

CHAPTER 5: COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL VEHICLE PERMITS

Permits are required for all trucks that exceed South Dakota's vehicle size and weight limits. Permits may be issued for nearly all size and weight vehicles and combinations, for specific loads on specific roads for specific time periods.

Under certain conditions, commercial vehicle operators need permits to operate on South Dakota's highways. The following permits may be required:

- Oversize and overweight permits
- Temporary trip permits
- Hazardous material permits

Permit Application

An application for a permit does not guarantee permit approval. An oversize or overweight permit is issued only if the route of travel provides the necessary clearances and load capacity to allow the safe passage of the load. Unless specifically stated in the permit rules or on the permit, the permit vehicle must comply with all of South Dakota's motor vehicle laws.

Permits may be obtained by telephone, letter, or in person from any of the four Ports of Entry or via the Internet using the South Dakota Automated Permitting System. Permits can also be obtained by facsimile machine (fax) from the Ports of Entry provided the permit fees are guaranteed or already in the possession of the Ports of Entry. Permits may also be obtained by letter or in person from any Highway Patrol District Office, Highway Patrol Trooper, or Motor Carrier Inspector. Books of permits may be purchased only from the South Dakota Highway Patrol, Motor Carrier Services, 118 W. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD.

Automated Permitting System

Commercial vehicle permits can be obtained for South Dakota's state highway system via the Internet. The Automated Permitting

web site at <http://www.sdtruckinfo.com> allows motor carriers to apply for South Dakota permits and to pay permit fees via credit card or escrow account.

Operating Requirements for Permitted Vehicles

Permits must be carried in the permit vehicle and must be made available to any law enforcement official upon demand. Permits must be completely filled out by the permittee when the permit is a self-issuing or telephonic permit. A permit is void if a permittee violates the terms of the permit or fails to properly fill out the permit. A voided permit is the same as not having a permit.

Liability Insurance

Permitted vehicles must be covered by liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per accident, and \$100,000 property damage. The issuance of a permit does not relieve the permit holder from liability for damages caused to any person or property.

Warning Flags & Signs for Oversize Movement

Red or orange warning flags, at least 18" by 18" in size, must be displayed on all oversized vehicles or loads. The flags must be attached to all corners of vehicles or loads wider than 8' 6". Flags must be attached to all corners of any load that extends beyond the width of the hauling vehicle.

Warning signs must be displayed on all vehicles issued an oversize permit if they exceed 95 feet in length or 12 feet in width or if they will operate during nighttime hours. Operation at nighttime requires reflectorized or lighted signs. Acceptable sign text includes "OVERSIZE LOAD", "OVERSIZED LOAD", "WIDE LOAD", and "LONG LOAD". One sign must be mounted on the front of the vehicle and be visible to oncoming traffic. Another sign must be mounted on the rear and be visible to traffic approaching from the rear. Signs must be at least 18" high by 84" wide, and be legible at 500 feet.

Escort Vehicles

Escort vehicles are required for:

- vehicles wider than 16 feet traveling on the Interstate highway system;
- vehicles wider than 20 feet traveling on the State Highway System.

Escort vehicles must travel in front of the oversize vehicle on undivided highways and behind it on divided highways. Escort vehicles may also be required because of route limitations, traffic conditions, or unusual vehicle configurations.

Escort vehicles must:

- be licensed motor vehicles, but not motorcycles;
- display a revolving amber light or two-way flashing amber lights at least 4” in diameter;
- carry signs with wording such as “WIDE LOAD AHEAD” or “WIDE LONG LOAD” in letters at least 12” high. The sign “WIDE LOAD AHEAD” must be mounted on the front of the leading escort vehicle, and the sign “WIDE LONG LOAD” must be mounted on the back of the trailing escort vehicle. Bright red or orange flags at least 12” square must be mounted on brackets or standards on each side of the signs. Signs must be covered or removed when not actually escorting a load.

Multiple escorts and flagpersons are required if the load extends more than two feet into the adjacent driving or passing lane or if the width of the permit vehicle does not allow normal traffic to pass without the permit vehicle or the normal traffic driving on the shoulder. The permit issuing authority may also require additional escorts and flagpersons.

Nighttime Operation

Oversize vehicles may move at night in limited circumstances. When they do, they must meet the requirements for Warning Flags & Signs for Oversize Movement (page 38), as well as the following special lighting requirements:

- If the transported load projects more than 4 inches beyond the width of the vehicle, it must be marked with:
 - one or more amber lamps and reflectors visible from the front and side, marking the foremost edges at their outermost extremity;
 - one or more red lamps and reflectors visible from the rear and side, marking the rearmost edges at their outermost extremity;
 - one or more amber lamps and reflectors visible from front, side, and rear marking any portion of the of the load extending beyond the foremost and rearmost edges.
- If the transported load overhangs the rear of the vehicle by more than 4 feet, it must be marked with:
 - one or more red lamps and reflectors visible from the rear and both sides, marking the end of the load overhang, if the overhang is 2 feet wide or less;
 - one or more red lamps and reflectors visible from the rear and side, marking each rear corner of the load overhang, if the overhang is wider than 2 feet.
- If transported load overhangs the front of the vehicle by more than 3 feet, it must be marked with:
 - one or more amber lamps and reflectors visible from the front and both sides, marking the front of the overhang, if the overhang is 2 feet wide or less;
 - one or more amber lamps and reflectors visible from the front and side, marking each front corner of the load overhang, if the overhang is wider than 2 feet.

