

## **MT Permitting: Reference & FAQ's**

### **Other Motor Carrier FAQ's**

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## **Can I Self-Issue All of My GVW, Custom Combine, Trip, and Term Permits?**

You will be able to issue GVW fees, custom combine, single trip permits and term permits. See pages 8 – 12 below for the full list of MT permit types.

- GVW Fees: an increase on your GVW weight from what is listed on the registration, for your county / intrastate registered vehicle. To be eligible for GVW Fees, the vehicle must be a MT registered vehicle.
- Custom Combine Permits: engaged in the business of custom combining and expire on 12-31 each year.
- Single Trip Permits
- Term Permits are also known as an “annual” permit and expire on 12-31 each year. Term Excess weight permits expire at the end of a quarter.

### **Companies’ responsibility when Self-Issuing their own permit.**

When a company self-issues their own permits, it is their responsibility to verify the construction reports, and the load and speed restrictions. Verifying that the route you plan to take does not have current restrictions placed on it. It is also suggested that you view the Incidents & Closures on the Traveler Information page. Please visit the [MT-Traveler-Information](#) site for the latest road conditions.

### **Available Resources**

MDT has many resources available to customers for accessing updated information for Load and Speed restrictions, Construction Reports, Incidents and Closures on the Traveler page.

Facebook: [MDT-Facebook-Page](#) (High priority conditions automatically appear)

Twitter: [MDT-Twitter-Road-Report](#) (High priority conditions automatically appear)

[MDT-Traveler-Information-Mobile](#) Get information/download links for the mobile app here. This link works with mobile use devices such as iPhone, iPad, or Android Users.

[Interactive-Traveller-Map](#)

[MT-Road-Construction-Report](#) The active projects towards the top of this list. The Completed or Inactive Projects can be found further down on the screen.

### **Update FMCSA Motor Carrier ID Report**

If your business has changed its Company Name, USDOT number, TIN (Tax Identification number), and/or mailing or physical address, please make sure to update your forms on the FMCSA site. After this has been completed, please notify MCS at 406-444-6130 so that MCS can keep your account information updated on our MCS systems.

### **Federal information – is it up to date?**

- To avoid unnecessary delays with MCS, please make sure that your information on the [FMCSA Motor Carrier Unified Registration System](#) is current. MCS does reference this information when a new account is set up; and/or periodically as needed. Discrepancies between information provided to MCS and what shows up in the federal system will slow down MCS processes.

- Regardless of if the company operation type is listed as Intrastate or as an Interstate carrier, Montana has adopted the federal regulations, therefore, all carriers must do their biennial updates per the filing schedule shown below. Each motor carrier or intermodal equipment provider must file the appropriate form at the following times:
- A CMV has a gross vehicle or combination weight rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs. or more, carrying hazardous materials in quantities requiring a placard, or designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver. Smaller vehicles used in for-hire transportation of passengers may be subject to this rule, and others, at a later date.
  - You must file the form the first time before you begin operations. **This requirement went into effect July 3, 2000.**
  - **Starting January 2001, you must also file it every 24 months, according to this schedule:**

USDOT Number ending in:	Must file by last day of:	USDOT Number ending in:	Must file by last day of:
1	<b>January</b>	6	<b>June</b>
2	<b>February</b>	7	<b>July</b>
3	<b>March</b>	8	<b>August</b>
4	<b>April</b>	9	<b>September</b>
5	<b>May</b>	0	<b>October</b>

- If the next-to-last digit of your USDOT number is odd, you must file your update in every odd-numbered calendar year.
- If the next-to-last digit of your USDOT number is even, you must file your update in every even-numbered calendar year.

## **Contacts – Permitting System**

### **Permitting Information:**

Call 406-444-7262 for the Permitting phone queue, to update your account information such as vehicle, insurance, address; or to have a route added, or obtain a permit override. We can be reached 7:30 am to 5:00 pm (all times noted are Mountain Time), Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Or call any MCS Weigh-Station if you require assistance after office hours or on the weekend (except holidays).

Email us at [mdtmcssuperload@mt.gov](mailto:mdtmcssuperload@mt.gov)

This address should be used for any Superload correspondence.

Information that is needed for Superload movement notifications: Name, Permit Number, time and date of move, and contact number that you can be reached at.

### **Email Address Update / Account Status** This is now only for IRP and IFTA accounts.

To report changes in email address on your online account or if your account is not active, please send an email to [mdtepartsecurity@mt.gov](mailto:mdtepartsecurity@mt.gov) or call: 406-444-7638; 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday (except holidays)

- Please provide your User ID / Account Number, USDOT number, Company Name, Email Address and Contact Persons name.
- Make sure that you have some sort of identification in your signature template area on your email for MDT's confirmation.
- For your protection, we deactivate accounts with invalid email addresses.

## **FAQ's For MT Permitting**

### **Permit Descriptions:**

#### **Single Trip Permit:**

- Single Trip Permits include temporary truck and temporary trailer. The temporary fuel permit is valid for a period of time not to exceed 72 hours and is automatically void if the vehicle leaves the state of Montana during the 72-hour period. These three types of permits cannot be sold to a MT Plated vehicle.
- Doubles, Triples, Oversize, Overweight, and Excess Axle Weight permits are valid for a single trip to be made within the dates indicated on the permit.

