

TRUCKERS GUIDE



**NEW MEXICO
MOTOR TRANSPORTATION DIVISION**

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

MOTOR TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

This booklet has been printed for use by the trucking industry and other parties interested in motor carrier operations in New Mexico.

Vehicles traveling on New Mexico highways, whether licensed in New Mexico or another jurisdiction, are required to conform with various statutes, regulation, and other trucking related requirements. The information in this booklet will help you understand what is required to legally operate your vehicle in or through New Mexico. By knowing, what is needed, your trip through New Mexico will be legal, safe, pleasant and productive.

The information in this booklet has been condensed from the New Mexico Motor Transportation Act, the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Code, the New Mexico Administration Act, and other statutes and regulations that apply to the trucking industry. Although we have made an effort to include all pertinent trucking requirements, it is not our intent to circumvent or supersede any legal requirement imposed by law or regulation. *Therefore, if anything in the booklet is unclear, please contact the appropriate agency listed on page 4.*

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NEW MEXICO CVO DEPARTMENTS

PORT OF ENTRY OPERATIONS & GENERAL TRUCKING REQUIREMENTS

Motor Transportation Division
P. O. Box 1628
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1628
Director's Office- (505) 827-0321

EXCESSIVE SIZE AND WEIGHT PERMITS

Motor Transportation Division
P. O. Box 1628
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1628
(505) 827-0376

VEHICLE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS & TAX IDENTIFICATION PERMITS

Heavy Vehicle Registration Section/ Motor Vehicle Division
P. O. Box 1028
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1028
(505) 476-1550

VEHICLE AND DRIVER SAFETY REQUIRMENTS

Motor Transportation Division
P. O. Box 1628
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1628
(505) 827-0321

INTRASTATE AUTHORITY REQUIREMENTS

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
Transportation Department
P. O. Box 1269
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1269
(505) 827-4500

TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

CDL	Commercial Drivers License. A driver’s license, issued by the driver’s base state that specifies the type of commercial vehicle that may be operated and includes additional driver information.
CMV	Commercial Motor Vehicle- means any self propelled or towed vehicle, other than special mobile equipment, used on public highways in commerce to transport passengers or property when: (a) the vehicle is operated interstate and has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more whichever is greater; or the vehicle is operated only in intrastate commerce and has a gross vehicle weight rating, or gross combination weight rating or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 26,001 or more pounds whichever is greater; or (b) is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver); for compensation; or (c) is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, (including the driver) and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or (d) is used in transporting material found by the secretary of transportation to be hazardous under 49 U.S.C. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the secretary under 49 CFR, subtitle B, Chapter I, subchapter C;
CVSA	Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance. An association of United States, Canada, and Mexico commercial vehicle enforcement program managers and industry advisors who set safety standards and out-of-service criteria for vehicles and drivers.
CVSA DECAL	A decal (sticker) issued to a vehicle that passed a thorough “Level 1” safety inspection.
FOR-HIRE CARRIER	A motor carrier who transports goods, or provides transportation services for compensation.
TAX IDENTIFICATION PERMIT	An identification permit issued to a registered motor carrier upon submission of a formal Tax Identification Permit application. The permit identifies the motor carrier and certifies that the weight distance tax registration has been obtained.
GROSS WEIGHT	The total weight, including vehicle and load. If a combination, then total weight of tractor and trailer(s), plus load thereon.
IRP	International Registration Plan. A vehicle registration plan under which an interstate motor carrier can register in their base state and at the same time meet the registration requirements for all IRP member state in which the motor carrier operates.

