only 1 free amendment for VIN change*

Once original permits have been received we will issue you a new permit indicating the new VIN number.

➤ **I don't know what my Load Description should be...**

Load Descriptions give details of what you will be hauling for your Annual Permit.

Load Descriptions should **NOT** be too broad i.e.... "Heavy Equipment" or "One Divisible Load"

Good Examples:

Construction Equipment, Industrial Machinery, Industrial Plant Equipment, Steel Rebar, Steel Beams, Storage Buildings...

Single Trip

➤ When can I Amend my permit?

Single Trip Permits can be amended up to eight (8) hours once issued. Please See OS/OW Permit Amendment Section Here (<https://www.tn.gov/tdot/central-services/oversize---overweight-permits/single-trip---annual.html>) *located at bottom of page*

➤ When can I have my Single-Trip Permit approved and released back to me?

Single Trip Permits will only be approved up to three (3) days prior to the permit's start date. For example, if a permit has a start date of December 4th, it may be approved on December 1st. (Holiday exceptions may occur.) This policy helps reduce voids and amendment issues. Please remember that Single Trip Permits can only be voided up to four (4) days after the start/effective date; and that Single Trip Permits can only be amended within the first 8 hours after approval.

➤ How much does a Single Trip Permit Cost?

Excessive **Width Fee:**

8'6" to 14' \$20.00

14'1" to 16': \$30.00

16'1" and up: \$30.00 plus \$5.00 for each additional foot or fraction over 16'

Excessive **Length Fee:** \$20.00

Excessive **Height Fee:** \$20.00

Excessive **Weight Fee:** \$20.00 plus \$0.06 per ton mile over 80,000 lbs.

Towing vehicles (in accordance with Rule 1680-07-01-.19):

1. Excess weight up to 165,000 pounds: \$20.00 plus six cents (\$.06) per ton mile.
2. Excess weight over 165,000 pounds: Twelve cents (\$.12) per ton mile.

Bridge and Similar Structures

1. Movements weighing **over 165,000 pounds** but not more than 250,000 pounds: \$100.
2. Movements weighing **over 250,000 pounds** but not more than 500,000 pounds: \$300.
3. Movements weighing **over 500,000 pounds:** Actual cost.

➤ **How long does it take to process a Single Trip Permit?**

Single Trip Permits processed through the TDOT Permit Office may take **three (3) to ten (10) business days**. This timeframe depends on if the permit can be auto issued or if it has to be reviewed by a permit agent.

The parameters for an auto issue permit are:

Width	16 'or under
Height	15' 6" or under
Weight	165k or under

These restrictions are also under the terms that the permit uses a predetermined route.

Loads that are only over dimensional may take three **(3) to five (5) days** to process; and any load that has weight may take seven **(7) to ten (10) business days** to process.

If the load is over fifteen (15) feet in height it will require a route survey, and if the load is over sixteen (16) feet wide it will require a letter of necessity/shippers letter.

Lastly, all applications must be submitted with a Certificate of Liability Insurance that names TDOT as a certificate holder.

➤ **How long is my Single Trip valid?**

10 Calendar Days

➤ **Can I obtain an extension on a Single Trip Permit?**

No, you are not allowed to obtain any extensions on a Single Trip Permit.

➤ **How do I apply for a TN OS/OW Permit if I do not have a Tag?**

Tennessee Vehicle registration laws and regulations require that any motor vehicle traveling on TN roadways must be registered and tagged. You are therefore required to obtain a Temporary Operational Permit to travel in TN, even if your original state does not require issuance of tags for your vehicle.

Please contact IRP in TN to register and obtain a Temporary Operational Permit. When applying for an OS/OW permit utilize the Temporary Operational Permit Number in place of the Vehicles Tag number during the application process. Failure to provide a Tag number or Temporary Operational Permit Number will result in the denial of your OS/OW permit application.

You may find IRP Contact information at the link below at the bottom of the page.

<https://www.tn.gov/tdot/central-services/oversize---overweight-permits/contact.html>

Route Survey

➤ What is a Super Load?

If a load has any of the following, it is considered a Super Load:

- Gross Weight exceeding 165k
- Exceed 16' in width
- Exceed 15'6" in height

➤ What are Requirement for THP Escort?

THP Escorts are required when loads are:

- ☐ 18' wide on interstate or federal-air highway
- ☐ 18' in height on any highway

- ☐ Complexity of load or route

THP will conduct at least a Level 2 North American Standard inspection before escorting the load.

Loads that require THP escort will take a minimum of **10 days to process**

THP estimated costs will be about \$60/hour and requires at least 2-3 THP escorts

Route Survey will be voided after 30 calendar days from THP receiving documentation.

