



Oversize/ Overweight Permit Manual

South Carolina

Foreword

The Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association is pleased to publish this Oversize/Overweight Permit Manual. Each state analysis includes information in a standardized format: contact, legal limits, special permit limits, general restrictions, types of permits available, fees, escort needs, fines, and restricted travel areas. Telephone numbers, locations, and hours of operation are listed for ports of entry and permit branches. However, readers are always advised to check with the state offices on current laws and procedures. This project could not have been completed without the advice and consultation of many state officials. We thank all of those who provided permit manuals, maps, laws, regulations, and various other forms of documentation.

Legal Notice

This SC&RA Oversize/Overweight Permit Manual is intended only to provide concise, easily read information, useful in planning movements of overdimensional and overweight loads. This *Permit Manual* is not intended to be an accurate summary of all the applicable laws and regulations. Users of the *Permit Manual* should confirm the information contained herein before dispatching vehicles and loads. The SC&RA cautions *Permit Manual* users that state laws and regulations are subject to change without notice, and that some time elapses between the effective date of such changes and the amendment of the *Permit Manual* to reflect those changes. The SC&RA assumes no responsibility for accident, injury, loss or claim, penalties or any other damage resulting from reliance on the contents of this *Permit Manual*.

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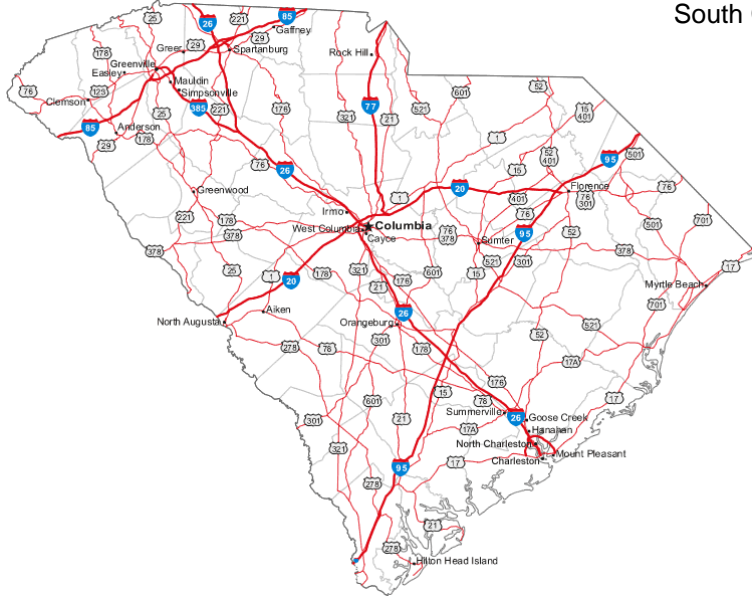
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SOUTH CAROLINA

CONTACT



South Carolina Department of Transportation
 OSOW Permit Office
 955 Park Street Room G-4
 Columbia, SC 29201

P.O. Box 19
 Columbia, SC 29202

8:00am – 4:30pm
 Toll Free: [\(877\) 349-7190](tel:8773497190)
 Phone: [\(803\) 737-OSOW](tel:803737OSOW)
 or [\(803\) 737-6769](tel:8037376769)
 Permits Issued: 8:00am – 4:30pm
 Fax: (803) 737-2199
 By Email: OSOW Help
 Website: www.scdot.org

[PROVISIONS SHEET](#)

[Live Traffic](#)

LEGAL LIMITS

NO PERMIT REQUIRED

	Interstate	Non-Interstate
GVW	80,000	80,600*
O Steering Axles	20,000	22,000*
O Single Axle	20,000	22,000*
OO Tandem	35,200	39,600*
OOO Tridem	35,200	36,600*

*Includes tolerance

Federal Bridge Formula applies.

If spacing is 8'1" or more, viewed as a single + a tandem.

Tolerance: 10% off interstate.

	On Interstate & Designated Highways	Off Interstate & Designated Highways
Width:	8'6"	8'6"
Height:	13'6"	13'6"
Auto transporter only	14'	14'
Length:	14'	14'
Semi-Trailer	53'	53'
Single Unit	40'	40'
Doubles	28'6"	28'6"
Auto transporters	-	48'*

Length of trailer & load cannot exceed 53'.

*AUTO TRANSPORTER: Overhang 3' and 4' rear. Trailer length including overhang may not exceed 48' on non-designated routes.

