

Things you need to know

Enforcement of permits

Police enforce overweight permits. Vehicles travelling under a permit may be stopped and weighed. If a vehicle is found to be in breach of any of the conditions of the permit the permit will no longer be valid and will be cancelled. The vehicle must then remain at the point of weighing until a new permit is issued.

(This enforcement is currently under review.)

Traffic control at bridge crossings

The movement of overweight loads at bridge crossings is controlled by the *Code of Practice for Traffic Control at Bridges being Crossed by Overweight Vehicles*. This code is available from the NZ Heavy Haulage Association (HHA) or the Power Crane Association of NZ (PCA). Operators should be familiar with this code.

Emergency situations

Emergency situations do occur. If, for example, a road is closed, a detour route will normally be in place. However, the use of a detour will place an operator in breach of the permit. In these cases the operator must contact a Transit regional office to obtain approval to continue the journey.

Changes to bridges

If Transit decides to downgrade or close a bridge, a letter will be sent to all permit holders stating the new conditions. A notice will also be sent to HHA, PCA, the Road Transport Forum, the CVIU and the Bridge Supervision Consultant.

Over-dimension vehicles

Overweight vehicles can also be over-dimension. If your vehicle or load exceeds the maximum permitted dimensions you will need an Over Dimension Permit. These are issued by the Over Dimension Permit Issuing Agency, at the Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA).

For further information phone 0800 OVERSIZE (0800 68377493), email information@registry.co.nz or check out the website (www.ltsa.govt.nz/commercial/over).

Where to apply for an overweight permit

Permit applications (TNZ 804) are available from Transit regional offices, or from Transit's *Overweight Permit Manual*. Fax or post your completed application to the relevant Transit regional office.



Transit New Zealand Directory

Head Office

Investment House
20 – 26 Ballance St
P O Box 5084, Wellington
New Zealand.
Telephone 04 499 6600
Facsimile 04 496 6666



Auckland Regional Office

Telstra Business Centre
Level 13, 191 Queen St
P O Box 1459, Auckland.
Telephone 09 368 2000
Facsimile 09 368 2059

Wellington Regional Office

Hewlett Packard House
Level 8, 186 – 190 Willis St
P O Box 27 477
Wellington.
Telephone 04 801 2580
Facsimile 04 801 2599

Hamilton Regional Office

BNZ Building
Level 4
354 Victoria St
P O Box 973, Hamilton.
Telephone 07 957 1610
Facsimile 07 957 1437

Marlborough Roads Office

The Forum
Level 1, Unit 2.4, Market St
PO Box 1031, Blenheim.
Telephone 03 577 1850
Facsimile 03 577 5309
0800 MARLRDS (0800 627 573)

Napier Regional Office

Napier Library Building
22 Station St
P O Box 740
Napier.
Telephone 06 835 1750
Facsimile 06 835 0283

Christchurch Regional Office

Education House
Level 7, 123 Victoria St
P O Box 1479, Christchurch.
Telephone 03 366 4455
Facsimile 03 365 6576

Wanganui Regional Office

Seddon House
Park Place
P O Box 345, Wanganui.
Telephone 06 345 4173
Facsimile 06 345 7151

Dunedin Regional Office

Skeggs House
Level 2, 62 – 66 Tennyson St
P O Box 5241, Dunedin.
Telephone 03 477 8527
Facsimile 03 477 9237

These offices are open normal office hours.
In emergencies call Transit on 0800 44 44 49.

www.transit.govt.nz

11/01

Permits For Overweight Loads – what you need to know



TRANSIT
NEW ZEALAND
ARARAU AOTEAROA

Transit New Zealand is responsible for providing a safe and efficient state highway network. To help protect highways and bridges there are regulations giving the legal maximum weights for heavy vehicles. Permits are issued for vehicles with loads that cannot be reduced to the maximum legal weight.

When is an overweight load permit required?

You will require an overweight load permit when:

- **The maximum legal weight of your vehicle exceeds 44 tonnes**
- or
- **The weight on any individual axle of your vehicle exceeds the legal weight.**

(Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974)

If you are unsure whether or not you require a permit, contact your Transit regional office.



What types of permits are available?



| Type of Permit | This permit is issued when: | Permit period | Standard processing fee per permit | *Time it will take to process this permit |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Single-Trip Permit | The payload and/or route is unique for a particular vehicle or The dates of travel for which the permit is required are spaced well apart. | The permit period will generally not exceed seven days. | \$18.18 | Transit gives priority to processing single and multiple-trip permits. If the permit involves highways within one Transit region (see map on front of brochure) the normal processing time is one working day. |
| Multiple-Trip Permit | There are a number of specified dates for which the permit is required or Travel is planned for a continuous period. | The permit period will not exceed one month. If bridge supervision is required, the exact number of trips must be specified. | \$18.18 | If input is required from a local authority or Transit regional office to process the permit, the normal processing time is two working days. |
| Continuous Permit | The vehicle is to use a network of roads that is 100km or shorter in length or The vehicle is to travel on roads within a 50km radius from the vehicle's normal operating base or ISO containers are to be carried to and from seaports. <i>Special conditions apply to these continuous permits. Refer to Transit's Overweight Permit Manual (OPM), Section 3.</i> | The permit period will not exceed two years. The vehicle's travel with this permit will be limited to the roads specified on the permit. | \$54.55 | These permits are processed in the order in which they are received. Issuing time may take more than a working week. |
| Area Permit | Travel is on a specified and documented network of roads. <i>Special conditions apply to Area Permits. Refer to Transit's Overweight Permit Manual, Section 3. This manual is on Transit's website (www.transit.govt.nz) in the 'Technical Information' section.</i> | The permit period will not exceed five years. | \$54.55 This standard processing fee will be charged together with an additional charge to cover the investigation of the routes specified on the permit application. BESS may be required when an Area Permit is issued. | Transit will advise on the timeframe for processing area permits once it has received the application. |

*Processing offices will make every effort to expedite processing of permits.

For large or unusual loads, Transit may need to undertake a feasibility study to ensure the route can cope with the load. In some cases Transit may use a bridge consultant to investigate structures identified as critical by the Transit Overweight Permit System (TOPS). The time it takes to complete these studies depends on the complexity of the load and route.



Can I carry out a Bridge Engineering Self Supervision (BESS) for my vehicle?

Firms and operators that have a good record of observing overweight regulations may be approved to carry out Bridge Engineering Self Supervision for their vehicles.

You can apply for BESS registration through your Transit regional office. Transit will check and interview both your firm and nominated vehicle operators. Transit will also usually consult with the Police Commercial Vehicle Investigation Unit (CVIU), bridge supervision consultant, and local authorities.

If your BESS application is approved Transit will add your firm and the specified operators to the BESS register. Permits will be endorsed with specific reference to the bridges and operators covered.

Transit can disqualify the operator and/or firm if the permit conditions are breached. BESS registration may be reinstated after three months if the operator provides evidence of measures taken to avoid recurrence.