#### **Term Permit:**

- Term Permit is also known as an "annual" permit.
- Includes: Doubles, Triples, Logs, Hay, 95 ft. doubles, 100 ft. doubles and 120 ft. non-divisible, Over dimensional, Overweight permits and other load codes.
- Term overweight permits may be purchased by the quarter, semi-annually or annually and require a Vehicle Weight Analysis for a permit of 15,000 lbs. or greater.
- Wintertime Weight Permits- [Wintertime Weight Permit](#) details can be found here.

### **Transferring Term Permits:**

Term permits are transferable to replacement vehicles when the original vehicle has been sold, traded in, or destroyed with the same company. Term Triple Permits are not transferrable.

### **MT Implement Dealer:**

May not be restricted by weekend travel, holiday travel. Requirements for lighting, pilot vehicles and daylight travel apply to implements depending on dimensions. MT Implement Dealer: The permit is transferrable between equipment registered to a Montana implement dealer, but not another dealer. Dimensions are determined by the dealer. This permit can only be sold by an authorized MDT Employee.

### **Gross Vehicle Weight Permit:**

- Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) Fees / Permits are available to vehicles registered in MT.
- Vehicle(s) must maintain a current MT Registration.
- If the GVW permit that is being requested is 55,000 pounds or more, a copy of the HVUT – Form 2290 form must be provided. <https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-2290>
- The fees are based on the weight entered for the fee-class types selected, the weight entered, and the date range used for the effective and end date.
- A re-registration fee of \$5.00 is assessed on each GVW Fee / Permit.
- The two fee class types used are Class 1 – Schedule 1 fees, or Class 2 – Farm Fees.
- GVW Fees / Permits may be purchased monthly, multiple consecutive months, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually.

### **Custom Combine Permit:**

One Permit will cover One Custom Combine Unit and One Power Unit with support vehicles. Additional Custom Combine Units and Power units will need to purchase additional permits.

MT Custom Combine Definitions for NON-RESIDENT: The fee is valid for the calendar year.

- The cost is \$40 per unit, a *Unit* includes:
  1. One truck suitable for hauling grain
  2. One header or one combine trailer
  3. Pickup trucks and all other equipment, except combines, used by a non-resident, and brought into the state as part of the non-resident's business of custom combining.
- Temporary fuel permit (diesel)
  - The cost is \$30 per *Unit*
  - This permit is also valid for all vehicles listed as a support vehicle.
- Combine Fee
  - The cost is \$35 for each combine brought into Montana.

MT Custom Combine Definitions for RESIDENT: The fee is valid for the calendar year

- The cost is \$20 per unit, a *Unit* includes:
  1. One truck suitable for hauling grain
  2. One header or one combine trailer
  3. Pickup trucks used by the resident in the resident's business of custom combining.

### **Vehicle Weight Analysis:**

When requested, a Vehicle Weight Analysis (VWA) may be conducted for a specific vehicle configuration, axle spacings, axle weights, and gross weight to determine the conditions of travel for the movement of overweight vehicles or loads. This is currently only being allowed on a term permit. MDT does plan on implementing this on a Single Trip Permit in the future.

### **Legal dimensions - permits are not required**

- Width: 8 feet 6 inches (102 inches)
- Height: 14 feet 0 inches
- Length: 75 feet 0 inches for Truck and Trailer Combinations
  - Single Power Unit / Single Vehicle: 55 feet (this includes an articulated bus & Dromedary Truck-Tractor) without trailers.
  - Tractor/Trailer: 53-foot trailer; or an extendable trailer that, when contracted does not exceed 53 feet may be extended to accommodate a long, non-divisible load without an overhang. No over length permits are required for operation of tractors pulling a 53' (or less) trailer combination regardless of overall length.
  - A 53-foot trailer that has extensions that are used for carrying a portion of the load and exceeds 53 feet, (Moving vans, hay trailers) will require permits.
  - Vehicles with loads' extending beyond the carrying portion of trailer are limited to an overall length of 75 feet without permit required.
- Tractor/Doubles:
  - "A" Train - No length limit, providing neither trailer exceeds 28 feet 6 inches in length or 61 feet of combined trailer length. An "A" train is a truck-tractor with a trailer, and a full trailer joined with a tongue hitch.
  - "B" Train - No length limit providing neither trailer exceeds 28 feet 6 inches in length or 61 feet of combined trailer length. A "B" train is a truck-tractor with a trailer and a second trailer attached with a 5th wheel assembly supporting the back of the lead trailer and the front of the rear trailer.
  - "C" Train - No length limit providing either trailer exceeds 28 feet 6 inches in length or 61 feet of combined trailer length. A "C" train is a truck-tractor with a trailer and a second trailer attached with a 5th wheel assembly. The difference between a "C" train and "A" train is the dual hitch converter dolly on the "C" train.