INTERSTATE	The trade, traffic or transportation of commodities or the movement of vehicles across state and/or national boundaries.
INTRASTATE	The trade, traffic or transportation of commodities or the movement of vehicles entirely within one state.
MCSAP	Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. New Mexico's federally funded driver and vehicle safety program.
MTD	Motor Transportation Division of the Department of Public Safety.
MOTOR CARRIER	means any person that owns, controls, operates or manages any motor vehicle with gross vehicle weight of twelve thousand pound or more that is used to transport person or property on the public highways of this state.
NMPRC	New Mexico Public Regulation Commission. The commission issues authority for motor carriers to operate for hire in New Mexico.
POE	Port of Entry
PRIVATE CARRIER	A motor carrier who transports his own loads, using his motor vehicles, or vehicles leased to him via an approved written lease agreement.
RANDOM INSPECTION	An inspection conducted to assess the safety of the drivers and vehicles, or vehicles operating in New Mexico. All vehicles, even those with current CVSA stickers are subject to this inspection.
SHIPPING PAPERS	A formal document that details the commodities being transported. These papers may include information on the shipper and receiver of the commodities, and any other pertinent information. Shipping papers may also include any legal certificates or permits that may be required to be carried in the vehicle.
SINGLE AXLE	One axle, extending the full width of the vehicle, onto which are affixed two or more tires. A single axle can be a "steering" axle or a load bearing axle. A single axle may also consist of more than one axle whose wheelbase is less than forty (40) inches.
SPECIAL MOBILE EQUIPMENT	Special Mobile Equipment means a motor vehicle constructed from the ground up as machinery and not designed or used for the transportation of persons or property. Such equipment is operated on the highway only incidental to its use off road. The mounting of off road equipment on a standard truck or other chassis does not qualify a vehicle for an exemption as special mobile equipment."
TANDEM AXLE	Two or more axles having a wheel base of at least 40" apart and less than 120" apart
TRD	New Mexico Taxation & Revenue Department

ENFORCEMENT & OPERATIONS

The New Mexico Motor Transportation Division is the lead agency for commercial motor vehicle safety in New Mexico. MTD is organized by seven (7) geographical districts, each supervised by a Lieutenant. Certified Law Enforcement Officers are commissioned officers that patrol New Mexico highways ensuring compliance with NM state law and federal motor carrier safety regulations. The following map illustrates the district boundaries.

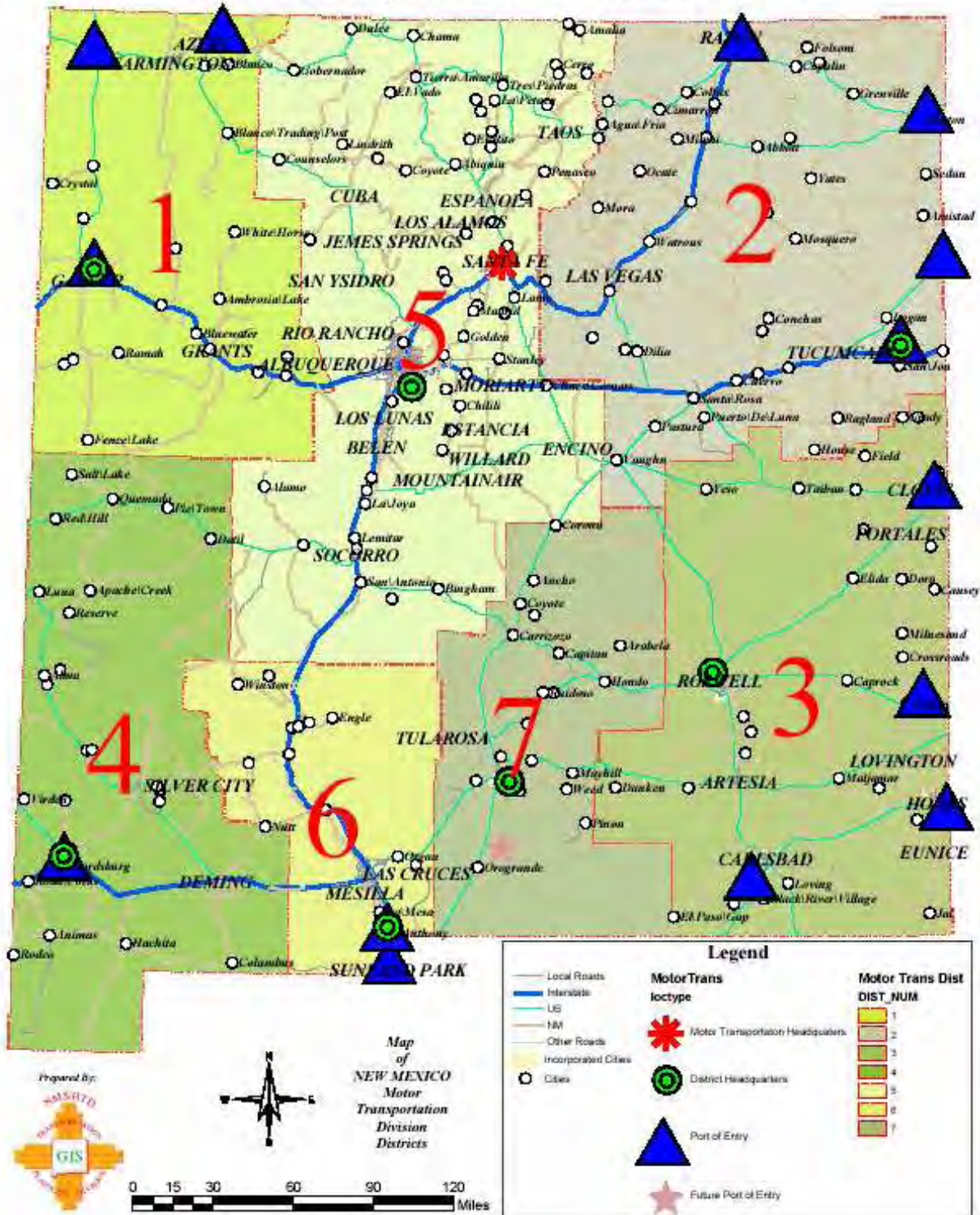
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