PERMIT LIMITS

ROUTINE ISSUE PERMIT

WEIGHT PER AXLE

O	20,000
OO	40,000
OOO or quad	60,000
OOOO	80,000
5 axles	90,000
6 axles	110,000
7 axles	130,000

Gross Tandem Weight: single axle 20,000 lbs.; 2-axle tandem 40,000 lbs.; 3-axle or quad-tandem 60,000 lbs.; and a quad > 60,000 must be reviewed by engineering on the requested route of travel.

SUPERLOAD ISSUE PERMIT

WEIGHT:	Exceeding 130,000 lbs. can travel Monday through Saturday only.
WIDTH:	16'
HEIGHT:	Limited by overhead structures, but must clear 3"
LENGTH:	125' including overhang
OVERHANG	Front 3' and rear 15' on trailers less than 48' long and 10' on trailers 48' – 53' long. 5' rear overhang on loads only on 40' straight trucks.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A SUPERLOAD

PERMIT APPROVAL TIMES

AVERAGE ISSUE TIMES

24/7 Auto Issue

- 14' Wide
- 13'6" High

- 100' Long
- 100,000 lbs.
- Annual or Multi-Trip Permits – Up to 100,000 lbs., 13'6" 14 wide. Routes are all US, SC, and Interstates for up to 90,000 lbs.; max 40,000 a tandem. If weights exceed 40,000 on a tandem, only the routes on the map can be used. Some routes do not connect. NO Secondary travel is allowed.

Manual Permit Application Review

DURATION OF PERMITS

PERMIT VALID FOR

Single Trip: Valid for 7 days.

Multiple Trip: Valid for 1 year.

Permission: Valid up to 6 months.

REASONABLE ACCESS

ASSIGNED PERMITTED ROUTE

Permitted loads must follow the route on the permit.

A load may be dropped at a scale or rest area overnight while the driver bobtails to a different location for hotel, food, rest, repair, etc.

SPEED LIMITS

GENERAL SPEED LIMITS

No change in posted speed limits for a permitted load unless otherwise noted.

PERMIT TYPES

SINGLE TRIP PERMITS

A single trip permit shall be issued for non-divisible loads. A single trip permit shall only be used to make a 1-time move within the date and times specified by permit. The following must also be provided, but not limited to: name, address, contact numbers of transporter, load description, load and trailer dimensions, defined routes (with a beginning and ending address or junctions within 1 mile), the company's USDOT number, complete vehicle identification number, license tag of the towing vehicle and license tag number of the trailer.

MULTIPLE TRIP PERMITS

A truck-specific multiple trip permit shall be issued for the movement of non-divisible loads, mobile homes and sealed ocean containers. The complete vehicle identification number and tag number for the towing vehicle is required. Multiple trips may utilize all US, SC and Interstate routes (unless posted for load) for one year with the dimensions below. Travel on secondary routes is prohibited; an additional route specific permit must be obtained from the permit office when traveling on secondary roads. Non-divisible loads and Mobile homes permits can obtain a route specific permit for loads up to a maximum height of 15'.

1. Non-divisible loads: up to 14' wide, 13'6" high and 90,000 lbs. gross weight on 5 or more axles (not to exceed 40,000 lbs. per tandem).
2. Mobile Homes: up to 14' wide, 13'6" high and legal weight.
3. Sealed Ocean Containers: up to 8'6" wide, 13'6" high and 90,000 lbs. on 5 or more axles (not to exceed 40,000 lbs. per tandem).

Non-divisible loads and Mobile homes permits can obtain a route specific permit for loads up to a maximum height of 15'. This permit cannot be self-issued by customer.

SELF-ISSUE MULTIPLE TRIP PERMIT

Multiple trip permits for non-divisible loads, sealed ocean containers and mobile homes can be self-issued 24 hours, 7 days a week with an OS/OW web account or guest user. The above maximum dimensions will automatically be issued on the permit.

MULTIPLE TRIP PERMIT AND OSOW TRUCK ROUTE MAP

A Multiple Trip Permit shall be issued to use in conjunction with the Truck Route map for non-divisible or containerized cargo loads. The permit allows up to 100,000 lbs. gross weight and 14' in width with a maximum axle weight of 20,000 lbs. on a single, 48,000 lbs. on a tandem and 55,000 lbs. on a tridem, not to exceed 100,000 lbs. gross weight. The map defines designated routes of travel using only the US, SC and Interstate routes that can accommodate the heavier axle weights. The map must be attached to the permit and carried in the vehicle at all times.

PERMISSION PERMIT

A permission permit shall be issued to transport road machinery (not construction equipment), implements of husbandry (farm equipment), fire and forestry equipment. A permission permit is issued up to 6 months for multiple trips to be made over one specific route. The following must also be provided: Name, address and contact numbers of transporter, load description, load and trailer dimensions, defined routes (with a beginning and ending address or junctions within one mile) the USDOT number, the complete vehicle identification number and license tag of the towing vehicle.