### **The costs of Montana permits for Motor Carrier Services**

- Term Over-Dimensional Permit Fees:
  - 95 feet long, 15 feet wide, 15 feet 6 inches high: \$ 75.00
  - 100 feet long (interstate only permit): \$125.00
  - 120 feet long: non-divisible length \$125.00  
(Width and height are NOT included)
  - Triples Permit: \$200.00
- Single Trip Over-Dimensional Permits Fees:
  - Trip Oversize \$ 10.00
  - 100 feet long (interstate) single trip permit: \$ 10.00
  - Triples Permit: \$ 20.00
- Overweight Permit - \$3.50 for every 5,000 lbs. of EXCESS axle weight (see the Federal Bridge Chart for legal weight calculations) multiplied by the number of 25-mile increments in the proposed route of travel.
- [MT GVW Chart / Federal Bridge](#)

See the charts on the following tables for descriptions and pricing.

## Trip Permits

<u>Subtype</u>	<u>Permit Issued</u>	<u>Dimensions</u>	<u>Load Code</u>	<u>Fee Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>		
Temporary	Temp Fuel	any dimensions	any code	\$30.00	Temporary Fuel Permit: The permit is valid for a period of time not to exceed 72 hours and is automatically void if the vehicle leaves the state of Montana during the 72-hour period.		
Temporary	Temp Trailer (up to 3 different trailers can be requested - for Triples on a single trip)	any dimensions	any code	Based off miles in the route (\$10.00, \$15.00 or \$20.00)			
Size	Oversize	any dimensions	any code	\$10.00	This permit is needed for any of the following: Over 8 ft 6 inches wide, over 75 ft in length, over 14 feet in height. Single power unit over 55 ft in length. Single trailer length, over 53 ft in length.		
Size	100 ft combo (size)	100 ft length	DB	\$10.00	Legal trailer length is 28 1/2 feet each. Combined trailer length is legal at 61 feet in length.		
Size	Doubles (size)	95 ft length	DA	\$10.00	Legal trailer length is 28 1/2 feet each. Combined trailer length is legal at 61 feet in length.		
Size	Triples – cabover	105 ft length	TR	\$20.00	See Dimensions column		
Size	Triples - conventional	110 ft length	TR	\$20.00	See Dimensions column		
Size	Triples - truck	105 ft length	TR	\$20.00	See Dimensions column		
Tolerance	10% Tolerance Permit		any code	\$10.00	Tolerance permits issued by MCS enforcement personnel only.		
Weight	Overweight on Bridge	any dimensions	any code	\$10.00	0 to 100 miles. Based off miles in the route		
Weight	Overweight on Bridge	any dimensions	any code	\$30.00	101 to 199 miles. Based off miles in the route		
Weight	Overweight on Bridge	any dimensions	any code	\$50.00	200 plus miles. Based off miles in the route		
Weight	Excess Axle Weight	any dimensions	any code	See Description column	Based off miles in the route and the excess weight of the load. \$3.50 per 25 mile per 5,000 lb. increments		
	<u>Permit Issued</u>	<u>Dimensions</u>	<u>Load Code</u>	-	<u>0-200 miles</u>	<u>201-400 miles</u>	<u>over 400 miles</u>
Temporary	Temp Truck	any dimensions	any code	Up to 46,000 lbs.	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$20.00

Temporary	Temp Truck	any dimensions	any code	46,001 through 80,000 lbs.	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$40.00
Temporary	Temp Truck	any dimensions	any code	Over 80,001 lbs.	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$80.00
Temporary	Temp Truck	any dimensions	any code	Triple combination	\$60.00	\$80.00	\$100.00

The current permit system will validate if there is a valid vehicle weight analysis (VWA) on the carriers account.

### Term Permits

EA Load Code can only go with other load codes of AS, BC, PS and BS.

<u>Subtype</u>	<u>Permit Issued</u>	<u>Dimensions</u>	<u>Load Code</u>	<u>Fee Amount</u>	<u>Plus, Admin Fee</u>	<u>Description / Notes</u>
Weight	Excess wt. 5,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$50.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 10,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$125.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 15,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$187.50	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 20,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$250.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 25,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$375.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 30,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$500.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 35,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$750.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 40,000 lb. 1/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,000.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 5,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$100.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 10,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$250.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 15,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$375.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 20,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$500.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 25,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$750.00	\$10.00	

Weight	Excess wt. 30,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,000.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 35,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,500.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 40,000 lb. 1/2 yr.		EA (primary)	\$2,000.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 5,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$150.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 10,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$375.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 15,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$562.50	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 20,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$750.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 25,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,125.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 30,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,500.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 35,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$2,250.00	\$10.00	
Weight	Excess wt. 40,000 lb. 3/4 yr.		EA (primary)	\$3,000.00	\$10.00	
MCA 61-10-125 for the \$10.00 Admin Fee. This is charged on all permits that are not annual permits for the excess wt. permits						
Weight	excess wt. 5,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$200.00		
Weight	Excess wt. 10,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$500.00		
Weight	Excess wt. 15,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$750.00		
Weight	Excess wt. 20,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,000.00		
Weight	Excess wt. 25,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$1,500.00		
Weight	Excess wt. 30,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$2,000.00		
Weight	Excess wt. 35,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$3,000.00		