➤ **What are the Escort Requirements?**

- **Width**

10' and under	No Escort Required
10'1" - 12'6"	Front Escort on 2 Lane Routes <24' wide
12'7" - 14'	Front Escort on 2 Lane Routes Rear Escort on Interstate & 4 Lane Routes City Limit Travel Restrictions
13'6" - up	Front Escort Required Rear Escort Required City Limit Travel Restrictions

- **Height**

15'1" - UP	Front Escort with Height Pole
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- **Length**

75'1" - 90'	Light on Rear Required
90'1" - 120'	Rear Escort Required City Limit Travel Restrictions
120' - up	Front and Rear Escorts Required

Permit Related

➤ **What forms of payment are accepted?**

Many forms of payment are accepted including:

1. Company Check
2. Cashier's Check
3. Money Order
4. Credit Card (Visa, Master Card, AMEX, Discover)
5. Escrow Accounts

➤ **What if my truck breaks down while I have a Permit?**

This is handled on a case by case situation. Generally, a new Single Trip Permit will need to be ordered with the new truck's information. Typically speaking, the permit fees will be waived for the new application. However, as mentioned, this is handled on a case by case situation.

Annual Permits are handled on a case by case situation as well. A permit, when approved for amendment, will need to be re-issued with new VIN number.

➤ **I'm having issues with TNTRIPS. Who do I call?**

For all TNTRIPS issues such as a password issue or a system error message please contact the TDOT Permit Office at 615-253-9907; Monday through Friday (except holidays) 8:00am to 4:30pm CST. For all other Overweight & Oversized Permit related support issues please continue to contact us at TDOT.Permits@tn.gov or at (615)741-3821; Monday through Friday (except holidays) 8:00am to 4:30pm CST.

➤ **What is kingpin and how is it measured?**

Tennessee over-length law uses kingpin to determine if the vehicle is over length. Some carriers get kingpin and bridge law mixed up. Where bridge law is the distance from the kingpin to center of single axle or center of tandem, the over-length kingpin is measured from the kingpin to the rear of the trailer or overhang. If the kingpin is over 50 feet, the vehicle or load is over length and needs a permit. See TCA code 55-7-201-c for more details

➤ **What are the requirements for Weight / Axle?**

- When a trailer width **does not exceed 10 feet**. Then that trailers Single Axle cannot exceed 23k.
- When a trailer width **does exceed 10 feet**, then that trailers Single Axle cannot exceed 20k.

➤ **Fixed Loads:**

- Tennessee only allows fixed loads to travel under their own power for **weight less than 150k**.
- **Gross Weight of 120k-150k** with maximum axle weight of 24k.

➤ **Are there any Restrictions in traveling with my permit?**

Yes! Restrictions are on each permit. The restrictions are permit specific depending on each load. Please review your issued permit for more detail.

➤ **Am I able to supplement my permit?**

- You are only able to supplement an Annual Permit's dimensions, not weight.
 - Weight is only supplement if it is under the limit of your Annual Permit.
 - Annual Permits can be used to supplement your Single Trip Permit for **dimensions only**.
 - If you exceed dimensions within your annual permit, you will be required to purchase a single-trip permit for the entire load.

➤ **What is Smart Way, and how can it help?**

SmartWay provides up-to-date traffic information on our highway system. This system includes TN511, our HELP program and our Intelligent Transportation System. They help keep Tennessee traffic moving so motorists are safe and efficient in their travels.

Smart Way helps to identify and notify of any restrictions that can hinder or halt movement. Smart Way is a tool to use for any up-to-date road conditions happening in and around TN.

Smart Way can assist in helping route a survey for your Single Trip Permit.

➤ **What are the curfews for OS/OW Movement?**

Rush Hour County Curfew

No OS/OW movement requiring escorts of any kind on interstate systems of highways, Monday-Friday 7:00am-9:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm in Davidson, Rutherford, Hamilton, Knox, and Shelby counties; regardless if carrier is operating on a single trip or annual permit.

Operating Hours

For permits are 24/7 movement unless the load is classified as a Houseboat, Mobile Home, Site Built Home, Commercial Boat, or Super Load. A load is considered a Super Load if it has any of the following ...

- Gross Weight exceeding 165k
- Exceed 16' in width
- Exceed 15'6" in height

Please review your permit for restriction information. Additionally, County Curfew restriction also applies.

➤ **What is the Refund Policy?**

- A permit fee will not be refunded or credited after the permit has been issued, unless such refund is necessary to correct an error made by OS/OW Permit Office.
- The ton mile portion of the fee will be refunded or credited if another permit is issued in place of the cancelled permit for the same movement.

➤ **How do I change/update my Company Name and/or FEIN #?**

- Submit the letter of which you received upon changing your company name or FEIN # from the government.
- Once we receive your letter of change, we will update your information in TNTRIPS database.