Each lamp must be visible at all distances between 50 and 500 feet under clear atmospheric conditions. Each reflector must be

visible at all distances between 50 and 500 feet under clear atmospheric conditions when lit by lawfully lighted headlamps.

Interstate Highways

Oversize vehicles are allowed to move on Interstate Highways at night with limited access at interchanges unless:

- an escort is required;
- vehicle width exceeds 10 feet;
- vehicle height exceeds 14 feet 6 inches;
- the vehicle is a single unit more than 45 feet long;
- the vehicle is a combination more than 110 feet long;
- the vehicle is a 2-unit combination with an individual unit more than 60 feet long;
- the vehicle is a combination of 3 or more units with any individual unit more than 48 feet long.

Vehicles with permits for over 80,000 pounds on Interstate Highways and overlength Longer Combination Vehicles are allowed to move at night.

Other Highways

Overweight permit vehicles may move at night provided they do not require an escort. No movement of oversize vehicles at night will be allowed except for permits issued for overlength Longer Combination Vehicles, emergency movement, and interests of national defense.

Agriculture-Specific Permits

Baled Feed, Straw or Solid Waste Permit

An extended period permit may be purchased to haul overwidth baled feed, flax straw or solid waste on a truck. The load may not exceed a width of 12 feet. The permit fee is \$60.

Custom Harvest Fleet Permit

Permits are required for custom harvesters to operate a fleet of overwidth, or overwidth and overheight vehicles on the State Trunk Highway System. Under this permit, vehicles may not cause traffic delays longer than five minutes for other vehicles. Vehicles traveling in convoys must maintain at least 500 feet of separation between vehicles. Signs, signposts, bridge clearance markers, or any other highway feature restricting the width of the traveled way may not be removed or distorted to allow the vehicle to pass. Repair to damage of these features is the responsibility of the custom harvester. A copy of the permit must be kept in each fleet vehicle requiring a permit. The permit fee is \$60. This permit should not be confused with the Harvest Permit issued on a per vehicle basis.

Stack Mover Permit

Permits are required for the movement of baled or loose-stacked livestock feed on oversized truck-mounted or tractor-towed stack movers on State Trunk Highways. This permit allows the vehicle to move oversized when empty or loaded. No movement is allowed on the Interstate Highway System, unless no parallel route is available.

Table 14: Stack Mover Maximum Dimensions

Dimension	Maximum Value
Length	60 feet
Height	18 feet
Width Loaded	20 feet
Width Empty	Stack movers built <u>before</u> July 1, 1991 may move empty up to 17 feet wide
	Stack movers built <u>after</u> June 30, 1991 may move empty up to 16 feet wide

This permit allows for the lifting of lift axles to make turns, and also allows for slow movement on Interstate Highways. An amber strobe or revolving light is required. Flags are required on the left front and rear of the stack mover's bed. An "OVERSIZED LOAD" sign is required for movement on Interstate Highways. The permit fee is \$60.

Farm Implement Dealer Permit

An extended period permit may be issued to a farm implement dealer or a commercial operator of farm machinery for moving oversized vehicles or equipment over state highways. This permit is valid for overwidth loads up to 16 feet wide on Interstate Highways, and up to 20 feet wide on other state highways. For loads that exceed these widths, a single trip permit is required. This permit allows a dealer to road-deliver a self-propelled farm implement instead of hauling it. The permit also allows some tolerance for units that are overweight on an axle or tire, provided certain conditions can be met. The permit fee is \$60.

Harvest Permit

Residents

South Dakota residents engaged in custom harvesting must comply with commercial licensing laws. Vehicles licensed commercially must display on each power unit a license sufficient to cover the total gross weight of the vehicle and its load, plus any trailer and its load.

South Dakota commercially licensed vehicles are not required to purchase trip permits, temporary commercial license, or harvest permits. Resident vehicles that are licensed non-commercially and are being used to commercially harvest in South Dakota must display a temporary commercial license or a harvest permit.

Pickups and service trucks carrying over 500 pounds of harvest equipment, tools, or fuel supplies will be required to display some form of commercial license (trip permits, South Dakota commercial license plates, temporary commercial license or a harvest permit). Passenger vehicles, mobile homes, and camper vehicles are exempt from commercial licensing.

Farmers who are temporarily engaged in custom harvesting are treated like any other custom harvester. However, farmers harvesting their own fields are exempt from commercial licensing.

When a temporary commercial license is used for harvest purposes, it should be displayed in the lower center of the

windshield, to allow for easier and quicker identification by law enforcement officers.

Nonresidents

Nonresidents engaged in the custom harvest in South Dakota must purchase harvest permits for each vehicle hauling grain. A permit is required for each truck or tractor and for each grain-hauling trailer.

Passenger vehicles, empty trucks and empty pickups pulling mobile homes or camper trailers are not required to pay additional license fees. Pickups and service trucks carrying over 500 pounds of harvest equipment, tools or fuel supplies will be required to display some form of commercial license (trip permits, South Dakota commercial license plates, temporary commercial license or a harvest permit.)

Trucks loaded with or pulling combines or other harvest equipment will be treated like any other loaded truck and considered according to the base license of the vehicle. Vehicles displaying a valid harvest permit will not be required to purchase a trip permit for their travel into or through the state.

General Information

Any motor vehicle or trailer owned and operated by a resident, provided it is not commercially licensed, or a non-resident engaged in the harvest of agricultural products may be operated upon the highways, roads and streets of this state upon payment of a \$75 fee for a harvest permit.