Weight	Excess wt. 40,000 lb. a yr.		EA (primary)	\$4,000.00		
Wintertime Weight	30 days		WW	\$50.00		The winter weight permit allows 10% excess weight to be hauled on non-Interstate highways from December 1st through March 7th.
Wintertime Weight	Durational		WW	\$150.00		This permit cannot be used in conjunction with other overweight permits and is not valid on posted bridges or roads.
<u>Subtype</u>						
Size	100 ft combo	100 ft length	DB	\$125.00		Legal trailer length is 28 1/2 feet each. Combined trailer length is legal at 61 feet in length.
Size	120' non-divisible	120 ft length	ND	\$125.00		Non-divisible load only.
Size	Triples – cabover	105 ft length	TR	\$200.00		See Dimensions column
Size	Triples – conventional	110 ft length	TR	\$200.00		See Dimensions column
Size	Triples – truck	105 ft length	TR	\$200.00		See Dimensions column
Size	Oversize			\$75.00		
Size	Doubles, oversize	95 ft length	DA	\$75.00		Legal trailer length is 28 1/2 feet each. Combined trailer length is legal at 61 feet in length.
<u>Subtype</u>						
Fuel	Non-resident 30 Day Fuel			\$100.00		Non-resident carriers operating a special fuel powered vehicle over 26,000 lbs. actual or registered gross weight and hauling their own agricultural products may purchase a 30-day fuel permit for \$100 or a 3-month fuel permit for \$300. The permit is valid for a 70-mile radius as specified on the permit and can only be sold by an authorized MDT employee.
Fuel	Non-resident 3 Month Fuel			\$300.00		

<b>Custom Combine</b>			
<b>Type of permit</b>	<b>Permit Issued</b>	<b>Load Code</b>	<b>Fee Amount</b>
<b>Custom Combine</b>	<b>Resident (37.5%)</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Custom Combine</b>	<b>Resident (62.5%)</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Custom Combine</b>	<b>Non – Resident (37.5%)</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Custom Combine</b>	<b>Non – Resident (62.5%)</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Custom Combine</b>	<b>Non - Resident Fuel</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>Custom Combine</b>	<b>Non – Resident Custom Combine Tax</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>

<b>GVW</b>		
<b>Fees are based on the weight entered for any of the two fee class types selected the weight entered and date range of the effective date and the end date. A re-reg fee of \$5.00 is also assessed on all GVW Fee permits. The two fee class types are that are used in Class 1 – Schedule 1 fees and Class 2 – Farm Fees.</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Various</b>
<p>Use the <a href="#">HVUT-Form-2290</a> to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Figure and pay the tax due on highway motor vehicles used during the period with a taxable gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more;</li> <li>Figure and pay the tax due on a vehicle for which you completed the suspension statement on another Form 2290 if that vehicle later exceeded the mileage use limit during the period;</li> <li>Figure and pay the tax due if, during the period, the taxable gross weight of a vehicle increases, and the vehicle falls into a new category;</li> <li>Claim suspension from the tax when a vehicle is expected to be used 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles) during the period;</li> <li>Claim a credit for tax paid on vehicles that were destroyed, stolen, sold, or used 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles);</li> <li>Report acquisition of a used taxable vehicle for which the tax has been suspended;</li> <li>Figure and pay the tax due on a used taxable vehicle acquired and used during the period.</li> </ul>		

Load codes	Description	Load codes	Description
AS	Alberta-Shelby Weights	HM	Hazardous Material
BC	BC-Eureka Weights	ID	Implement Dealer
BO	Boat or Marine Equipment	LI	Livestock
BS	Bus	LO	Logs
C1	Class 1 - Superload	MH	Mobile Home
C2	Class 2 - Superload	ND	120'0" Non-Divisible
C3	Class 3 - Superload	OT	Other
CC	Custom Combine	PO	Potatoes
DA	Doubles 95'0"	PS	Plentywood - SK Weights
DB	Doubles 100'0"	SB	Sugar Beets
DF	Designated Facility	SD	Saddle Mounted
EA	Term Excess Axle Weight	SM	SM Equipment
EQ	Equipment	SR	Snow Removal
EV	Empty Vehicle	SV	Single Vehicle
FF	Fire Fighting Equipment (Note: If this is a single vehicle, please choose load code SV.)	TO	10% Tolerance Permit
		TR	Triples
		TU	Towaway Unit
GR	Grain	UT	Unlicensed Trailer
HA	Hay	WE	Wind Energy Component
		WW	Wintertime Weight Permit

The [MT-PERMIT-RESTRICTIONS-New](#) can be found here.

#### **The Payment Options for your Montana permit**

Electronic Checks; Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover are accepted for Online payments.

- Cash and checks are still accepted with no additional fees.

See the website for further information on the [Payment-Types-Accepted](#) and the charges.

#### **Maximum trip permit dimensions before a permitting system override is required**

- Width: 18 feet 0 inches
- Height: 17 feet 0 inches
- Length: 150 feet 0 inches

#### **Maximum trip permit dimensions for Interstate Holiday weekend travel**

- Width: up to 18 feet 0 inches
  - If this is exceeded, no holiday weekend travel is allowed.

### **Maximum trip permit dimensions for Non-Interstate Holiday weekend travel**

- Width: up to 12 feet 6 inches
- Height: up to 15 feet 6 inches
  - If this is exceeded, no holiday weekend travel is allowed.