COTTON MODULAR MULTIPLE TRIP PERMIT

Cotton Modular Vehicle is defined as a single motor vehicle used only to transport seed cotton modules, cotton, or equipment used in the transporting or processing of cotton. The permit shall be issued annually to allow continuous travel on all highways EXCEPT the Interstate. The vehicle identification number and license tag number is required. Cotton modular vehicles may not exceed a width of 110" and may not exceed a length of 50' extreme overall dimensions, inclusive of front and rear bumpers and load. A maximum of 25,000 lbs. per axle is allowed, not to exceed a gross weight of 65,000 lbs. on 3 axles. (SC Code of Law 57-3-160)

SHEET TOBACCO MULTIPLE TRIP PERMIT

Sheet Tobacco Truck is defined as a vehicle used to transport tobacco in sheets, which do not exceed 96" in width at the truck bed and 9'6" at the widest part of the load above the truck bed. The permit shall be issued annually and allows continuous travel on all highways. The vehicle identification number and license tag number is required. (SC Code of Law 57-3-140)

CULVERT PIPE MULTIPLE TRIP PERMIT

A multiple trip permit can be issued for vehicles transporting culvert pipe not to exceed a width of 106". The vehicle identification number and license tag number is required. (SC Code of Law 56-5-4035).

HOUSE MOVING PERMIT

See Section K.

SUPERLOAD

Any load exceeding 130,000 lbs. pounds is defined as a superload. Superload routes are analyzed and approved by the Department's Bridge Engineers. Bridge analysis may take up to 5 business days. Axle weights that exceed 20,000 lbs. on a single axle for non-divisible loads are reviewed by a bridge engineer for approval or denial. A superload that exceeds 180,000 lbs. must be submitted with a Certificate of Insurance or have a Certificate of Insurance form on file with the SC Permit office. Any load exceeding 300,000 lbs. must be submitted with the manufacture's documentation providing the weight and dimensions of the load being transported along with documentation on the empty weight of the truck and trailer used to transport the load. Superloads exceeding 500,000 lbs. will be assessed an additional mega load impact fee on the entire gross vehicle weight on a pounds per mile basis. See permit fee schedule.

CONTAINERIZED CARGO PERMIT

To transport with an SCDOT Containerized Cargo Overweight Permit, the container must be an International Shipping Container, bound to or from a seaport being, or having been, transported by marine shipment and possess an International Bill of Lading or Carrier Interchange.

TIMES OF TRAVEL

HOURS OF OPERATION

Up to 12' wide: All loads or mobile homes up to 12' wide are allowed to travel 1/2 hour after sunrise to 1/2 hour before sunset Monday through Saturday.

Over 12' wide up to 15' wide: All loads over 12' wide up to 15' wide or mobile homes over 12' wide up to and including 14' box width (plus a maximum 12" top overhang for mobile homes) are allowed to travel 1/2 hour after sunrise to 1/2 hour before sunset Monday through Saturday EXCEPT travel prohibited in close proximity of large urban areas between 7am-9am all days and 3pm-6pm on school days and 4:30-6:00pm on non-school days.

Over 15' wide: All loads over 15' wide and mobile homes over 14' box width up to and including 16' wide shall be moved Monday through Saturday only between the hours of 9am and 3pm during school days and 9am and 4pm other days.

Continuous Travel: Upon request, only loads grossing up to 130,000 lbs. can have continuous travel if all other dimensions are legal.

Travel may be permitted on Sunday depending on weight, dimensions, and route. Check permit for restrictions.

HOLIDAYS

2022 South Carolina Permit Office Closings

New Year's Day	Monday, January 3
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 17
President's Day	Monday, February 21
Confederate Memorial Day	Tuesday, May 10
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30
Independence Day	Monday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 5
Veterans Day	Friday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 24
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 25
Christmas Holidays	Friday, December 23 Monday, December 26 Tuesday, December 27

TRAVEL IS RESTRICTED THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS:

New Year's Day	Saturday, January 1
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30
Independence Day	Monday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 5
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 24
Christmas Day	Sunday, December 25

ADVERSE WEATHER

No movement shall be allowed during inclement weather such as heavy rain or fog when visibility is restricted to less than 500'. Movement shall also be prohibited during periods of high winds or when highways are slippery or hazardous due to ice, snow or sleet.

In the event of inclement weather during the winter months, the permit office will be closed per the Governor's instruction for state offices in the Richland and Lexington County area. Please visit the SCDOT home page for road conditions in each county you may be traveling at www.scdot.org.