Harvest permits are sold to vehicles that will be used to haul agricultural products or to service harvesting equipment. They are available to both foreign and South Dakota licensed harvesters. A permit is required for each truck or tractor and for each grain hauling trailer. The harvest permit must be displayed in the lower center of the windshield.

Harvest permits may be obtained from any County Treasurer, Port of Entry, South Dakota Highway Patrol District Office, Highway Patrol Trooper, or Motor Carrier Inspector. Permits may also be obtained by sending a check or money order along with a copy of the current registration for each vehicle to be

permitted to Motor Carrier Services, South Dakota Highway Patrol, 118 West Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501.

Interstate-Specific Permits

Only single trip permits are issued for the movement of an overweight vehicle on Interstate Highways.

Over 80,000 Pounds on Interstate Permit

A permit is available to allow a motor vehicle to exceed 80,000 pounds when traveling on the Interstate Highways. The permit does not allow a motor vehicle to exceed its legal axle weight, legal tire weight, or the weight allowed by the Bridge Weight Formula. Neither does it allow a motor vehicle to exceed its commercial motor vehicle licensed weight. Except for vehicles consisting of a straight truck or tractor-semitrailer combination, the vehicle may not exceed a speed of 65 miles per hour on any highway. The fee for an annual permit is \$60. A \$25 single-trip permit may be purchased in lieu of an extended period permit.

Slow Movement on Interstate Permit

An extended period permit is available to allow the movement of a vehicle that cannot maintain a speed of 40 miles per hour on Interstate Highways. The vehicle must display flashing warning lights and must be driven as far to the right as possible. The permit is valid only when no parallel route is available. The fee for the extended period permit is \$60. A \$25 single-trip permit may be purchased in lieu of an extended period permit.

Extended Period Permits

Electric Utility Permit

An extended period permit may be issued to an electric utility company for the movement of overlength utility poles up to 85 feet long on a vehicle consisting of a straight-truck-trailer combination or a semi-tractor-trailer combination. Poles over 85 feet long require a Single-Trip Oversize/Overweight Permit (page 49).

Vehicle movement must meet warning sign requirements for oversize loads (page 38), as well as special flagging and lighting requirements of ARSD 70:03:01:108 and rear escort requirements of ARSD 70:03:01:109. Utilities should contact South Dakota Highway Patrol, Motor Carrier Services, 118 W. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501, (605) 773-4578 for further information.

The extended period electric utility permit is assigned to the utility company. The utility company must make a copy of the permit for each permitted vehicle, fill in the blanks for “Make of Truck”, “State”, “License No.”, and “Serial No.”, and place the copy of the permit in the vehicle. The permit fee is \$60. Violation of the terms of the permit may result in the permit being revoked without a refund.

Oversize Permit—Non-divisible Loads

An extended period permit is available for the movement of a non-divisible oversize (but not overweight) load being hauled on a single unit or combination of two units. The loaded vehicle may not exceed a width of 14 feet 6 inches, and its side overhang may not exceed 3 feet 3 inches. Total combined front and rear overhang may not exceed 30 feet. Total length of a single unit is limited to 60 feet, including load overhang. Total length for a two unit combination is limited to 85 feet, including load overhang, and the second unit’s wheelbase may not exceed 43 feet. Additional rear overhang limitations apply based on wheelbase. The permit fee is \$60.

Oversized Trailer Permit

An extended period permit is available for the movement of a vehicle consisting of a truck-tractor pulling a unit or components of a unit used for hauling oversized or overweight loads. The vehicle may be up to 10 feet wide and up to 110 feet long. Nighttime movement is allowed if the unit is only overlength. The unit must be properly signed and must not carry a load that exceeds the width of the unit in its narrowest configuration. The permit fee is \$60.

Self-Propelled Equipment Permit

An extended period permit is available to allow the daytime movement of self-propelled equipment up to 10 feet wide and 55 feet long. The permit fee is \$60.

Booster Axle Permit

This extended period permit allows legal movement of overweight straight trucks by using a booster axle. The weight supported on any tire mounted on the booster axle cannot exceed 600 pounds per inch of tire width. The permit may be purchased from any permit issuing authority for a fee of \$60.

Lift Axle or Variable Load Axle Permit

An extended period permit is available to allow a motor vehicle to be overweight due to the lifting of a lift axle or variable load axle while making a turn. The permit allows lifting only one axle up to 100 feet before the turn, and the axle must be lowered within 100 feet after completing the turn. The permit fee is \$60 and is available from any permit issuing authority. It is not valid for use on the Interstate Highways.

A South Dakota registered motor vehicle equipped with a lift axle or variable load axle must have the pressure control, which adjusts the weight carried on the lift axle, mounted outside the driver's compartment, beyond the reach of anyone in the vehicle. The control to fully raise or lower the lift axle may be accessible to the driver provided it does not also function as the pressure control device.

Manufactured Home Permit

An extended period permit may be obtained for the movement of a manufactured home up to 16 feet wide, 15 feet high, and 80 feet or less in length. A single-trip permit may be obtained for the movement of a manufactured home that exceeds the size limits for an annual permit. The fee for the extended period permit is \$60 per truck. The fee for a single-trip permit is \$25.

For manufactured homes 8 to 10 feet wide, a 6,000 GVW tow vehicle is required. Manufactured homes over 10 feet wide but 12 feet or less wide require an 8,000 GVW tow vehicle, and

manufactured homes wider than 12 feet but less than 18 feet require a 9,000 GVW tow vehicle. Manufactured homes may not be moved when winds exceed 25 miles per hour.

Multiple-Trip Construction Equipment Permit

A multiple-trip permit is available to allow the movement of oversized/overweight construction equipment on state highways within an area defined as a base county and those counties bordering the base county. The permit is not valid on Interstate Highways.