### **Maximum trip permit dimensions before a Superload application is required**

- Width: 18 feet 0 inches
- Height: 17 feet 0 inches
- Length: 150 feet 0 inches
- If configuration or weights require MDT Bridge Bureau review.

### **Flag vehicle requirements for non Superload movements**

Restriction 36a: Pilot vehicle requirements: (Interstate only) loads exceeding 16 feet 6 inches wide to 18 feet wide must have one rear pilot vehicle. Vehicles exempted under 61-10-102(2)(a), MCA may only travel during hours of darkness with one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(b)(i)

Restriction 37a: Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 12 feet 6 inches wide to 16 feet 6 inches wide must have one front pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(i).

Restriction 37b: Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 16 feet 6 inches wide to 18 feet wide must have one front and one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(ii). Loads exempted under 61-10-102(5) shall not require a rear pilot vehicle.

### **Restrictions for Superload Class 1 Movements**

Restriction 1a: Interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Lights must be displayed full length and width in accordance with 49 CFR 393.11.

Restriction 1b: Non-interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 15 feet 6 inches high. Lights must be displayed full length and width in accordance with 49 CFR 393.11. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high may travel during daylight hours only.

Restriction 1c: Holiday and holiday weekend travel on interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Loads exceeding 18 feet wide cannot travel on Holiday or Holiday Weekends.

Restriction 1d: Holiday and holiday weekend travel on non-interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for loads up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, up to 12 feet 6 inches wide may travel during daylight hours only. Loads exceeding 12 feet 6 inches wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high cannot travel on a holiday or holiday weekend.

Restriction 1e: Loads exceeding 18 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 17 feet high, are not allowed weekend travel.

Restriction 1f: To determine the clearance of structures, please visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/bridge/brm.aspx>. This information does not relieve the permittee from route analysis requirements and is intended for information purposes only.

Restriction 25: The carrier shall be liable for any damages to property caused by the permittee. Failure to correct damage to department property may result in revocation of permit privileges. Repairs not completed within a reasonable timeframe may be repaired by the department and costs billed to the permittee.

Restriction 27: When movement requires pilot vehicles, the permittee must not delay traffic in excess of 15 minutes per ARM 18.8.509(8)(d)

Restriction 28: Superload (class 1) – Loads exceeding 18 feet wide up to 34 feet wide, 17 feet high up to 24 feet high, and/or 150 feet long up to 200 feet long, must obtain the appropriate department district administrator or designee approval of a completed super-load permit application. The department's decision on a complete super-load application for these dimensions must be issued within two working days of a properly completed application submittal. At the discretion of the MCS administrator or designee, any restricted travel may be waived.

Restriction 36b: Pilot vehicle requirements: (Interstate only) loads exceeding 18 feet wide must have at least two rear pilot vehicles side by side. Vehicles exempted under 61-10-102(2)(a), MCA may only travel during hours of darkness with two rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(b)(ii).

Restriction 36c: Pilot vehicle requirements: loads exceeding 17 feet high to 24 feet high must have one front pilot vehicle equipped with a height pole and/or any other equivalent device detecting overhead dimensions per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(c).

Restriction 37c: Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 18 feet wide to 24 feet wide must have at least two front and one rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(iii).

Restriction 37e: Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 150 feet long must have one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(v) and (ii).

Restriction 39: No travel is allowed when a route has been placed under severe driving conditions as determined by the department per ARM 18.8.509 (6)

Restriction 41: Must notify all local emergency services prior to travel in their jurisdiction as to route, time, and date of move to make arrangements in the event of emergency. Emergency services would include all local law enforcement, fire, ambulance affected by this move.

### **Restrictions for Superload Class 2 Movements**

Restriction 1a: Interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Lights must be displayed full length and width in accordance with 49 CFR 393.11.

Restriction 1b: Non-interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 15 feet 6 inches high. Lights must be displayed full length and width in accordance with 49 CFR 393.11. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high may travel during daylight hours only.

Restriction 1c: Holiday and holiday weekend travel on interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Loads exceeding 18 feet wide cannot travel on Holiday or Holiday Weekends.

Restriction 1d: Holiday and holiday weekend travel on non-interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for loads up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, up to 12 feet 6 inches wide may travel during daylight hours only. Loads exceeding 12 feet 6 inches wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high cannot travel on a holiday or holiday weekend.

Restriction 1e: Loads exceeding 18 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 17 feet high, are not allowed weekend travel.

Restriction 1f: To determine the clearance of structures, please visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/bridge/brm.aspx>. This information does not relieve the permittee from route analysis requirements and is intended for information purposes only.

Restriction 25: The carrier shall be liable for any damages to property caused by the permittee. Failure to correct damage to department property may result in revocation of permit privileges. Repairs not completed within a reasonable timeframe may be repaired by the department and costs billed to the permittee.

Restriction 27: When movement requires pilot vehicles, the permittee must not delay traffic in excess of 15 minutes per ARM 18.8.509(8)(d)

Restriction 29: Superload (class 2) Loads exceeding 34 feet wide, 24 feet high, and/or 200 feet long must obtain the appropriate department district administrator or designee approval of the super-load permit application. The department's decision on a super-load application for these dimensions must be issued within five working days of a properly completed application

submittal. At the discretion of the MCS administrator or designee, any restricted travel may be waived.