PERMIT RESTRICTIONS

Large metropolitan areas (Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville): No travel is permitted between 7:00 – 9:00am and between 3:00 – 6:00pm on school days or 4:00 – 6:00pm all other days.

Operators of house or extremely large load movers must have city permits and prior local approval before operating in any city's limits.

BEFORE YOU ORDER

PERMIT INFORMATION REQUIRED

Tractor and trailer information; load description; overall dimensions; gross weight; number of axles; how the permit will be transmitted; origin and destination; and routes to be traveled.

All permits shall be secured from the **Oversize/Overweight Permit Office** at the **South Carolina Department of Transportation, P. O. Box 191, Columbia, South Carolina, 29202. Phone: (803) 737-OSOW**. The Permit Office maintains hours between 8:00am and 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday. Incoming telephone calls will not be received between the hours of 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Permits will still be processed and issued during this time.

Permit applications received by 2:00pm will be issued the same day with the exception of superloads and loads over 16' wide and/or 16' high. A maximum of 5 business days is allowed for a bridge engineer to review superloads.

1. **Applying for Permits:** Applying for permits shall be made by one of the following:
 - a. Internet: WWW.SCDOT.ORG click on the Popular Tab, scroll down to Permits and click on Oversize.
 - b. Fax: (803) 737-2199 (SC application forms are located on the OSOW web page)
 - c. Mail: SCDOT/OSOW, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202
 - d. Telephone: (803) 737-6769 (single & permission trip request only)

2. **Web Access to Obtain Permits:** An account may be set up with the SC Permit office to access the online permitting system by filling out an Account Set-up form located on the above web page and submitted by fax to (803) 737-2199. An account number, user ID and password to access the web will be issued and faxed back to the fax number indicated on the account set-up form. Permits shall be purchased with monies from an established escrow account or credit card.
 - a. **Escrow Account:** SC Department of Transportation may accept an advance deposit in the amount of \$200.00 or more to establish an escrow account. An amount may be added to this deposit as long as the amount, when added to the present balance, equals \$200.00 or more. Escrow accounts may be replenished by check, money order or monies transferred from a credit card. A monthly statement is available electronically showing the escrow accounts activity. Escrow accounts can be closed by contacting the Director of Permits in writing. Please note when transferring monies from a credit card to an escrow account up to \$125.00, an additional \$5.00 is charged by the credit card authorizer. Transfers greater than \$125.00 are charged a percentage of the total amount to be transferred. Please contact the permit office for specific fee charges.
 - b. **Credit Card:** Permits may be purchased using a credit card. Payment type must be changed to credit card and the credit card number must be keyed into the payment field. You can also register your credit card with the Oversize/Overweight Permit office to automatically populate when you choose registered credit card. **Please note that there is an additional \$5.00 charge, per transaction, by the credit card authorizer when using a credit card to order permits.**

3. **Web Guest User:** Permits can also be ordered online without setting up an escrow account by accessing the OSOW Permit's web page at www.scdot.org, click on OSOW Permits under quick links, log into SCDOT ARPS and choose guest login. A credit card must be used for payment. **Please note that there is an additional \$5.00 charge, per transaction, by the credit card authorizer.**

The permit must be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and must be open to inspection by a police officer or an authorized agent of the authority granting the permit.

Divisible load permits are not available.

When hauling road machinery, a permit is not required unless the vehicle is 90,000 lbs. GVW and over 12' in width and 13'6" high.

Insurance: Not required to be on file; must have insurance of a minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 Automobile and \$1,000,000 General Liability is required.

Insurance for Superloads: Proof of insurance must be provided with application submittal when the gross vehicle weight is 180,000 lbs. or greater and/or the overall width is 16' or greater. The insurance must be submitted to the permit office on an ACCORD form or other acceptable form approved by the OSOW Permit Director. The SCDOT - Oversize/Overweight Permit Office, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202 must be listed as the Certificate Holder.

PERMIT FEES

PERMIT COST

Single Trip:	\$30.00
Excessive width over 16':	\$35.00
Excessive width over 18':	\$40.00
Excessive width over 20':	\$45.00
Excessive width over 22':	\$50.00
Multiple Trip Permit (Annual):	\$100.00
House Moving License (Annual):	\$100.00
Annual Permit Transfer Fee for Wrecked, Stolen or Sold trucks being replaced:	\$10.00
Road Machinery Administrative Fee:	\$10.00
Superload Application Fee (Non-refundable):	\$100.00
Superload Engineering Analysis over 130,000 lbs.:	\$100.00
Superload Engineering Analysis over 200,000 lbs.:	\$200.00
Superload Engineering Analysis over 300,000 lbs.:	\$350.00
Superload Impact Fee over 130,000 lbs.:	\$3.00/1,000 lbs.
Sheet Tobacco Truck Permit (Annual):	\$15.00
Cotton Modular Vehicle Permit (Annual):	\$50.00
Culvert Pipe Permit (Annual):	\$15.00

Additional Megaload Impact Fee for Loads over 500,000 lbs. on gross weight:
\$0.05/1,000 lbs./mile

ENGINEERING ANALYSIS COST

Unknown.