An additional overweight fee is charged for the overweight permits. The fee is 50 cents a month for each designated county for each ton or fraction of a ton that the unit's gross weight is over the legal weight limits. Route verification with the Sisseton Port of Entry is required every 30 days if the permit is used for overweight loads.

The permit fee, excluding additional overweight fees, is \$5 per county per month but not more than \$20 per month for all the counties in the area. The minimum total fee for the permit, including additional overweight fees, is \$25.

Municipal Sludge Vehicle Permit

A permit issuing authority may issue an extended period overwidth permit for a municipal sludge vehicle owned and operated by a municipality. The permit is only available for an oversized/overweight municipal sludge vehicle purchased prior to July 1, 1984. The permit is subject to route approval by the Department of Transportation. There is no charge for the permit.

Overlength Semitrailer Permit

An extended period permit may be purchased for the movement of a semitrailer over 53 feet long but not longer than 60 feet. The overall length of the tractor and semitrailer may not exceed 80 feet. Reflective tape must be applied along each side and across the rear of the trailer. Rear under-ride protection must be provided under certain conditions. Off-tracking and semitrailer rear overhang are limited. The extended period permit may be

purchased for a fee of \$60. A single-trip permit may be purchased in lieu of an extended period permit for a fee of \$25.

Oversize Permits for Governmental Entities

There is no charge for permits issued to governmental entities. Governmental entities include state agencies, local government subdivisions of South Dakota, foreign states and their local subdivisions, the US Government and its agencies, departments and divisions. Any special operating restrictions shall be stated on the permit.

Single Trip Permits

30-Day Temporary Commercial Vehicle Permit and Single Trip Commercial Vehicle Permit

Both a 30-day temporary commercial license permit and a single trip permit are available in South Dakota. These may be purchased to temporarily obtain commercial authority or to increase the allowable Gross Vehicle Weight. In both cases, some other form of vehicle license must be attached to the vehicle before either permit is valid.

30-day temporary permits may be purchased from a County Treasurer's Office, Port of Entry, or any other permit issuing authority designated by the Department of Revenue & Regulation. The permit fee varies according to the weight of the vehicle.

Single-trip permits are available from any permit issuing authority, except the County Treasurer's Office, at a cost of \$15. For more information, contact the Department of Revenue & Regulation at (605) 773-3541 or the South Dakota Highway Patrol at (605) 773-4578.

Single-Trip Oversize/Overweight Permit

A single-trip permit is available for the movement of a non-divisible load that is oversize or overweight. A single-trip permit may also be purchased in place of any annual permit. Special operating restrictions may be placed on oversize/overweight movements, such as routing, escort requirements, speed restrictions, driving down centerline of a bridge, etc.

No permit will be issued to allow a 2, 3 or 4 axle motor vehicle hauling a non-divisible load to be more than ten percent overweight. Permits will be issued to 2, 3 or 4 axle vehicles consisting of self-propelled equipment or tow-away equipment to be more than ten percent overweight.

No permit will be issued for an overwidth load that exceeds the width of the narrowest axle on the trailer carrying the load by more than three times. Loads exceeding this width must be hauled on a trailer with extra width axles or multiple line axle groups.

Movement of earthmoving equipment individually or in convoy requires a front escort vehicle. Rubber tired road construction equipment may not exceed a speed of 20 miles per hour and if the unit bounces, the speed must be further reduced. Units moving in a convoy may not be spaced closer than 500 feet or further than 3000 feet apart.

Permits may be purchased individually or in books of ten. The fee for a single-trip permit is \$25. The fee for a book of ten permits is \$250. If the motor vehicle exceeds the weight of 40,000 pounds on two axles, 60,000 pounds on three axles, 80,000 pounds on four axles, 85,000 pounds on five axles, 90,000 pounds on six axles, and 95,000 or more pounds on seven or more axles, an additional overweight fee is charged at a rate of two cents per ton-mile for the excess weight.

Travel at night is restricted (see Nighttime Operation on page 39 for exceptions).

Depending on the vehicle size, weight, and requested route, some permit requests will require review by the Department of Transportation or the Highway Patrol. Typically this review may take up to two working days to process. Loads that exceed 200,000 pounds, loads that are overweight and wider than 12 feet, or loads that are higher than 16 feet may require more than two working days to process. Please allow adequate time for processing the permit request.

Permit to Move to Weigh Scale

A single-trip permit is available to allow a motor vehicle to move to the nearest available public or private scale to determine whether the load is properly placed on the motor vehicle. Before a single-trip permit is requested, the operator must obtain approval from the private scale operator to weigh the vehicle and its load. A motor vehicle operator issued a permit to move to a weigh scale may not leave the scale site unless his load conforms to all legal weight limits or he obtains an overweight permit. The fee for a permit to move to a weigh scale is \$25.

Emergency Single-Trip Oversize/Overweight Permit

A single-trip permit is available to allow movement of a non-divisible oversize or overweight load on any State Trunk Highway to locations of emergencies. The term “locations of emergencies” is defined as any location within the State of South Dakota where:

- the Governor of South Dakota has declared an emergency;
- conditions exist which jeopardize the health, safety and/or welfare of the citizens of South Dakota;
- a hazardous material emergency exists;
- a national defense emergency exists; or
- a train derailment has occurred.