MTD HEADQUARTERS	Santa Fe	(505) 827-0321
DISTRICT 1	Gallup	(505) 863-2361
DISTRICT 2	San Jon	(505) 576-2461
DISTRICT 3	Roswell	(505) 624-1545
DISTRICT 4	Lordsburg	(505) 542-8811
DISTRICT 5	Albuquerque	(505) 841-9225
DISTRICT 6	Anthony	(505) 882-2471
DISTRICT 7	Orogrande	(505) 439-5714

The following map illustrates the district boundaries.

MTD DISTRICTS

Motor Transportation Division Districts



PORT OF ENTRY LOCATIONS & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

DISTRICT 1:

Gallup*	(505) 863-2361
Shiprock	(505) 368-4429

DISTRICT 2:

San Jon*	(505) 576-2461
Clayton	(505) 374-9341
Nara Visa	(505) 633-2929
Raton *	(505) 445-8419

DISTRICT 3:

Hobbs	(505) 393-4362
Carlsbad	(505) 885-2026

DISTRICT 4:

Lordsburg*	(505) 542-8811
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DISTRICT 6:

Anthony*	(505) 882-2471
Santa Teresa	(505) 589-3595

DISTRICT 7:

Orogrande	(505) 439- 5714
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**Denotes District Headquarters*

WHAT DOCUMENTS MUST BE PRESENTED

The following documents and information must be available for inspection by an MTD officer or at a port of entry.

NEW MEXICO TAX IDENTIFICATION PERMIT

If the card is not presented, trip fees will be assessed. All New Mexico based vehicles are required by law to have a Tax Identification Permit if the gross weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination exceeds 26,000 pounds.

IRP CAB CARD

A vehicle registration card, issued by the carrier's base state. This card certifies that the vehicle is correctly registered in the listed jurisdictions.

SHIPPING PAPERS/BILL OF LADING

A document that describes the load being transported, the shipper of the load, the weight of load, the consignee (receiver) of the load and the transporter of the load.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE

Valid at the current date and issued for proper class of vehicle being driven, with necessary endorsements. Any driver not possessing a current and valid CDL will be placed "out-of-service" and may be cited and fined.

RECORD OF DUTY STATUS (Log Book)

The log book must be current and up to the last change of duty status.

SINGLE STATE REGISTRATION SYSTEM (SSRS)

The SSRS is the document for insurance and authority for states listed on the certificate.



An MTD Officer examines the driver and vehicle, as well as the required paperwork.

FEES AND CHARGES

If the driver of the vehicle cannot present the documentation identified in the previous section, fees or fines may be assessed or citations may be issued. The fees/fines/citations, or other corrective action will vary depending on the nature of the violation. The following is a brief overview of these fees.

