CLASS 6 AND 7 PERMITS
Main situations where escort vehicles are required

The *Regulation respecting special permits* establishes weight and size limits, warning signals, as well as traffic rules and conditions for outsized vehicles travelling on public highways without load or with an indivisible load. In the case of extraordinary transport (classes 6 and 7), the regulation requires a feasibility analysis from the ministère des Transports. The results of the analysis allow the Ministère determine additional requirements that must be met to obtain a permit. Some of these requirements are indicated in schedule 3 of the regulation. This includes the requirement to be escorted by a marked police emergency vehicle (condition 1), the requirement to travel with an additional front escort vehicle equipped with a signal arrow light (condition 8) and the requirement to travel with an additional rear escort vehicle equipped with a signal arrow light (condition 19). The Ministère has defined certain criteria to help determine whether a police escort or an additional front or rear escort vehicle is necessary.

The criteria are as follows:

Police escort is required when the outsized vehicle or combination of outsized vehicles is in one of the following situations:

The width:
- exceeds 5.55 metres and the vehicle travels during the day on the whole network or 5 metres if the vehicle travels at night on the whole network;
- exceeds 6 metres and the vehicle travels at night on the whole network. In this case, an escort of at least **two** police vehicles is required.

The length:

- exceeds 49 metres and the vehicle travels during the day and at night on the whole network or 40 metres if the vehicle travels at night on roads other than autoroutes;
- is between 45 and 49 metres and the outsized vehicle travels during the day on uneven or winding roads that have only one traffic lane in the direction travelled by the vehicle;
- exceeds 55 metres and the vehicle travels during the day on the whole network (in this case an escort of at least two police vehicles is required);
- exceeds 40 metres, the rear overhang is over 6 metres and the vehicle travels during the day and at night on roads other than autoroutes.

The height:

- exceeds 5 metres.

Other circumstances:

▸ the weight requires a significant reduction of speed on certain structures;
▸ the vehicle travels in convoy.

An additional front escort vehicle equipped with a signal arrow light is required when the outsized vehicle or combination of outsized vehicles is in one of the following situations:

The width:

▸ exceeds 5 metres and the vehicle travels on the whole network, but not on undivided autoroutes.

The length:

▸ exceeds 40 metres and the vehicle travels on the whole network, but not on divided autoroutes;
▸ the load or equipment exceeds 6 metres at the rear of the vehicle, and the vehicle travels on the whole network, but not on autoroutes.

Other circumstances:

▸ the vehicle travels in convoy.

An additional rear escort vehicle equipped with a signal arrow light is required when the outsized vehicle or combination of outsized vehicles is in one of the following situations:

The width:

▸ exceeds 5 metres and the vehicle travels on the whole network.

The length:

▸ exceeds 40 metres and the vehicle travels on the whole network;
▸ the load or equipment exceeds 6 metres at the rear of the vehicle, and the vehicle travels on the whole network.

Other circumstances:

▸ the weight requires a significant reduction of speed on certain structures;
▸ the vehicle travels in convoy on the whole network.

NOTE

Further to the feasibility analysis, the Ministère reserves the right to require one or more police or private escort vehicles in situations other than those mentioned above. Justification for the requirement will be provided to the permit applicant. In exceptional cases or very specific circumstances, the Ministère can decide not to request the police or private escort vehicles that would normally have been required.

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