Restriction 36b: Pilot vehicle requirements: (Interstate only) loads exceeding 18 feet wide must have at least two rear pilot vehicles side by side. Vehicles exempted under 61-10-102(2)(a), MCA may only travel during hours of darkness with two rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(b)(ii).

Restriction 36d: Pilot vehicle requirements: loads exceeding 24 feet high must have one front pilot vehicle equipped with a height pole and/or any other equivalent device detecting overhead dimensions and one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(d).

Restriction 37d: Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 24 feet wide must have at least two front and two rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(iv).

Restriction 37f: Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 200 feet long must have one front and one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(vi).

Restriction 39: No travel is allowed when a route has been placed under severe driving conditions as determined by the department per ARM 18.8.509 (6)

Restriction 41: Must notify all local emergency services prior to travel in their jurisdiction as to route, time, and date of move to make arrangements in the event of emergency. Emergency services would include all local law enforcement, fire, ambulance affected by this move.

**Maximum term permit dimensions before a permitting system override is required**

- Width: 15 feet 0 inches
- Height: 14 feet 6 inches
- Length: 95 feet 0 inches

**Maximum Term Permit Non-Divisible Load dimensions before a permitting system override is required**

- Width: 15 feet 0 inches
- Height: 15 feet 6 inches
- Length: 95 feet 0 inches

**Maximum Term Permit Mobile Home dimensions before a permitting system override required**

- Width: 16 feet 0 inches
- Height: 15 feet 6 inches
- Length: 110 feet 0 inches

## **Maximum Term Permit Hay dimensions before a permitting system override is required**

Small bales and large square bales of Hay

- Width: 9 feet 6 inches
- Height: 15 feet 6 inches
- Length: 95 feet 0 inches

Large Round bales and Hay racks

- Width: 12 feet 0 inches
- Height: 15 feet 6 inches
- Length: 95 feet 0 inches

### **Q. Does Montana require a special permit for over 80,000 lbs.?**

- You are not required to have a special permit. You are required to be licensed for what you can legally haul. If hauling a reducible load, you must comply with the federal bridge formula (be legal on your axles and also legal on your bridge).
- Non reducible loads that exceed axle weight or bridge formula must have a permit and be licensed for the maximum weight of that configuration.
- [MT GVW Chart / Federal Bridge](#)

### **Q. What weights will put my unit into BCL – Bridge Centerline conditions?**

- The conditions for travel are based on weight and axle configurations. It is recommended that you apply for a vehicle analysis. This will tell you the maximum weights and the condition you would be travelling under based on the axle configuration.

### **Q. Travel is allowed per the following permit restrictions**

Restriction 1a: Interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway.

Restriction 1b: Non-interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 15 feet 6 inches high. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high, up to 12 feet 6 inches wide may travel during daylight hours only.

Restriction 1c: Holiday and holiday weekend travel on interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Loads exceeding 18 feet wide cannot travel on Holiday or Holiday Weekends.

Restriction 1d: Holiday and holiday weekend travel on non-interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for loads up to 10 feet wide and/or 15 feet 6 inches high. Loads exceeding 12 feet 6 inches wide and/or 15 feet 6 inches high cannot travel on Holiday or Holiday Weekends.

Restriction 1e: Loads exceeding 18 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 17 feet high, are not allowed weekend travel.

## **Q. What are Pilot, Light and Sign Requirements?**

### **Permit Restriction 32**

Regulations and equipment for pilot vehicles as defined in ARM 18.8.510(A) - A pilot vehicle may be any passenger car or two-axle truck a minimum of 60 inches wide. The maximum manufacturer's rating for the pilot vehicle shall not exceed a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds. Service or mechanic trucks owned or contracted by the permittee and used as a pilot vehicle shall not exceed a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds. A pilot vehicle may not exceed legal limits of size and weight. Trucks used as pilot vehicles shall be clearly distinguished from and identifiable as the escort vehicle. A pilot vehicle may pull a trailer or carry any item or equipment which is within legal limits of size and weight, allows an unobstructed view of the flashing lights and signs used by the pilot vehicle, complies with all state traffic laws; and possesses current registration and valid insurance. Service or mechanic trucks used as a pilot vehicle must not have a utility box which extends above the cab more than 12 inches or beyond the width of the cab more than 6 inches on either side. A sign with the words "oversize load" or similar wording shall be visible from the front of the vehicle and rear of the vehicle at all times when piloting an oversize load. Letters shall not be less than 8 inches in height. The letters shall be black in color on a yellow colored background with the exception of digital signs. When not being operated as a pilot vehicle, signs must be removed. On the power unit, flashing amber lights, a minimum of five inches in diameter, 50 candlepower, 60 to 90 flashes per minute, shall be mounted at each end of the oversize load sign and visible 360 degrees. A revolving light or strobe light may be substituted for flashing lights. Lights shall be flashing at all times when moving an oversize vehicle or load. All pilot vehicles shall be equipped with two-way communication. Pilot vehicles must remain within 1,000 feet of the permitted vehicle or load.