SPECIAL FUEL PERMIT

If the driver does not present a valid IFTA Decal or License and the vehicle is special fuel powered:

A \$5.00 *TEMPORARY SPECIAL FUEL PERMIT* fee will be assessed. The permit is valid for up to forty-eight (48) hours (or one entry and one exit of the state).

SPECIAL FUEL TAX

If the driver does not present a valid IFTA Decal and Tax Identification Permit:

A special fuel tax will be assessed. The tax is currently five cents (\$.05) per mile, based on the miles to be operated in New Mexico.

TRIP TAX

If the driver does not possess a valid Tax Identification Permit:

The trip tax will be assessed. The tax is based on miles to be operated in New Mexico and the total gross weight of the vehicle combination. The tax per mile is:

Gross Vehicle Weight:	Tax Per Mile:
12,001 to 26,000 lbs.	\$0.07
26,001 to 54,000 lbs.	\$0.12
54,001 to 72,000 lbs.	\$0.15
72,001 and above	\$0.16

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

All vehicles must have a valid registration document.

CARAVAN FEE

A fee assessed against operators of unregistered or unlicensed motor vehicles intended for resale. The fee is \$7.00 or \$10.50 depending upon the configuration. In some cases, the fee is waived if the vehicles are being transported under manufacturer's tags, dealer tags, etc. from states with which New Mexico has a bilateral agreement.

OVERSIZE/OVERWEIGHT PERMIT FEE

Single Trip Oversize Permit Fee is \$25.00. If a State Police escort is necessary, the fee is an additional \$300.00 per day.

Single Trip Overweight Permit Fee is \$25.00.

Exceeding 86,400 lbs:
Fee: \$.025/ton/mile

Self-Issue Permits are available for manufactured home transporters and dealers, the fee is \$250.00 for a book of ten.

Self-Issue Permits are available for transporters of implements of husbandry, the fee is \$150.00 for a book of ten.

Multiple Trip Permit are available for combination vehicles not exceeding the following dimensions:

140,000 lbs.
14' wide
15' high
15' front overhang
25' rear overhang

The fee for a Multiple Trip Permit is \$250.00.

LOADS MUST BE IRREDUCIBLE

A Permit will not be issued for reducible non-liquid loads that can be shifted or unloaded to become legal loads, or loads that can be transferred to other trailers or equipment that will make them legal. The disassembling of a load into legal dimensions, then moving the load in multiple trucks/trailers may be required.

INSURANCE

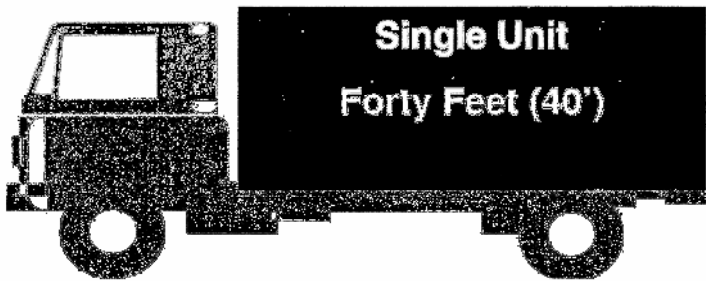
The requestor must have proof of adequate insurance coverage. A certificate of insurance, reflecting at least the minimum coverage should be kept in the vehicle. A copy of the certificate should also be mailed to the MTD Permit Office in Santa Fe.

IMPORTANT: *If a commercial motor vehicle is encountered in New Mexico without the required documentation, is not correctly licensed, is unsafe, or the vehicle or driver are not in full compliance with New Mexico requirements, citations or fines may result. In addition, depending upon the severity of the violation, the vehicle or driver may be detained until the required credentials are obtained or corrective action taken.*

SIZE AND WEIGHT

New Mexico regulates the size and weight of vehicles which will operate on the streets, roads and highways of the state. The only vehicles that will be permitted to operate are those that conform with legal size and weight limits.

