

ARTICLE 347
Commercial and Heavy Vehicles

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|--------|---|--------|----------------------------|
| 347.01 | Oversize or overweight vehicles. | 347.04 | Loads dropping or leaking. |
| 347.02 | Projecting loads on passenger vehicles. | 347.05 | Towing requirements. |
| 347.03 | Maximum height, width and length. | 347.99 | Penalty. |

CROSS REFERENCES

See sectional histories for similar State law
 Authority to designate weight limits on local streets –
 see W. Va. Code 17C-2-8(a)(7)
 Authority to permit oversized buses – see W. Va.
 Code 17C-17-2(b)
 Red light or flag on extended load – see TRAF. 345.07
 Transporting explosives – see TRAF. 345.27

347.01 OVERSIZE OR OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES.

(a) Use of State Route. No person shall operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in West Virginia Code Article 17C-17 upon any State route within the Municipality, except pursuant to special written permit issued by the Commissioner of Highways, or upon any local truck route. Every such permit shall be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and shall be open to inspection by any police officer.

No holder of a permit issued by the Commissioner of Highways shall be required to obtain any local permit or license or pay any local fee or charge for movement on any State route within the Municipality; however, it shall be unlawful to operate any such vehicle or combination of vehicles upon any roadway within the Municipality which is not a State route, except as provided in subsection (c) hereof.

(b) Use of Local Streets. No person shall operate a vehicle exceeding a size as specified in Section 347.03 or exceeding a gross weight of five tons, upon any street in the Municipality other than a State route, except those local streets designated as a truck route and marked as such by appropriate traffic signs, and except when such operation is necessary to load or unload property, to go to or from

(b) A motor vehicle including any load thereon shall not exceed a length of forty feet extreme overall dimension, inclusive of front and rear bumpers.

(c) Except as hereinafter provided, a combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units, and no such combination of vehicles including any load thereon shall have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of fifty-five feet, except as provided in West Virginia Code 17C-17-11b, and except as otherwise provided in respect to the use of a pole trailer as authorized in West Virginia Code 17C-17-5: provided, that the limitation that a combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units shall not apply to a combination of vehicles coupled together by a saddle mount device used to transport motor vehicles in a drive-away service when no more than three saddle mounts are used: provided, however, that equipment used in such combination meets the requirements of the safety regulations of the United States Department of Transportation and shall not exceed an overall length of more than sixty-five feet.

(d) The length limitations for truck tractor-semitrailer combinations and truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations operating on the national system of interstate and defense highways and those classes of qualifying federal-aid primary system highways so designated by the United States Secretary of Transportation, and those highways providing reasonable access to and from terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest, and points of loading and unloading for household goods carriers from such highways, and further, as to other highways so designated by the West Virginia Commissioner of Highways, shall be as follows: the maximum length of a semitrailer unit operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination shall not exceed forty-eight feet in length, except where semitrailers have an axle spacing of not more than thirty-seven feet between the rear axle of the truck tractor and the front axle of the semitrailer, such semitrailer shall be allowed to be not more than fifty-three feet in length and the maximum length of any semitrailer or trailer operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall not exceed twenty-eight and one-half feet in length and in no event shall any combinations exceed three units, including the truck tractor: provided, that nothing herein contained shall impose an overall length limitation as to commercial motor vehicles operating in truck tractor-semitrailer or truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations.

(WVaC 17C-17-4)

(e) The total outside width, exclusive of safety equipment authorized by the United States Department of Transportation, of any vehicle or the load thereon shall not exceed ninety-six inches, except as otherwise provided in West Virginia Code Article 17C-17: provided, that any vehicle with a total outside width of 102 inches, exclusive of safety equipment authorized by the United States Department of Transportation, may be operated on any street or highway designated by the United States Department of Transportation or the Commissioner of the Department of Highways or on any street or highway having a minimum lane width of ten feet.