FLAGS, LIGHTS, SIGNS

FLAGS

Red flags 18" square must be displayed on all four corners and on all extremities.

LIGHTS

A rotating amber light must be mounted on all escort vehicles and the rear of vehicles which exceed 12' in width up to and including 14' wide and on each outer rear corner of all loads over 14' up to and including 16' wide.

SIGNS

Wide load signs must be displayed on all vehicles and loads 12' wide and wider. Signs must have yellow background with black lettering (12" high, 1.5" brush stroke).

ESCORTS/PILOT CAR

PILOT CAR REQUIRED WHEN

A lead escort must accompany vehicles which exceed 12' in width up to and including 14' in width on 2-lane roads. Front and rear escorts must travel with vehicles which exceed 14' in width up to and including 16' wide. No specific requirements exist for overlength or overheight vehicles.

PILOT CAR CERTIFICATION

Pilot Car Escort Certification is not currently required.

PILOT CAR REQUIREMENTS

A rotating amber light must be mounted on all escort vehicles and the rear of vehicles which exceed 12' in width up to and including 14' wide and on each outer rear corner of all loads over 14' up to and including 16' wide.

PILOT CAR INSURANCE

LAW ENFORCEMENT ESCORTS

PERMIT FINES

FINES FOR DIMENSION VIOLATIONS

Overdimension Only: \$100.

FINES FOR WEIGHT VIOLATIONS

For gross weight violations of the law, the statutory scale of fines is as follows:

Pounds of Amount Excess Weight	Additional Assessment of Fine	(if not paid within 14 days)
1 - 1500	\$25.00	+ \$31.75
1501 - 2500	\$45.00	+ \$33.75
2501 - 3500	\$60.00	+ \$35.75
3501 - 4250	\$135.00	+ \$61.75
4251 - 5250	\$180.00	+ \$66.25
5251 - 6250	\$300.00	+ \$103.25
6251 - 7250	\$460.00	+ \$119.25
7251 - 8250	\$600.00	+ \$183.25
8251 - 10,250	\$700.00	+ \$203.25
10,251 and over	10 cents/ea. lb.	+additional assessments in \$11.00 increments

Operators are fined for gross weight violations only.

NEW AXLE FINE

A new axle fine amount was provided by the legislature this year. When a vehicle is found to not be in violation of the weight limits and is no more than 5% over axle limits (including the 10% tolerance), then a \$25.00 fine may be levied. If paid within 14 days, no additional assessments may be added. If not within the 14-day grace period, the ticket will be written for \$56.75, which includes \$31.75 in additional assessments.

TOLLWAY/TURNDPIKE

WHO TO CONTACT

WHEN PERMIT IS REQUIRED

TOLLWAY ESCORTS

TOLLWAY ENGINEERING APPROVAL

TOLLWAY HOLIDAYS RESTRICTIONS

TOLLWAY TIMES OF TRAVEL

OBTAINING A PERMIT FOR THE TOLLWAY

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

DISTRICT OFFICES

COUNTY AND CITY CONTACTS

RECENT & PENDING CHANGES

This section contains all recent and pending changes shared by this state with SC&RA in the past 12 months.

RECENT CHANGES

01/2021 – TIMES OF TRAVEL, “Hours of Operation” –

~~NO travel shall be allowed on Sunday. Travel may be permitted on Sunday depending on weight, dimensions, and route. Check permit for restrictions.~~

01/2021 – TIMES OF TRAVEL, “Holidays” – Updated for 2021 holidays/restrictions.

01/2021 – BEFORE YOU ORDER, “Permit Information Required” - The Permit Office maintains hours between 8:00am and 4:30pm ~~except Saturday, Sunday and holidays~~ 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday.

01/2021 – BEFORE YOU ORDER, “Permit Information Required” –

1. **Applying for Permits:** Applying for permits shall be made by one of the following:
 - a. Internet: WWW.SCDOT.ORG click on ~~OS/OW Permits~~ under Quick links the Popular Tab, scroll down to Permits and click on Oversize.

12/2021 – TIMES OF TRAVEL, “Holidays” – Updated for 2022 holidays/restrictions.