SIZE



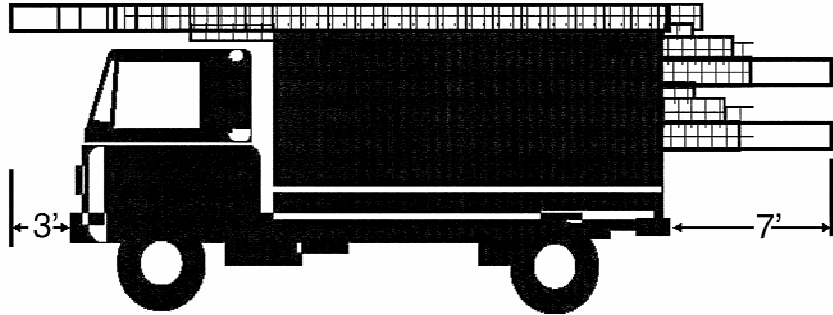
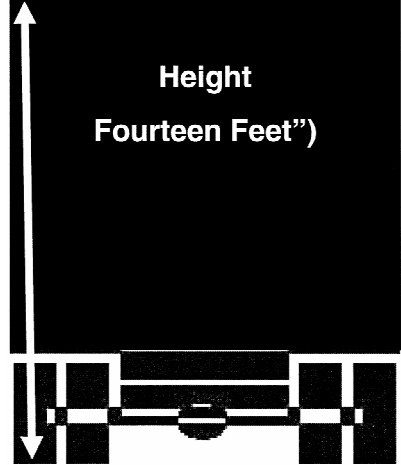
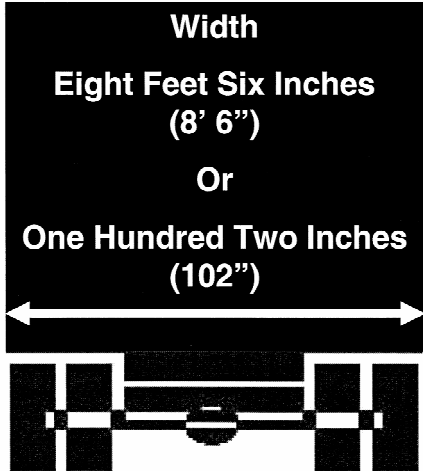
EXCLUDING FRONT & REAR BUMPER



EXCLUDING FRONT & REAR BUMPER



EXCLUDING FRONT & REAR BUMPER



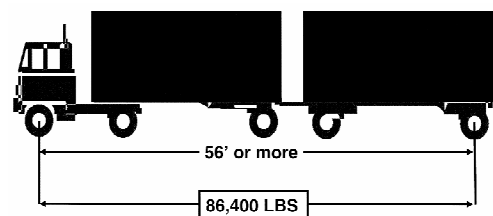
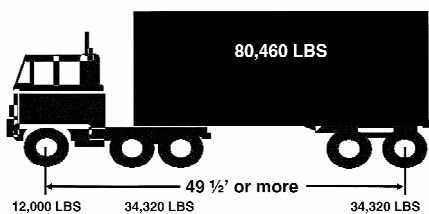
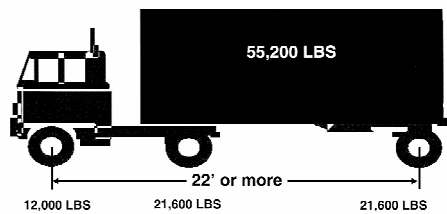
FRONT & REAR OVERHANG

WEIGHT

New Mexico weight limitations are set by law. These laws state the maximum legal gross weight for a vehicle or vehicle combination shall be determined using three separate factors; 1) Tire Size 2) Number of Axles 3) spacing Between Axles.

The maximum allowable weight per tire is 600 pounds per inch of tire width. The maximum allowable weight for a single axle is 21,600 pounds. The maximum allowable for a four foot (4') tandem axle is 34,320 pounds. The maximum legal weight for the vehicle or vehicle combination shall not exceed 86,400 pounds. The following illustrations and table are helpful in determining the maximum legal weight for your vehicle.

TYPICAL MAXIMUM WEIGHTS FOR COMMONLY OPERATED VEHICLES



NOTE: 12,000 lbs. is the typical maximum weight with 10" tires. As the tire width changes, so will the maximum weight.

