

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Wisconsin Department of Transportation Mega Loads Guidelines DTSD52

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on the Mega Loads Guidelines, s. 348.25, 348.26, 348.27 Wis. Stats., Trans 230, Trans 251, Trans 276.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

1. Department's website: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/dot/guidance-docs?guidDocId=DTSD52>
2. Mailing written comments to:
Division of Transportation System Development
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
PO Box 7965
Madison, WI 53707-7965

WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at wisconsin.gov to allow for ongoing comment.

AGENCY CONTACT

dotdtsdguidancedocs@dot.wi.gov



Mega Load Guidelines

Bureau of Highway Maintenance
Oversize/Overweight Permit Office

Authority

Wisconsin Statutes ss. 348.25 to 348.27 authorizes the department to issue permits relating to vehicles and loads of excessive size and weight. In addition, Wis. Stats. s. 348.25(3) gives the department power to impose reasonable conditions on permits issued to ensure the safety of travel and protection of the highways. Wisconsin Administrative Code ch. Trans 250 provides further instruction for permits issued under Wis. Stats. ss. 348.25 to 348.27. Detailed requirements for specific types of permits may be found in Wis. Adm. Code chs. Trans 230 and 251 to 275.

Definitions

Mega load: A vehicle that meets or exceeds one or more of the following criteria: -

- 1) Vehicle exceeds 400,000 pounds gross vehicle, or 40,000 lbs. on one or more axle lines
- 2) Vehicle exceeds 22 feet in width
- 3) Vehicle exceeds 19 feet in height
- 4) Vehicle exceeds 220 feet in length

Local move: A load originating and ending wholly within one WisDOT region (see map page 5).

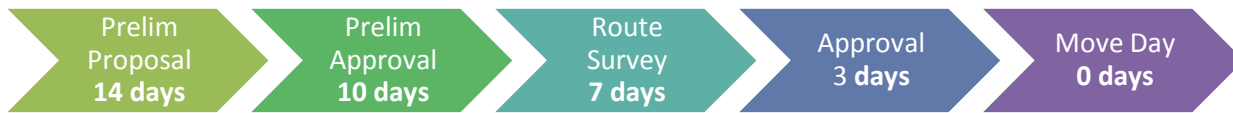
WisDOT: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Approximate Timelines



- 1) - Carrier is encouraged to meet with WisDOT Oversize/Overweight Permit Office (Permit Office) **60 days** in advance of proposed move date.
- 2) - Carrier shall submit a preliminary proposal to the Permit Office no later than **30 days** prior to the desired move date.
- 3) - Permit Office will issue preliminary approval upon review of the preliminary proposal within **10 days** of receipt of preliminary proposal.
- 4) - The carrier shall submit a route survey a minimum of **14 days** prior to the desired move date.
- 5) - Permit Office will respond to the proposal within **7 days** of receipt of complete route survey.

Permits for Local Moves



- 1) - Carrier shall submit a preliminary proposal to the Permit Office no later than **14 days** prior to the desired move date.
- 2) - Permit Office will issue preliminary approval upon review of the preliminary proposal within **4 days** of receipt of preliminary proposal.
- 3) - The carrier shall submit a route survey a minimum of **7 days** prior to the desired move date.
- 4) - Permit Office will respond to the proposal within **3 days** of receipt of complete route survey.