### **Permit Restriction 34**

Regulations and equipment for vehicles or loads exceeding 10 feet wide: A sign with the words "oversize load" or similar wording which must be mounted at any visible height on the front and rear of the load. Letters shall not be less than 8 inches in height. The letters shall be black in color on a yellow colored background with the exception of digital signs. On the power unit, flashing amber lights, a minimum of five inches in diameter, 50 candlepower, 60 to 90 flashes per minute, shall be mounted at each end of the oversize load sign and visible 360 degrees. A revolving light or strobe light may be substituted for flashing lights. Lights shall be flashing at all times when moving an oversize vehicle or load per ARM 18.8.510B(1)(a&b). Oversize load signs must be removed from the vehicle upon completion of the highway movement which necessitated the signs.

## **Q. How do I find the structure clearances?**

To determine the clearance of structures, please visit the [Bridge-Structure-Management-System](#)

## **Q. Can a user run their own route for a permit?**

To run a route using the eTRIPS Pre-Trip Planning section. <https://etrips.mtmdt.us/Login>

**Q. If a customer writes on their permit, does this void the permit?**

- Yes, this does void your permit. Other than the permittee signature, only an MCS Employee can amend the permits or make the necessary changes.

**Q. What is an RPO?**

- RPO stands for Registration Purposes Only and is for an out of state carrier who has been in the state longer than 72 hours on a Montana permit or is gainfully employed. Carriers can obtain the [RPO](#) through the MT county that they are currently working in.
- Out of state residents who are temporarily working in Montana or are using their vehicle for hire, compensation, or profit, must display Montana plates and pay taxes for using Montana public roadways. Because they are not Montana residents, they cannot title their vehicles in Montana. To qualify for a registration purposes only permit, the out of state resident must provide a current out of state registration. A temporary registration is acceptable, as long as it is current.

**FAQ's For Weigh Stations, OOS, Inspections, CDL, IFTA, IRP, HVUT, UCR**

**Q. When do I need chains?**

- The Department of Transportation has areas that are signed and designated as "chain up" areas. [Chain-Locations](#)
- Montana law requires chains be used when "chains are required" signs are posted. Chains are required on the drive wheels of one axle of a vehicle.

**Q. Are chains required to be carried by tractor-trailers?**

- October 1 through April 30 motor trucks of 26,001 GVW or greater towing a trailer must carry approved traction control devices when traveling anywhere chains may be required.  
*Note: This does not apply to a vehicle with four-wheel drive.* [Chain-Locations](#)

**Q. Who has to stop at weigh stations?**

- All vehicles or combinations with an actual Gross Vehicle Weight of more than 26,000 pounds are required to stop, regardless of the registered weight or GVWR. The only exception to this is recreational vehicles that are not new or used vehicles traveling into or through Montana for delivery to a distributor or a dealer. This does not eliminate any permit requirements that may be required for vehicles less than 26,000 pounds. Although they may not have to stop at the weigh stations, they are still required to obtain necessary permits.

**Q. Why can I not drive to the truck stop after being placed Out of Service at a scale?**

- A driver placed out of service for exceeding the requirements of the hours of service regulations may not drive a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) to any location to obtain rest.
- See the FMCSA Regulations on driver's record of duty status. [FMCSA-Regulation-395.8](#)

## **Q. What is needed as a Commercial Motor Carrier to travel out of state?**

- You will need to contact the states or provinces you will be traveling through, due to variations in requirements from state-to-state. Please visit any of the links below where you can find this information.
  - [Idaho](#)
  - [North-Dakota](#)
  - [South-Dakota](#)
  - [Wyoming](#)
- Canada
  - [Alberta](#)
  - [British-Columbia](#)
  - [Saskatchewan](#)

## [Canadian-Border-Information-Services](#)

FMCSA has a site for [Oversize-Overweight-Permitting](#) for all states and jurisdictions.

For additional questions, call the Commercial Vehicle Operations Bureau Chief at 406-444-6139.

## **Q. Where can I get my annual inspections completed on my commercial vehicles?**

- The annual inspection must be completed by a certified mechanic. Most dealers and many diesel repair facilities in the State of MT offer this service. It is the responsibility of the motor carrier to inspect or have inspected all motor vehicles subject to its control.
- Review of CFR, Regulations 396.17 (d) and (e) for Periodic Inspection information and review CFR 396.19 for Inspector qualifications at the following site. [FMCSA-Regulations](#)

## **Q. When is a Montana CDL (commercial driver's license) required**

You need a Montana CDL when you operate the following vehicles:

- **CLASS A** – Applies only to “combination” vehicles with a Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR) more than 26,000 pounds, and the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of the vehicle being towed is more than 10,000 pounds. A driver with a Class A CDL (plus any appropriate endorsements) can also operate all vehicles included in Class B, C, and D (below)
- **CLASS B** – Includes single or combination vehicles where the GVWR of the single vehicle is more than 26,000 pounds. The vehicle being pulled must not be more than 10,000 pounds. A driver with a Montana Class B CDL (plus appropriate endorsements) can also legally operate all vehicles in Class C or D.