The approval of an emergency single-trip oversize/overweight permit is subject to all of the conditions of a normal single-trip oversize/overweight permit except that:

- Approval of the permit will be available at any time during the day or night.
- To expedite the permit issuance process, permit applicants may request that the Department of Transportation perform a special pre-trip analysis of the desired routes for known permit vehicle configurations. Permit applicants desiring a pre-trip route analysis should contact the Department of Transportation at (605) 773-3704 for further information.

- Permit applicants requesting a special pre-trip route analysis may also request a spring load limit variance from the Department of Transportation that allows the permit vehicle to operate during the spring load limit period up to the maximum axle weights normally allowed.
- An oversize permit vehicle normally restricted to movement during daylight hours may be allowed to move at night provided that, in addition to meeting the lighting requirements of Nighttime Operation (page 39) it is equipped with additional warning lights consisting of at least one, but not more than three flashing yellow or amber lights mounted above the roof or cab line of the permit vehicle. The lights must emit light that is visible from all directions for a distance of 500 feet. When moving at night, the permit vehicle must also be accompanied by front and rear escort vehicles that meet the following requirements:
 - a. The escort vehicles must be a passenger car or two-axle truck at least 60 inches wide. They may not exceed a maximum gross vehicle weight of 12,000 pounds. They may not be oversize or overweight.
 - b. The escort vehicles must be equipped with additional warning lights consisting of at least one, but not more than three, flashing yellow or amber lights mounted above the roof or cab line of the escort vehicles. The lights must emit a light that is visible from all directions for a distance of 500 feet.
 - c. The escort vehicles must be equipped with an “OVERSIZE LOAD” sign that is visible to traffic approaching the front of a front escort and the rear of a rear escort. At a minimum, the sign must be 12 inches high and 60 inches wide. Letters on the sign must be 8 inch block uppercase with 1 inch stroke. The colors must be black letters on yellow background. The sign must be reflectorized and must be visible to approaching traffic from a distance of

500 feet. Other appropriate warning messages may be used in lieu of “OVERSIZE LOAD”.

- d. The escort vehicles must be equipped with communications equipment capable of providing voice communication between the permit vehicle and escort vehicles at all times.
- e. The spacing between the escort vehicle and the permit vehicle should be a minimum of 500 feet and a maximum of 1000 feet. Convoy movement of multiple permit vehicles is allowed with only one front and one rear escort vehicle.

Return trips from locations of emergencies and normally scheduled movement of defense items are not considered emergency movements and will be handled as a normal single-trip oversize/overweight permit request, except that vehicles returning from the location of an emergency and operating under a spring load limit variance shall be allowed to return to their point of origin or other approved location.

Longer Combination Vehicle Permit

The Longer Combination Vehicle (LCV) permit allows specific vehicle combinations to operate on Interstate Highways and other specified State Highways at lengths up to 110 feet (except for the Truck-Trailer combination, which is limited to 85 feet) and at weights up to 129,000 pounds. They are only available in books of ten permits, at a cost of \$100 per book, from the South Dakota Highway Patrol, Motor Carrier Services, 118 W. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501 (605) 773-4578.

Authorized combinations include the following:

Table 15: LCV Combination Length Limits

Combination	Semitrailer/trailer Maximum Length
Tractor-Semitrailer-Semitrailer	48 feet
Tractor-Semitrailer-Trailer	48 feet
Tractor-Semitrailer-Semitrailer-Semitrailer	28.5 feet
Tractor-Semitrailer-Trailer-Trailer	28.5 feet
Truck-Trailer	48 feet

Tractors and Trucks may not exceed 45 feet. A semitrailer or trailer may not be longer than the trailer located immediately ahead of it.

The LCV may not exceed a gross weight of 129,000 pounds, 20,000 pounds on a single axle, 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle or the weight as allowed by the Bridge Weight Formula on any axle group combinations. The weight on a steering axle may not exceed 600 pounds per inch width of tire, and the weight on all other axles may not exceed 500 pounds per inch width of tire. All axles must be equipped with four tires with the exception of the steering axle. A semitrailer or trailer may not weigh 3,000 pounds more than the trailer immediately ahead of it. Lift axles and belly axles are not considered load-carrying axles and will not count when determining the vehicle's weight limits. Axles that are spaced eight feet or less apart must weigh within 500 pounds of each other.

The LCV's calculated off-tracking may not exceed 8.75 feet for a turning radius of 161 feet, as calculated by the formula:

$$\text{Maximum Offtracking} = TR - \sqrt{TR^2 - (L_1^2 + L_2^2 - L_3^2 + L_4^2 + L_5^2)}$$

where TR is the specified turning radius (161 feet) and L₁ through L₅ are measured as shown in Figure 2.

Table 16 can be used to calculate off-tracking.

Table 16: Off-tracking Calculation Procedure

Step		Step	
(1)	L ₁ = _____ feet	(6)	L ₁ x L ₁ = _____
(2)	L ₂ = _____ feet	(7)	L ₂ x L ₂ = _____
(3)	L ₃ = _____ feet		
(4)	L ₄ = _____ feet	(8)	L ₄ x L ₄ = _____
(5)	L ₅ = _____ feet	(9)	L ₅ x L ₅ = _____
(10)	161 x 161 =		25921.00
(11)	L ₃ x L ₃ =		_____
(12)	Add (10) + (11)		_____
(13)	Add (6) + (7) + (8) + (9)		_____
(14)	Subtract (13) from (12)		_____
(15)	Turning Radius = 161		161.00
(16)	Square root of (14)		_____
(17)	Off-tracking = (15) - (16)		_____