Subject to the limit upon the weight imposed upon the highway through any one axle as set forth in [Section 66-7-409](#) NMSA 1978, the total gross weight with load imposed upon the highway by any one group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the gross weight given for the respective distance between the first and last axle of the group of axles measured longitudinally to the nearest foot as set forth in the following table:

Distance in feet between first and last axles of group	Allowed load in pounds on groups of axles
4	34,320
5	35,100
6	35,880
7	36,660
8	37,440
9	38,220
10	39,000
11	39,780
12	40,560
13	41,340
14	42,120
15	42,900
16	43,680
17	44,460
18	45,240

NOTE: for distances greater than 18 feet, the formula: $900 \times (1 + 40)$ may be used to calculate maximum GVW.

IMPORTANT:

Please note that weight violations may occur in three areas;

- 1) weight per tire*
- 2) axle group weights*
- 3) gross weight.*

Please consider all three when determining the loaded weight of your vehicle or vehicle combination.

Gross Weight of Vehicles and Loads
NMSA 1978– 66-7-410

A. Subject to the limit upon the weight imposed upon the highway through any one axle as set forth in [Section 66-7-409](#) NMSA 1978, the total gross weight with load imposed upon the highway by any one group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the gross weight given for the respective distance between the first and last axle of the group of axles measured longitudinally to the nearest foot as set forth in the following table:

Distance in feet pounds between first and last axles of groups	Allowed load in on groups of axles
4'	34,320 lbs.
5'	35,100 lbs
6'	35,880 lbs.
7'	36,660 lbs.
8'	37,440 lbs.
9'	38,220 lbs.
10'	39,000 lbs.
11'	39,780 lbs.
12'	40,560 lbs.
13'	41,340 lbs.
14'	42,120 lbs.
15'	42,900 lbs.
16'	43,680 lbs.
17'	44,460 lbs.
18'	45,240 lbs.

Gross Weight of Vehicles and Loads
NMSA 1978- 66-7-410
Continued

B. The total gross weight with load imposed on the highway by any vehicle or combination of vehicles where the distance between the first and last axles is more than eighteen (18) feet shall not exceed that given for the respective distances in the following table:

Distance in feet between first and last axles of group	Allowed load in pounds on groups of axles
19'	53,100 lbs.
20'	54,000 lbs.
21'	54,900 lbs.
22'	55,800 lbs.
23'	56,700 lbs.
24'	57,600 lbs.
25'	58,500 lbs.
26'	59,400 lbs.
27'	60,300 lbs.
28'	61,200 lbs.
29'	62,100 lbs.
30'	63,000 lbs.
31'	63,900 lbs.
32'	64,800 lbs.
33'	65,700 lbs.
34'	66,600 lbs.
35'	67,500 lbs.
36'	68,400 lbs.
37'	69,300 lbs.
38'	70,200 lbs.
39'	71,100 lbs.
40'	72,000 lbs.
41'	72,900 lbs.
42'	73,800 lbs.
43'	74,700 lbs.
44'	75,600 lbs.
45'	76,500 lbs.
46'	77,400 lbs.
47'	78,300 lbs.
48'	79,200 lbs.
49'	80,100 lbs.
50'	81,000 lbs.
51'	81,900 lbs.
52'	82,800 lbs.
53'	83,700 lbs.
54'	84,600 lbs.
55'	85,500 lbs.
56' or over	86,400 lbs.

C. The distance between the centers of the axles shall be measured to the nearest even foot. When a fraction is exactly one-half the next larger whole number shall be used.

OVERSIZE/OVERWEIGHT PERMIT FEE

Single Trip Oversize Permit Fee is \$25.00. If a State Police escort is necessary, the fee is an additional \$300.00 per day.

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LOADS MUST BE IRREDUCIBLE

A Permit will not be issued for reducible non-liquid loads that can be shifted or unloaded to become legal loads, or loads that can be transferred to other trailers or equipment that will make them legal. The disassembling of a load into legal dimensions, then moving the load in multiple trucks/trailers may be required.

INSURANCE

The requestor must have proof of adequate insurance coverage. A certificate of insurance, reflecting at least the minimum coverage should be kept in the vehicle. A copy of the certificate should also be mailed to the MTD Permit Office in Santa Fe.

PERMITEE MUST COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

Each Permit will stipulate the routes to be traveled, the dates of the move and the restrictions and conditions that must be met. Failure to comply with the stated restrictions and conditions, any misrepresentation of the information on the permit or any altering of the Permit will render it null and void. This will subject the permittee to fines, citations and other corrective action.

