


NORTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY PATROL POLICY MANUAL

	SUBJECT	POLICY NUMBER
	PERMIT POLICY FOR MOVEMENT OF VEHICLES AND LOADS THAT ARE OVERLENGTH ONLY (EXCLUDES HAY, STRAW, MANUFACTURED HOUSING & MODULAR UNITS)	9-6 Annex H
	APPLICABLE CALEA STANDARDS	EFFECTIVE DATE
	N/A	8-1-17
		RESCINDS
		New
		DATED

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines when permits will be issued for vehicles or loads exceeding legal length for movement on the state highway system.

POLICY STATEMENT

As authorized by section 39-12-02 NDCC and Article 38-06 NDAC, the NDHP will issue annual permits, when good cause is shown, for the movement of overlength vehicles and loads that do not exceed 120 feet.

The following procedures outline the requirements and methods for issuing permits for overlength movements.

PROCEDURE

A. Permit Requirements

1. Permits must be in possession prior to starting any movement. They shall contain such other restrictions as deemed necessary by the NDHP or NDDOT engineers. The NDHP has the authority to revoke permits when the holder violates or abuses the privilege or conditions of the permits.
2. General travel restrictions.
 - a. Annual permits shall not authorize movements when inclement weather prevails, highways are slippery, or when visibility is poor.
 - b. Annual permits do not authorize travel on shoulders of road.
 - c. Overlength vehicles and load movements shall allow traffic to pass.
 - d. All permits shall require a minimum distance of 1,000 feet between vehicles in a convoy of two or more vehicles.
 - e. An annual permit may be issued for up to 120 feet in length.
 - 1) The permit is not valid when axle/gross weights exceed posted limits or legal weight limits.
 - 2) The permit is not valid when height or width exceeds legal limits.
 - f. Annual overlength permits cannot be used for the movement of hay, straw, or manufactured buildings used for residential, commercial, educational or industrial purposes.
3. General safety requirements.
 - a. All overlength vehicles and loads must have minimum 18 inch by 18 inch red or bright orange flags displayed on the traffic side front and rear.
 - b. Overlength movements authorized to travel at night require:
 - 1) Clearance lights visible from the front, rear, and side, marking the outermost portion of the vehicle.
 - 2) One rotating or two flashing amber lights mounted above the cab visible at a distance not less than 500 feet.
 - a) When lights on the cab are not visible to the rear, additional flashing amber lights are required at the rear.
 - 3) Lights shall be SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) approved Class 1 lights and reflectors.
 - 4) Vehicle must be capable of traveling at the posted highway speed.
 - c. When the overall length exceeds 75 feet in length there must be at least one 12" x 60" **LONG LOAD** or 12"x 60" **OVERSIZE LOAD** sign displayed on the rear. The lettering shall be black on yellow background. The letters shall be at least 8 inches high with 1-inch brush stroke. The sign shall be covered or removed when the movement is not overlength.

- 1) The length of the trailer or semitrailer including the load shall not exceed 53 feet, and the legal length of a towed vehicle shall not exceed 60 feet.
 - d. When the load extends beyond the bed or body of the vehicle to the rear by four feet or more, a 12" x 12" red flag must be displayed at the extreme rear end of the load.
 - e. Towing vehicle must have two mirrors to reflect a rear view of 200 feet to the driver.
 - f. All commercial oversize vehicles must be equipped in accordance with the requirements and specifications of Parts 393 and 396 of 49CFR.
4. General size limitations.
 - a. Construction and building contractors' equipment and vehicles used to move such equipment are exempt from width limitations not to exceed ten feet in width when being moved by contractors or resident carriers. Housemovers' vehicles and equipment and specialized oil field vehicles commonly referred to as rig up trucks or jin trucks are considered construction equipment.
 - b. **ALL VERTICAL CLEARANCES SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PERMITTEE.**
 - c. Road construction may limit overlength movements on some highways. Contact the Highway Patrol permit office for length restrictions or visit the NDDOT Construction Services website at [North Dakota Travel Information Map](#).
 5. Government and emergency vehicles.
 - a. Governmental road maintenance equipment, North Dakota National Guard equipment, and emergency vehicles will be permitted on individual specifications or where emergencies necessitate.
 6. Crossing state highways.
 - a. For movements that are overlength only, permits **are not** required.
 7. Movement over railroad crossings/tracks.
 - a. In the event of an emergency involving BNSF Railroad crossings/tracks, immediately call 1-800-832-5452 for assistance.
 - b. In the event of an emergency involving Red River Valley & Western Railroad crossings/tracks, immediately call 1-800-747-4919 for assistance.
 8. Liability of permittee.
 - a. The applicant or permittee, as a condition for obtaining an annual overlength permit, shall assume all responsibility for accidents, damage, or injury to any persons or damage to public or private property caused by the movement of any overlength vehicle or load covered by the permit while upon public highways of the state.
 - b. The applicant or permittee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the North Dakota Department of Transportation, the North Dakota Highway Patrol, their officers and employees from any and all claims resulting directly or indirectly from the movement of an overlength vehicle or load on any public highway in the state of North Dakota.

B. Application Procedure

1. Annual permits for vehicles and loads up to 120 feet in length can be purchased online at www.nd.gov/ndhp, click on E-Permits.
2. Information required to obtain a permit:
 - a. Company name, address, city, state, zip code, e-mail address, and telephone number.
 - b. Description of power unit: year, make, North Dakota registered gross vehicle weight (when applicable), serial number, license number and state, description of load, and overall length.
3. Permits can also be obtained from the Highway Patrol permit office, motor carrier inspectors, or troopers.
 - a. Applications to the permit office may be made in person, by mail, by e-mail, by telephone, or through a permit service company.
 - b. Applications may also be made with a trooper or motor carrier inspector, in person or by telephone.
4. Each annual permit shall be company name and vehicle (power unit) specific, and they are not transferrable.
5. Annual overlength permits expire December 31.

6. A legible electronic or paper copy of the permit must be in possession prior to entering North Dakota or starting movement.
 - a. The applicant/driver is responsible for complying with the travel restrictions and safety requirements listed on the receipt/permit.
7. Violating provisions and conditions on an annual overlength permit may result in invalidating the permit.
8. Permit fees.
 - a. \$150 for each annual overlength permit (SFN 3507, Receipt/Permit).
 - b. Official, publicly-owned, emergency, or military vehicles shall not be required to pay charges for permits. (No fee to commercial hauler doing charity hauling.)
 - c. \$5 faxing fee.
9. Annual overlength permits can be purchased online at www.nd.gov/ndhp, click on E-Permits. Application forms can be obtained from the North Dakota Highway Patrol, Permit Office, 600 E Boulevard Avenue Dept. 504, Bismarck, ND 58505-0240. The telephone number is 701-328-2621. The e-mail address is ndhppermits@nd.gov.