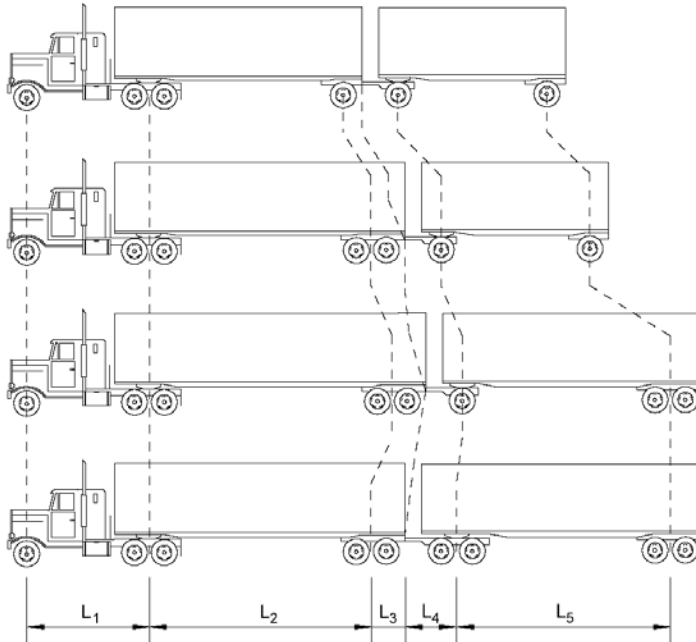


Figure 2: Off-Tracking Calculation Dimensions

L_1 through L_5 must be expressed as decimal feet, not feet and inches. Table 17 shows conversions from inches to decimal feet.

Table 17: Inches to Decimal Feet Conversion

Inches	Feet	Inches	Feet	Inches	Feet
0"	.00'	4"	.33'	8"	.67'
1"	.08'	5"	.42'	9"	.75'
2"	.17'	6"	.50'	10"	.83'
3"	.25'	7"	.58'	11"	.92'

For an LCV comprising one or more trailers that are 45 feet or longer, all dimensions used to calculate the off-tracking must be written in the "Permit Restrictions" area of the Special Permit along with the off-tracking value derived from the calculation.

The LCV's semitrailer or trailer hitch offset (which is the L_3 measurement) may not exceed six feet. The hitch offset is that longitudinal distance measured from the turn center of the semitrailer's or trailer's rear axle group to the center of the hitching mechanism on the rear of that trailer.

The power unit pulling any LCV must be of sufficient horsepower to maintain a minimum speed of 40 miles per hour when pulling fully loaded trailers. A LCV may not exceed 65 miles per hour when operating on Interstate Highways or 55 miles per hour when operating on other specified highways.

The rear trailer of a LCV must have attached to it a sign that states "LONG LOAD". The sign must be at least 7 feet long and 18 inches high. The color of the sign must be black letters on a yellow background. Lettering must be at least 10 inches high with a 1.41-inch brush stroke.

A LCV may not be operated when:

- road surfaces, because of rain, ice, snow, slush or frost, present a slippery condition which may be hazardous to the operation of the LCV or other highway users;
- wind, other weather conditions or equipment conditions cause part of the LCV to swerve, shift, sway or fail to follow within one foot of the path of the power unit, excluding low speed off-tracking;
- snow, ice, sleet, fog, mist, rain, dust or smoke reduce visibility.

The LCV is only permitted to travel over the Interstate System and must enter and exit the Interstate System only on routes approved by the Department of Transportation. LCVs may also travel on the routes in Table 18.

Table 18: South Dakota LCV Routes

Route	Location
US281	from the North Dakota border to the intersection of US281 and US12 at Aberdeen
SD50	from I-29 to the intersection of SD50 and Burleigh Street in the east part of Yankton
US85	from the North Dakota border to I-90 at Spearfish
US14 bypass	from I-29 to the intersection of US14 and the US14 bypass on the west side of Brookings
US14	from the intersection of the US14 bypass and US14 on the west side of Brookings to the intersection south of Wolsey of US281 and US14
US281	from I-90 to the intersection south of Wolsey of US281 and US14

Prior to the use of a LCV permit, the yearly or thirty-day commercial license fees must be paid to cover the LCV's maximum gross weight.

The permit holder of a LCV permit must complete the permit form, sign the permit and send the duplicate copy of the permit to the South Dakota Highway Patrol before beginning the trip. Each permit is valid for the duration of one trip or 24 hours, whichever occurs first. The original signed permit must be carried by the LCV at all times during the trip. The term "trip" is defined as reaching the first location where a tractor change is made to the LCV or reaching the first location where the LCV has reversed its direction and begins the return to its point of origin, whichever occurs first. A round-trip requires two permits. When a trailer change is made during a trip, the permit must be changed to identify the trailer change made.

Hazardous Material Transportation

South Dakota has adopted the Federal Regulations on transportation of hazardous materials—Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), subtitle B, chapter I, subchapter A, part 107 (subparts F and G only), and subchapter C, parts 171-180, inclusive. Any violation of the regulations found in parts 171, 172, and 178 through 180 is a Class 2 misdemeanor punishable by a \$200 fine, 30 days in jail, or both. These parts pertain to:

- general information, regulations and definitions;
- hazardous materials tables;
- hazardous materials communication regulations;
- test and inspection marking requirements.

Any violation of the hazardous materials regulations found in parts 173 to 180, inclusive, or violation of the driving and parking rules in part 397, is a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by a \$1,000 fine, 1 year in jail, or both. These parts pertain to:

- packaging;
- prohibited shipments;
- loading and unloading;
- segregation and separation;
- testing and inspection of cargo tanks.

