

Vehicle Licensing Guide

Overload Permit-Issuance of VLIC-4.231

Original Date: 06/15/1982
Revision Date: 08/25/2021

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POLICY	
Title: Overload Permit-Issuance of	
Effective Date: June 15, 1982	Revision Date: 08/25/2021
<<<<<REVISION	
Authority: Code of Virginia §§ 46.2-652 , 46.2-698 , 46.2-1128 , 46.2-1139 through 46.2-1149.2 et al END REVISION>>>>>	
Policy: DMV issues overload permits to certain motor vehicles to operate on Virginia state roads at weights which exceed the single axle weight, tandem axle weight, or the gross weight limitations by 5% of the vehicle's registered or gross weight. Weight limitations for commercial vehicles traveling Virginia state roads are similar to those set by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single axle weight limit of 20,000 pounds• Tandem axle weight limit of 34,000 pounds, and• Gross weight limit based on the axle spacing and number of axles of the vehicle. To qualify for an Overload Permit vehicles must have a gross weight greater than 7,500 pounds. Overload permits do not allow a vehicle or combination of vehicles to exceed a gross weight of 84,000 pounds. Overload permits are valid only on Virginia state roads and not valid on interstate highways.	
Exception: N/A	

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OVERVIEW

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sets maximum weight standards for commercial vehicles using the Federal Interstate Highway Systems in the United States. Heavy trucks traveling on the Federal Interstate Highway System are subject to commercial vehicle weight standards set by the individual states.

Weight standards for commercial vehicles traveling Virginia state roads are very similar to those set by the FHWA for federal interstate highways.

<<<<<REVISION

Overload permits:

- Are issued on an annual, multi-year, or quarterly basis.
- Expire at the same time that the vehicle registration expires.
 - Multi-year overload permits are not allowed for vehicles with a gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more. These vehicles must provide DMV with annual proof of payment of the Heavy Vehicle Use Tax (HVUT).
- Are issued for two years at no fee for local, state or federal agencies.
- Are issued to farm vehicles at no fee. **END REVISION>>>>>**

Additionally, motor vehicles transporting Virginia-grown forest or farm products from the place of production, harvesting, cutting, or felling to a location where they are first processed may receive an additional 5% extension, in addition to the 5% overload permit, on applicable weight limits. This additional extension:

- Is applicable to Virginia state (non-federal) highways only
- Does not authorize a gross weight exceeding 84,000 pounds
- Does not authorize an extension of axle or gross weight limitations, regardless of axle spacing, on interstate highways

Customers may apply for an original overload permit, or to renew, transfer, or replace an existing permit by completing the Overload Permit Application ([VSA-145](#)) at customer service centers, DMV Select offices, or by mail (see address below). Original overload permits may be purchased or renewed online at DMVNow.com (transfers and reissues not available online).

Virginia DMV
P O Box 27412
Richmond, VA 23269-0001

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CUSTOMER REQUIREMENTS

1. Submit one of the following:
 - Completed Overload Permit Application ([VSA-145](#))
 - Vehicle Registration Renewal Notice (VSA-2), or
 - Current registration, and
 - Existing permit and decals, removed from the previous vehicle, when applying to transfer the overload permit from one vehicle to another.
2. Pay fee.

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FRONT COUNTER CSR

1. Verify completion of the [VSA-145](#) or VSA-2 application.
2. If no customer record exists in the system, establish a customer record.
 - For original issue permits, review the existing registration for the expiration date.
 - For out-of-state vehicles applying for a first-time issue permit, manually key in the expiration date to match the expiration date on the submitted registration (system will pro-rate and charge appropriate fee).
 - For vehicles registered in Virginia, inquire on the record for the expiration date if no registration is submitted.
 - For permit transfers, verify that some portion of the original overload permit and decals are submitted with the application.
3. Process the overload permit in the system.
4. Collect fee.
5. If pre-printed application (VSA-2) was submitted:
 - i. Stamp both portions of the registration card (VSA-2) with customer service representatives (CSR's) PAID stamp.
 - ii. Retain VSA-2 with the daily work, then destroy.
 - iii. Give the decals, overload permit (from the printer), and registration card to the customer.
6. If a [VSA-145](#) was submitted:
 - i. Stamp the application with the CSR's PAID stamp.
 - ii. Retain the application with the daily work.
 - iii. Give the decals, overload permit (from the printer), and registration card to the customer.

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CONTACT

For additional information contact:

- Your CSC Manager/Assistant Manager
- DMV Contact Center Help Desk at (804) 367-6646
- VSA/[Titling Work Center](#)

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