



NORTH DAKOTA VEHICLE LEGAL SIZE AND WEIGHT GUIDE  
NDHP Motor Carrier Operations  
Ref: 9-1 (12/11)

A. Legal Width

1. 8 feet 6 inches on all highways.
2. Exceptions.
  - a. Construction and building contractors' equipment and vehicles used to move such equipment which does not exceed ten feet in width when being moved by contractors or resident carriers. Nighttime travel is allowed provided moving equipment is properly lighted.
  - b. Implements of husbandry being moved by resident farmers, ranchers, dealers, or manufacturers or government entities between sunrise and sunset. Nighttime travel is allowed provided the implements are properly lighted and not being moved on the interstate highway system.
  - c. Hay in the stack being moved along the extreme right edge of a roadway between sunrise and sunset by someone other than a commercial mover. Commercial haystack movers, overwidth self-propelled fertilizer spreaders, overwidth self-propelled agricultural chemical applicators, hay grinders, grain cleaners, and forage harvesters if the owners have seasonal permits.
  - d. All vehicles exempt from width limitations are subject to safety rules adopted by the Highway Patrol.

B. Legal Height

1. 14 feet whether loaded or unloaded, unless routes of travel include structures such as bridges and underpasses that are not 14 feet in height.
2. Exception.
  - a. Implements of husbandry may not exceed 15 feet 6 inches in height when being moved by resident farmers, ranchers, dealers, or manufacturers between sunrise and sunset. The distance traveled cannot exceed 60 miles and travel on the interstate system is not allowed.

C. Legal Length

1. A single unit vehicle with two or more axles including the load thereon shall not exceed a length of 50 feet.
2. A combination of two, three, or four units including the load thereon shall not exceed a length of 75 feet on non-designated highways. Three and four unit combinations are subject to safety rules adopted by the NDDOT Director.
3. A combination of two, three, or four units including the load thereon may exceed 75 feet in length but shall not exceed 95 feet or 110 feet in length when traveling on four-lane divided highways and those highways designated by the NDDOT Director and local authorities as to the highways under their respective jurisdictions. The NDDOT designated highway map identifies those designated state highways. All such combinations are subject to safety rules adopted by the NDDOT Director.
4. The length of a trailer or semitrailer including the load thereon may not exceed 53 feet; however, trailers and semi-trailers titled and registered in North Dakota prior to July 1, 1987, and towed vehicles may not exceed a length of 60 feet.
5. Exceptions to length limitations.
  - a. Building moving equipment.
  - b. Emergency tow trucks towing disabled lawful combinations of vehicles to a nearby repair facility.
  - c. Vehicles and equipment owned and operated by the armed forces of the United States or the national guard of this state.
  - d. Structural material of telephone, power, and telegraph companies.
  - e. Truck-mounted haystack moving equipment, provided such equipment does not exceed a length of 56 feet.
  - f. A truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer when operated on interstate highway systems or parts of the federal aid primary system designated by the NDDOT Director.
    - 1) The cargo carrying length shall not exceed 100 feet on a semitrailer and trailer or semitrailer converted to a trailer by use of a converter dolly and fifth wheel when the power unit is a truck-tractor.
6. Towing converter dollies.
  - a. Converter dollies that are used to convert semitrailers to trailers are considered trailers if they

- meet all lighting requirements and are equipped with brakes and safety chains.
- b. No more than one converter dolly can be towed behind a truck-tractor, semitrailer, and trailer; and no more than two converter dollies can be towed behind a truck-tractor and semitrailer.