Whenever a reportable incident involving hazardous materials occurs, the carrier transporting the hazardous material or the first law enforcement officer to arrive at the scene of the incident must notify the South Dakota Division of Emergency Management at (605) 773-3231.

Hazardous Waste Transportation

The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is authorized to operate its hazardous waste program by SDCL §34A-11. The State hazardous waste rules can be found in ARSD §74:28, which adopts the federal hazardous waste regulations. (To be specific, ARSD 74:28:24:01 adopts Title 40 CFR part 263 to address the requirements for hazardous waste transporters.) The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has given DENR the authority to operate the State's hazardous waste program in lieu of the Environmental Protection Agency. Information regarding South Dakota's requirements governing the transportation of hazardous waste may be obtained from the DENR in Pierre at (605) 773-3153, the DENR in Rapid City at (605) 394-2229, and the South Dakota Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Services at (605) 773-4578.

South Dakota does not require a Special Permit to transport hazardous material or hazardous waste. However, South Dakota does require trucking companies to fill out a hazardous waste notification form if the trucking company is based in South Dakota and transports hazardous waste. The form can be found at the DENR Internet address <http://www.state.sd.us/denr>.

Federal Hazardous Materials Safety Permits

On January 1, 2005 the Hazardous Materials Safety Permitting Program began requiring carriers of certain hazardous materials to hold a Hazardous Materials Safety Permit issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). These materials include:

- Radioactive Materials
- Explosives
- Toxic by Inhalation Materials—Note that anhydrous ammonia meets the definition of a toxic by inhalation material and is covered by this permitting rule when transported in a packaging of 3,500 gallons or more.
- Methane—Compressed or refrigerated liquid methane or natural gas or other liquefied gas with a methane content of at least 85% in a bulk packaging of 3,500 gallons or more.

Motor carriers must obtain the Hazardous Materials Safety Permit or a Temporary Hazardous Materials Safety Permit when they file the MCS-150 to renew their USDOT number. Motor carriers, such as intrastate carriers, that have not filed an MCS-150 form prior to January 1, 2005, must obtain the Hazardous Materials Safety Permit or a Temporary Hazardous Materials Safety Permit to transport these materials. In both cases, the motor carrier must simply complete an MCS-150B form in the place of an MCS-150 to start the permit application process. The form is available at <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/forms/forms.htm> or by contacting the FMCSA Division office at (605) 224-8202.

PHMSA Registration

Certain transporters of hazardous materials and hazardous waste, such as radioactive materials, explosives, materials toxic by inhalation, and other hazardous materials hauled in quantities exceeding 3500 gallons or 5000 pounds are required to file an annual registration statement with the U.S. Department of Transportation and to pay a fee. This program began in 1992 and is administered by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). The fee helps fund state and tribal hazardous materials emergency response planning and training. Carriers can determine if this requirement applies to them and, if so, register online at: <http://hazmat.dot.gov/regs/register/register.htm>.

Routes with Special Restrictions

Highway Construction Zones

Highway construction can create restrictions to travel such as vehicle height, width or length restrictions, construction detours, or delays. This information can be obtained by dialing 511 from any cellular or landline phone in South Dakota, by calling the Department of Transportation at (605) 773-3704, or at <http://www.safetravelusa.com>.

Spring Weight Restrictions

Certain highways may be subject to spring load limits during the period of February 15 to April 30. While spring load limits are in effect, limited overweight permits will be issued. Information on spring load limits may be obtained by calling the Department of Transportation at (605) 773-3704 or at the Internet address http://www.sddot.com/Operations/evo/Spring_Load_Limits/index.htm

Black Hills Tunnels and Roads

Tunnels with limited height and width exist at several locations in the Black Hills.

Table 19: South Dakota Tunnel Locations

Route	Location	Width	Height	Notes
US16A	1 mi N of Keystone	47' 0"	18' 0"	
US16A	6.5 mi S of Keystone	13' 4"	12' 4"	These sections of SD87 and US16A should not be used as through routes for commercial traffic.
US16A	4 mi S of Keystone	13' 2"	12' 2"	
US16A	3 mi S of Keystone	14' 0"	12' 9"	
SD87	6 mi SE of Sylvan Lake	9' 0"	12' 3"	
SD87	2 mi SE of Sylvan Lake	8' 4"	12' 0"	
SD87	1 mi N of Sylvan Lake	10' 6"	10' 7"	

Restrictions During the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally

Single trip permits will not be issued and extended period permits will not be valid for travel on state, US, and Interstate highways in the Black Hills Area (which includes the counties of Custer, Fall River, Lawrence, Meade, and Pennington) during the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. This period includes the Saturday preceding the Rally through the Sunday concluding the Rally. Special Permits will not be valid without approval from the South Dakota Department of Transportation’s Rapid City Region Engineer, or his designee, if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- an escort vehicle is required;
- the permit vehicle is not able to attain the speed of posted speed limits and is not able to maintain a safe operating speed;
- the permit vehicle is wider than 10 feet and is traveling in the Black Hills Area, excluding US18 and those highways south of US18; or
- the permit vehicle is wider than 14 feet.

Permits may be granted if travel can be accomplished between 5:00 am and 9:00 am at the Region Engineer’s discretion. The Rapid City Region Engineer can be contacted during regular business hours at (605) 394-2244.

Winter Highway Travel Information

South Dakota's weather conditions can be unpredictable, especially during the winter season. Commercial vehicle operators are advised to be prepared for rapidly changing

conditions. Call 511 from any cellular or landline phone in South Dakota to find out the current road conditions and the forecasted weather to expect. This information can also be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.safetravelusa.com>.