Process Overview and Requirements

- 1) - Preliminary Meeting
 - a. - Applicant may request a meeting via email or phone: -
Email oversize-permits.dmv@dot.wi.gov -
Phone (608) 266-7320 -
 - b. - Applicant shall provide general information about the following:
 - i. - Origin/destination
 - ii. - Approximate load dimensions and weight
 - iii. - Timeframe
 - iv. - Estimated speed of Travel
- 2) - Preliminary Proposal Requirements
 - a. - Electronic pictures of the front, rear, side and aerial view of the hauling rig;
 - b. - Diagrams or graphics of the loaded rig including:
 - i. - Load dimensions and weight
 - ii. - Overall dimensions and weight of the laden rig
 - iii. - Number of tires, position of tires on each axle and PSI
 - iv. - Minimum Ground Clearance
 - c. - Direct contact name and telephone number of the carrier
 - d. - Direct contact name and telephone number of a person at the manufacturing or loading facility
 - e. - The origin of the loaded vehicle and ultimate destination
 - f. - If needed, provide a written request for night, Friday or weekend operation
 - g. - Applicant may submit via email: oversize-permits.dmv@dot.wi.gov
- 3) - Preliminary Approval
 - a. - Permit Office will review the route for weight, construction restrictions and state owned structures height clearance. This will include review by regional traffic engineers.
 - b. - Permit Office will also provide preliminary time of day travel restrictions to the applicant.
 - c. - Operation may be restricted to night time travel.

4) - Route Survey Requirements

- a. - Route Surveys are valid for 30 days.
- b. - Provide a map or other aerial image of the proposed route with the following marked:
 - i. - Traffic Impediments
 - 1. - Identify all traffic impediments and plans to accommodate each
 - a. - Traffic impediments include but are not limited to: monotubes, roundabouts, railroads etc.
 - 2. - Provide detailed explanation of how loads will navigate the turns, roundabouts, etc.
 - 3. - Identify location of Signs, Signals or other infrastructure that needs to be mitigated
 - 4. - Identify any locations where movement requires violation of rules of the road (i.e. counter directional)
 - ii. - Private Utilities
 - 1. - Identify private utilities with less than 3 inches of vertical clearance from proposed load height
 - a. - Provide proof of coordination to accommodate these utilities
 - b. - Include Utility Company(s) name and address, Point of Contact(s) and phone number(s).
 - iii. - Layover Locations
 - 1. - Identify planned layover locations
 - 2. - Provide written permission if located on private property
 - 3. - If layover will require traffic control devices (e.g., barrels), proof of arrangement with a traffic control contractor must be provided.

5) - Approval

- a. - Permit Office will respond to the proposal within 7 days of receipt of complete route survey.
- b. - Approval will include guidance about likely conditions of operation and probable permit cost.

6) - Modifications

- a. - Modifications made to an *approved* application, arising from a carrier's request, may result in a five-working day delay to allow for Permit Office review.
- b. - The application may subsequently be approved or denied based on the requested modifications.

7) - Notice of move

- a. - Permit conditions may include contact(s) to call to give notice of move.
- b. - Calls must be made **Monday-Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.**
- c. - Carrier must speak with all required contacts to ensure that any special arrangements or traffic control will be accomplished. (**NOTE: Voicemail only is not acceptable**)

Vehicle Requirements

1) - Transport Rig

- a. - Pass a NAS Level 7 inspection to include weight and dimension verification.
 - i. - A load which originates outside of Wisconsin will need to provide proof that a NAS Level 1 MCSAP inspection and weight and dimension verification was conducted prior to entering the state or provide a location within 25 miles where DSP can conduct this requirement.
 - ii. - Permit Office may direct the motor carrier to a more suitable inspection location if necessary.
- b. - Compliance with permit conditions will be verified.
- c. - Vehicles with a GVW in excess of 500,000 pounds must have a second power unit adequate to continue transport to a safe layover location if the first power unit fails on route.

2) - Escort Vehicles

- a. - Provide Proof of Insurance
- b. - Escort details will be a mix of private pilot vehicles and DSP personnel.
 - i. - Two to four State Patrol squads shall be the normal range.
 - ii. - Must follow [Wisconsin State Patrol Permit Support Request Requirements](#) policy for requesting state patrol escorts.
 - 1. - This requires minimum of **48 hour notice**.
 - 2. - A minimum **72 hour notice** is required if more than 2 state patrol escorts are required.
 - 3. - Carrier must provide communication devices to all DSP squads and private escort vehicles involved in the escort detail that will enable inter-operable communication during the escort.

