

Wide Loads of Implements of Husbandry

Transport Rules – Applicable on State & Federal Routes

		Applicable Widths (Checked areas indicate that the stipulation does apply)				
Factors impacting trucks & trailers operating on State & Federal Routes while hauling overwidth implements of husbandry	Notes	Legal Truck Width or Less	Wider than Legal Truck Width	Wider Than 10'	Wider Than 14' 6"	Wider Than 16'
Permits are not required	(1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Local jurisdiction may require permits	(2)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Operation prohibited after dark	(3)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Flags required	(4)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Wide load sign required	(5)			✓	✓	✓
Flashing amber light required	(6)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Escort (1) required	(7)				✓	\checkmark
Escorts (3) required	(8)					✓
Route must be checked in advance	(9)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Restricted within construction zones	(10)		✓	\checkmark	✓	\checkmark
Maximum speed 45 mph	(11)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Notes						

 Implements of husbandry driven under their own power or towed on the implement's wheelbase are exempt from obtaining oversize-overweight permits but are not allowed to travel on the Interstates. Over width implements of husbandry that are loaded on a trailer are exempt from obtaining an oversize permit.

 An implement of husbandry loaded on a trailer exceeding legal height, legal length or legal weight must obtain an oversize overweight permit via the Illinois Transportation Automated Permits (ITAP) system found online at <u>https://webapps.dot.illinois.gov/ITAP/</u>. For questions on the ITAP system call the Illinois Department of Transportation Bureau of Operations OS/OW Permit Office at 217-785-1477 x1.

- Some local jurisdictions (i.e., county, township, or city) may establish permit requirements for wide loads of implements of husbandry to travel their roads or streets. Check with your local jurisdiction for information on local over width ordinances.
- 4. These over width loads are allowed on public roads only during the period from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset, except when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet.
- 5. Flags shall be displayed to wave freely at the extremities of over width objects and at the extreme ends of all protrusions, projections, and overhangs. All flags must be clean, bright red flags with no advertising, wording, emblem, or insignia inscribed upon them and at least 18 inches square.
- "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory on the front and rear of all vehicles with load over 10 feet wide. These Signs must have 12-inch-high black letters with a 2-inch stroke on a yellow sign that is 7 feet wide by 18-inches high.

- 7. A transport vehicle while under load of more than 8 feet 6 inches in width must be equipped with illuminated rotating, oscillating, or flashing amber lights or flashing amber strobe lights, mounted on the top of the cab or on the load that are of sufficient intensity to be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight. If the load blocks visibility of the amber light from the rear, a light must be displayed at the rear of the vehicle.
- 8. Loads over 14 feet 6 inches must be accompanied by one escort vehicle. (See section on escort vehicles for additional requirements).
- Loads over 16 feet wide must be accompanied by three escort vehicles. (See Section on escort vehicles for additional requirements).
- 10. The driver of any over width vehicle is required to verify, in advance, that the route chosen for travel can accommodate the load that is to be hauled. Using the routing page on the Illinois Transportation Automated Permits (ITAP) system found online at https://webapps.dot.illinois.gov/ITAP/ is the best way to verify that a specific route is viable for the load being hauled. Utilizing IDOT"s method for approving over width loads--the load should be at least 18 inches narrower in overall width than the narrowest barrier along the route. Overhang extending over guardrails or handrails may be allowed if there is ample vertical clearance between the railing and the object. If the vehicle is involved in a collision with a bridge, overpass, fixed structure, or properly placed traffic control device or if the vehicle blocks traffic due to its inability to proceed because of one of those objects, that serves as "prima facie" evidence that you failed to check the roadway prior to making the movement and you may be issued a ticket on that basis.

 All over width implement of husbandry loads are restricted to widths less than those posted at construction zones, displayed on the Obstruction and Restriction Map at: <u>www.gettingaroundillinois.com</u> or shown on the various written restriction lists found on the ITAP website at <u>https://webapps.dot.illinois.gov/ITAP/</u> under the OS/OW Restriction Information Section header.

Implement of Husbandry loads greater than 16' wide are prohibited from movement in all construction zones regardless of the width restriction posted. Construction Zones are identified on the Road Construction Map at: www.gettingaroundillinois.com.

Prior to movement of loads greater than 16" wide beginning each IDOT District Highway Engineer, the proposed route travels through shall be contacted to verify no restrictions will be encountered. IDOT Districts' phone numbers can be found online at: <u>highway-permits-district-contact-map.pdf</u> (illinois.gov). 12. All trucks with over width loads are restricted to a maximum of 5 miles per hour over the minimum posted speed.

The requirements for a civilian escort vehicle and driver are as follows:

Loads of implements of husbandry more than 14 feet 6 inches in width are subject to escort vehicle requirements when operating on state or federal routes—those on the National System of Interstate and Defense highways or other highways in the system of State highways.

Either one or three escort(s) may be required depending on the width of the load. One escort vehicle is required for a load that exceeds 14 feet 6 inches in width and three escort vehicles are required for a load that exceeds 16 feet in width.

- 1. The civilian escort vehicle shall be a vehicle not exceeding a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,000 pounds that is designed to afford clear and unobstructed vision to both front and rear.
- 2. All escort vehicle operators shall be 18 years of age or over and properly licensed to operate the vehicle.
- 3. While in use, the escort vehicle shall be equipped with illuminated oscillating, rotating, or flashing amber lights mounted on top that are of sufficient intensity, when illuminated, to be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.
- 4. "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory on all escort vehicles. The sign on an escort vehicle shall have 8 inch high black letters on a yellow sign that is 5 feet wide and 12 inches high.
- 5. When only one escort vehicle is required and when operating on a two-lane highway, the escort vehicle shall travel ahead of the load. The oscillating, rotating, or flashing amber lights and an "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign shall be displayed on the escort vehicle and be visible from the front. When operating on a multilane divided highway, the escort vehicle shall trail the load and the signs and lights shall be visible from the rear.

- 6. When three escort vehicles are required, one escort shall travel ahead of the load and the second escort shall trail the load and the third escort will follow the travel requirements of a single escort. All escort vehicles are required signs and lights.
- 7. Escort vehicles shall travel approximately 300 feet in front of the load on two-lane highways and the same distance to the rear on multilane highways in rural areas. When traveling within the corporate limits of a city or town, the escort vehicle shall maintain a reasonable and proper distance consistent with existing traffic conditions.
- 8. A separate escort shall be provided for each load hauled under permit.
- 9. The operator of the escort vehicle shall obey all traffic laws.
- 10. The escort vehicle shall be in safe operational condition.
- 11. The driver of the escort vehicle shall be in radio contact with the driver of the permit vehicle.
- 12. Owners and/or operators of escort vehicles shall have in effect or be self-insured in the minimum amount of \$500,000 per occurrence combined bodily injury and property damage.