Studded Tire/Chain Law

South Dakota allows vehicles to be equipped with studded tires from October 1 through April 30. In certain areas of the state, particularly the Black Hills region, highways may be posted restricting traffic to motor vehicles equipped with chains, studded tires, or snow tires. Notice of travel restrictions will be conspicuously signed.

Reciprocity Agreements

Iowa Open City Free Zone

The States of South Dakota and Iowa have agreed that Sioux City, IA, and North Sioux City, SD are open cities for the movement of commercial vehicles licensed in either state, provided that the vehicles remain within the cities. In addition, Sioux Falls, SD is an open city for the movement of livestock via SD38 from the Iowa State Line directly to Sioux Falls. The vehicles must bear an Iowa license, and the movement must be interstate in nature.

Minnesota Vehicle Reciprocity Free Zone

Licensing reciprocity is granted to individuals and corporations from either South Dakota or Minnesota—including corporations not organized under the laws of either state but licensed to do business in either state and maintaining a place of business in either state—to operate a bus, straight truck, truck-tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or any combination of these when performing interstate commerce within 20 miles of each State's border. This does not waive size and weight laws, required motor fuel taxes, and Public Utilities Commission Operating Authority. This reciprocity does not include vehicles registered for use only in a limited area of a State. The agreement requires that the vehicle be licensed in the home jurisdiction to carry the weight desired.

Nebraska Farm Vehicle Reciprocity

Any farm truck legally registered in either South Dakota or Nebraska may be operated in interstate movement between states without registering that vehicle or paying license fees if it is one of the following:

- a straight truck, including a pickup, with or without a trailer;
- a truck tractor with or without a trailer.

The truck or pickup must bear identification designating the vehicle as a “Farm” vehicle as provided by statute in the home state.

The reciprocity applies only to farm trucks owned or operated by ranchers or farmers:

- for the transportation of their own ranch or farm products from point of production to market;
- for the transportation of supplies, commodities, or equipment to be used on the ranch or farm;
- for the infrequent or seasonal transportation (but not for commercial hire) by one farmer for another of the produce of the farm or ranch.

This does not relieve the farmer or rancher from compliance with legal requirements related to size, weight, and safety.

Nebraska Open City Free Zone Agreement

An agreement exists between the State of South Dakota and the State of Nebraska, whereby each State grants to the other full reciprocity to a properly licensed, but non-prorated, commercial vehicle that enters and remains within the corporate limits of the cities listed below. The vehicle or vehicles must conduct business that is interstate in nature only.

The cities involved are Dakota City, NE, Yankton, SD, South Sioux City, NE, and North Sioux City, SD. The corporate limits of the city of Yankton include a three-mile radius of the city limits.

This agreement in no way affects the requirements of the Department of Revenue or the Public Service Commission of the State of Nebraska and the Department of Revenue & Regulation or the Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota.

This agreement does not grant reciprocity to commercial vehicles displaying reduced fee plates other than farm plates and in no way affects length, width, or weight requirements of the two states.

North Dakota Vehicle Reciprocity Free Zone

Interstate Licensing Reciprocity

Interstate licensing reciprocity is granted to individuals and corporations from either South Dakota or North Dakota—including corporations not organized under the laws of either state but licensed to do business and maintaining a place of business in either state—to operate a bus, straight truck, truck-tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or any combination of these when performing interstate commerce within the following limits:

Table 20: South Dakota - North Dakota Reciprocity Areas

North Dakota Vehicles within South Dakota	The area of the state lying north of US12 on the east side of the Missouri River and that area of the state lying north of SD20 on the west side of the Missouri River
South Dakota Vehicles within North Dakota	The area of the state bordered on the west by the Montana State Line; on the north by US12 starting at the Montana State Line then easterly on US12 to the junction of ND22; then north on ND22 to the junction of ND 21; then easterly on ND21 to the junction of ND 6; then south on ND6 to the junction of ND24; then east on ND24 across the Missouri River to ND13; then easterly on ND13 to the Minnesota State Line

Vehicles must enter either State at the point closest to the desired destination to minimize miles traveled in the opposing State. In no way does this agreement allow a vehicle to traverse the opposing state within the free zone.

Vehicles destined for a city on the southern boundary of the free zone in South Dakota or the northern boundary of the free zone in North Dakota shall be permitted to operate three miles beyond the city's municipal limits.

This reciprocity does not include vehicles registered for use only in a limited area of a State. The agreement requires that the vehicle be licensed in the home jurisdiction to carry the weight desired.

Intrastate Licensing Reciprocity

Intrastate licensing reciprocity is granted to vehicles owned or operated by a resident of either State according to the following:

- Full reciprocity is extended to all farm vehicles owned or operated by farmers or ranchers of either State hauling their own farm products, farm supplies, or farm equipment when such vehicles are operated within the boundaries of North Dakota and South Dakota as described previously.
- Full reciprocity, including “Gainful Employment Operations”, is extended by both States to all vehicles, including fixed load vehicles, that are proportionately registered in both states under the International Registration Plan.
- Full reciprocity, including “Gainful Employment Operations”, is extended by both States to all automobiles, panel trucks, or pickup trucks that are properly registered in their State when such vehicles are operated within the boundaries of North Dakota and South Dakota as described previously, provided that any vehicle remaining in the non-registering State for a period exceeding twenty-four hours shall be subject to that State’s registration requirements.
- This reciprocity does not include vehicles registered for use only in a limited area of a State. The agreement requires that the vehicle be licensed in the home jurisdiction to carry the weight desired.