ESCORTS MAY BE REQUIRED

Depending upon the size or weight of the load, an escort may be required. The permittee will be advised of escort requirements when the permit request is approved. If an escort is required, the type of escort will be stipulated on the permit.

PERMIT REQUESTS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO

Oversize Permit Office

P. O. Box 1628

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

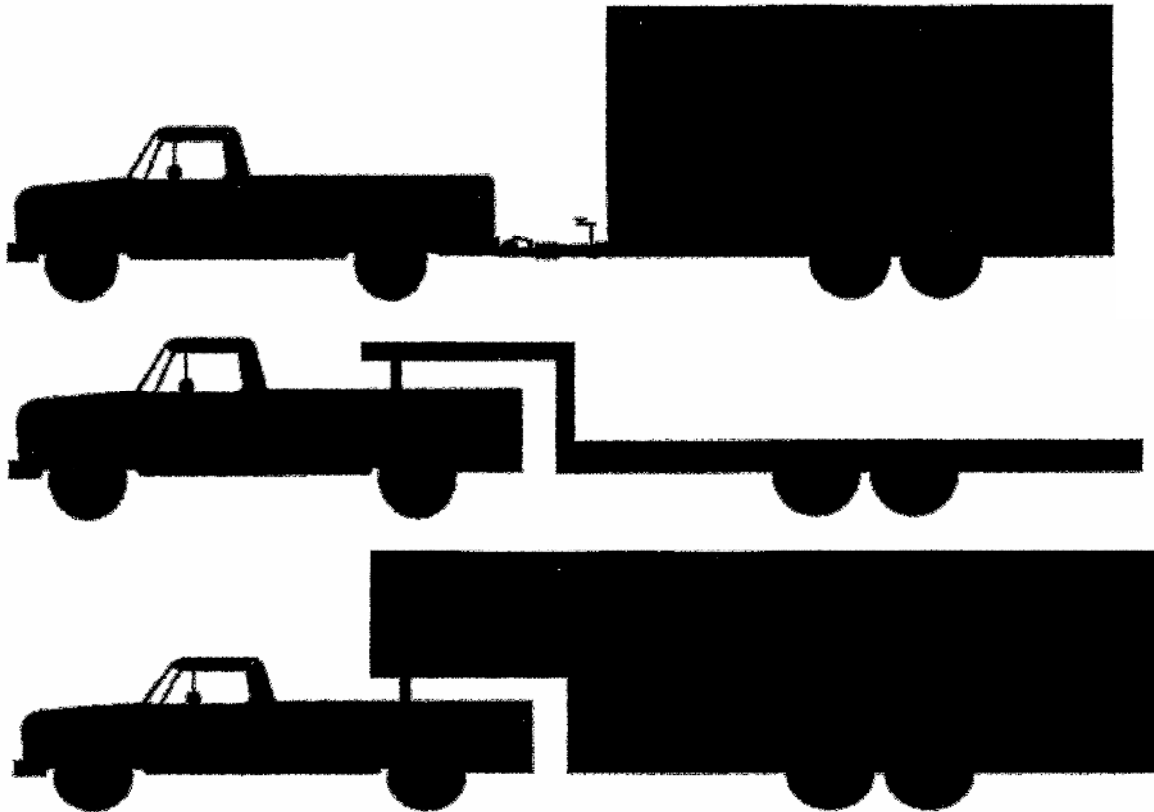
(505) 827-0376

Commercial Motor Vehicle

Commercial Motor Vehicle-

means any self propelled or towed vehicle, other than special mobile equipment, used on public highways in commerce to transport passengers or property when:

- (a) the vehicle is operated interstate and has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more whichever is greater; or the vehicle is operated only in intrastate commerce and has a gross vehicle weight rating, or gross combination weight rating or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 26,001 or more pounds whichever is greater; or
- (b) is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver); for compensation; or
- (c) is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, (including the driver) and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or
- (d) is used in transporting material found by the secretary of transportation to be hazardous under 49 U.S.C. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the secretary under 49 CFR, subtitle B, Chapter I, subchapter C;



Gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more whichever is greater



**Brought to you by:
The New Mexico Motor Transportation Division
P.O. Box 1628
Santa Fe, NM 87504**