- **CLASS C** – Any single vehicle, or combination of vehicles, that meets neither the definition of Group A nor that of Group B as contained in this section, but that either is designed to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver, or is used in the transportation of materials found to be hazardous for the purposes of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act and which require the motor vehicle to be placarded under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (49 CFR part 172, subpart F).
- 
- **CLASS D** – Private passenger, regular operator.
- **Required documents can be found at [MT-Motor-Vehicle-Division](#)**

## **Contacts – IRP and IFTA**

For additional information, Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., phone the Helena office at [406-444-2998](tel:406-444-2998).

- **Customers may submit their IRP and IFTA documents to [MDTMCSIRPCONTACT@MT.GOV](mailto:MDTMCSIRPCONTACT@MT.GOV)**
- The documents you will not be able to submit to this email address are: New Account Documents, Renewals, and Signature Page. These must be mailed in as MCS needs the original signature on these documents.

### **Q. Questions regarding IRP and IFTA accounts?**

To see what is needed for a new account for UCR (over 10,000 lbs.) IFTA and / IRP?

#### **[NEW ACCOUNT INFORMATION FOR IFTA IRP AND UCR](#)**

- **The International Registration Plan (IRP)** is a method of registering fleets of vehicles that travel in two or more member jurisdictions. All states (except Alaska and Hawaii), Mexico, and all Canadian provinces (except Northwestern Territories, Nunavut and Yukon) are members of the plan. The Full Reciprocity Plan (FRP) changed the Plan to make the Plan more efficient, more equitable and more flexible for its member jurisdictions and registrants by granting full reciprocity for all apportioned vehicles in all member IRP jurisdictions and removing from the Plan any provisions related to estimated distance.
- Motor carriers that qualify for IRP must register fleets of vehicles in their home or “base” jurisdiction. A fleet, for IRP purposes, is comprised of one or more vehicles that pay registration fees in multiple states. The base jurisdiction collects the appropriate registration fees and distributes them to the other jurisdictions in which the carrier requested IRP registration.

- IRP registration fees are determined by:
  - The type of operation requested (private, for-hire, or rental). A carrier must have operating authority unless this is private.
  - Percentage of miles traveled in each member jurisdiction
  - Registered gross weight of each vehicle
  - Number of vehicles in the carrier's fleet
- IRP distributes the registration revenue among the member jurisdictions. Each member jurisdiction receives its proportional share of registration fees for each vehicle registered under the IRP fleet.
- Carriers are issued one registration cab card and license plate(s) for each vehicle in their fleet. Vehicles registered under IRP are considered registered, for vehicle registration purposes only, and does not exempt carriers from any jurisdiction's requirements including:
  - Operating authority requirements
  - Vehicle size and weight requirements
  - Motor fuel or road tax licensing and reporting
  - Insurance filing requirements

## MT IRP Instruction Manual

## MT IFTA Guidelines

- The International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) is an agreement between 48 US States and 10 Canadian Provinces to standardize the reporting of fuel use taxes by Interstate Motor Carriers.
  - If you have a commercial trucking business based in Montana and you travel to at least one other state or Canadian province, you may be eligible to license under the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA).
  - To Qualify for IFTA:
    - You may license your vehicles through Montana IFTA if you are a Montana based interstate motor carrier; and
    - You keep the operational control and records for your vehicles in Montana or can make your records available; and
    - Some travel is accrued by your qualified motor vehicles on Montana's highways.
      - ❖ NOTE: Trip permitting through states is the only alternative to licensing under IFTA
- **Do I need an IRP if I have an IFTA?**
  - No. You can have IFTA and trip permit in other states or get a dual registration with the other state.

Further [IFTA](#) information regarding such things as Online Filing, General Information, Resources and Contacts.

## **Q. Do I need to pay the Heavy Vehicle Highway Use Tax (HVUT)?**

- Federal regulations require all states to verify payment of, or exemption from the tax before issuing or renewing vehicle registrations. Before a vehicle is registered, the owner must provide proof that this tax has been paid. This is done at the time of licensing at the county or with MCS when registering under the IRP. Read more about this at [HVUT-Form 2290](#).

## **Q. Do I need to have UCR?**

- If you operate a truck or bus in interstate or international commerce there is a federal law that applies to your business. The Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) program requires individuals and companies that operate commercial motor vehicles in interstate or international commerce to register their business with Montana and pay an annual fee based on the size of their fleet before January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- A "commercial motor vehicle" is defined as a self-propelled or towed vehicle used on the highways in commerce principally to transport passengers or cargo, if the vehicle:
  1. has a gross vehicle weight of 10,001 pounds or more;
  2. is designed to transport 11 or more passengers (including the driver).

### **Registering for UCR**

To avoid delays, it is highly recommended that you register online and *follow the step-by-step instructions*. Payments may be made on-line using a debit card, credit card, or Ach/e-Check.

In the [UCR-Fee-Brackets](#) section, this breaks down the yearly cost with the number of vehicle owned or operated. UCR does tie in with your USDOT number and operating authority with FMCSA. In addition, FMCSA requires all entities under its jurisdiction to update their information every two years.

In the [UCR-Plan](#) this informs a user when registration opens for the upcoming year, how to auto renew your UCR and if you need to register.