

Regulations governing escort vehicles in Kansas

As of Jan. 1, 2018

K.A.R. 36-1-35(g): "Escort warning sign" means a yellow sign with black lettering and with a minimum dimension of five feet long and 12 inches high. The letters "oversize load" shall be visible on the face of the sign. The letters shall be eight inches in height, with a bush stroke of not less than 1.125 inches."

K.A.R. 36-1-36:

(f) "Escort information. When escorting loads or convoys more than 14 feet wide, the following shall apply.

(1) On highways of fewer than four lanes, front and rear escorts shall be required. Except for superloads and large structures, the rear escort may be eliminated if a warning light is attached to the top of the towing vehicle and to the rear of each load and is mounted no less than two feet or more than eight feet above the surface of the road.

(2) On highways consisting of four lanes or more, a rear escort shall be required for superloads and large structures. All other types of loads shall not require escorting.

(3) When moving an oversize or overweight load, the driver of each escort vehicle and the person driving the permitted vehicle shall have the ability to communicate verbally with each other, using two-way equipment.

(4) Unless conditions dictate a different following distance, escorting vehicles shall travel at a distance not to exceed 300 feet in front or 300 feet to the rear of the load.

(r) Warning lights. Warning lights shall be installed on the top of each escort vehicle. Each warning light shall be in good operating condition, emit a rotating or flashing amber light, be mounted on top of the towing vehicle, and be readily visible at a distance of not less than 1,000 feet.

(s) Warning signs. A warning sign shall be used by movers of oversize or overweight load in the following manner and circumstances.

(4) An escort warning sign or oversize warning sign shall be attached to the front or to the top of each vehicle preceding the load being transported, and a similar sign shall be attached to the top or to the rear of the vehicle trailing the load being transported."

K.A.R. 36-1-38:

(c) "Superload permits. These permits shall allow movement of overweight loads that exceed 150,000 pounds of gross weight.

(4) Before escorting superloads within Kansas, escorting companies shall obtain certification in a manner approved by the secretary.

(d) Large structure permits. This permit shall allow for movement of oversize loads that exceed the size limitations of the standard permit.

(9) An escort vehicle shall be stationed at side road intersections during the movement of large structures in order to hold all vehicles at those intersections until the structure has been moved through the section of road being blocked.

(10) Drivers of escorting vehicles shall not allow large structures to cross a bridge or critical location until all traffic has been stopped at both side of bridges or before and after a critical location."

All conditions governing escorts on the issued permit must also be followed.

For permits, contact the Kansas Central Permits Office at 785-368-6501.