

**Mississippi Valley
Escorts and Warning Devices Survey**

State	Warning Devices			Comments
	Signs	Flags	Lights	
Illinois	Over 12'4" wide, 110' long, 14'6" high	Flags shall be bright red and at least 18 inches square.	Mandatory on escorts and on front & rear of vehicles and loads over 10' wide, 14'6" high, or 75' long.	Flags shall be displayed at extremities of overwidth objects and extreme ends of all protrusions, projections, and overhangs.
Indiana	Front and rear OVERSIZE LOAD sign. 18" high, between 8'-6" long. Letters must be 12" X 2" lettering on yellow sign. Color combinations or wording approved by other states will be permitted.	Must be marked with 2 red or orange flags placed at the widest extremities of the vehicle or load. Flags must be in good condition, plain or orange with no figures. Flags must be 18" square and placed so that approaching traffic can see them. Not required for overweight only.	Amber flashing light mounted on top and oversize load sign	The lighting requirements are in addition to all FMCSR 393.11
			Permitted vehicle must have low beam headlights on while transporting load. Must be equipped with 4 high intensity, amber, flashing lights. Two of these must be mounted on the front. Two must be mounted on the rear of the combination. Lights	

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Iowa	Signs and flags are required when a vehicle and load exceeds 75 feet in length, 8 feet 6 inches in width, and/or 14 feet 4 inches in height. The signs shall be on a yellow background and mounted on the front bumper and on the rear of the load. A rear sign for mobile homes must be mounted at least 7 feet above the highway surface.	Flags are required when the vehicle rear projection exceeds 4 feet. Flags are required at each front corner of the towing unit and one flag at each rear corner of the load. In addition, there must be a flag at any additional protrusion in the width of the load.	An amber revolving light or strobe light visible from the front and rear mounted on the towing unit is required when: length exceeds 85 feet up to and including 120 feet OR front-end projection exceeds 25 feet OR rear-end projection exceeds 10 feet OR weight exceeds 80,000 lbs. An escort can be used in lieu of amber light.	A front escort or an amber light or strobe light on the power unit and on the rear extremity of the vehicle or load, when width is up to and including 14 feet 6 inches and exceeds one-half the roadway and travel is on 2 lane roadways with lane width 12 feet or more with sufficient
Kansas	Each vehicle transporting oversize manufactured houses or modular sections of buildings shall have an oversize warning sign attached to the rear of the manufactured home or modular section being transported.	All sections of the overwidth load creating the overwidth condition shall have attached to it a clean (no lettering) orange or red material that is not less than 12 inches square.	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.	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.
	Oversize and overweight loads shall have attached to the front of the transporting vehicle and to the rear of the load an oversize warning sign.		The amber light shall be mounted on the top of the towing vehicle and be readily visible at a distance of 1,000 feet.	Drivers of escorting vehicles escorting <u>superloads</u> shall become Kansas certified before operating in Kansas.
	Warning signs shall be readily visible from a distance of 500 feet from one half-hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset and shall be removed from the vehicle is empty or when the load being transported does not exceed legal dimensions.			An escort warning sign or oversize warning sign shall be attached 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

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	<p>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 brush stroke of not less than 1 1/8 inches.</p>			
	<p>Oversize warning sign" means a yellow sign, with black letters and having minimum dimensions of seven feet long and 18 inches high. The letters "oversize load" shall be visible on the face of the sign and shall be a minimum of 10 inches high, with a brush stroke of not less than 1 2/5 inches.</p>			
Kentucky	<p>Sign is required when the load exceeds 10' 6". Oversize sign must be in black letters w/yellow background. Lettering shall have a brush stroke of 1.4" and be fastened to the front of the power unit and rear end of the towed unit and/or rear of the load</p>	<p>Required on all 4 corners of the oversize load. An additional flag is to be displayed at the widest point of the load also.</p>	<p>If the overhang of the load exceeds 10' 0", an amber flashing light required on the overhang.</p>	
Michigan	<p>Signs are not required, except on mobile homes</p>	<p>Flags shall be located at all four corners and extremities of oversize loads</p>	<p>Two flashing lights are required on all loads over 80' in length.</p>	
		<p>Flags shall be 18" square and red in color</p>	<p>Lights must be visible for at least 200'</p>	

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Minnesota	The sign shall be a minimum of 18" high by 84 inches long. (Minimum 12" wide by 60" long on escort vehicles). Letters on the Oversize Load signs shall be 10 inch series with a 1 3/8 inch stroke and black in color.	Vehicles and/or loads exceeding 9' in width and/or 65' in length are required to display red, orange or yellow day-glo warning flags that are a minimum of 18' square, mounted on brackets or standards or are otherwise securely attached at the widest point of the overlegal width load and shall be clearly visible to the approaching and overtaking vehicles.	<u>SIGNAL LIGHTS</u> - Whenever the load being hauled restricts or impairs the visibility of the stoplights or turn signals of the hauling or transporting vehicle, a "light bar" shall be mounted on the rear of the load. Such light bar shall be clearly visible to overtaking traffic and shall display operative taillights stoplights and turn-signals controlled by the driver of the towing vehicle.	Warning lights must be turned off, covered or removed when not escorting or moving a load.
	The "Oversize Load" sign shall be the required sign on the towing vehicle, toed vehicle, and/or load. "Wide Load" and "Long Load" signs must be used on escort vehicles. Signs shall not extend beyond the line of the fender on the left side nor more than 6 inches beyond the fender line on the right side of the escort vehicles.	Warning flags shall be attached to long loads, beams, trusses poles or pipes that are transported using a pole dolly or steering dolly, warning flags shall be attached to the underside of the load spaced not more than 20 feet apart.	Warning lights mean an electric light operated by battery or other power source that is visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet under normal atmospheric conditions.	Instead of a pair of warning lights that flash simultaneously, either one or two strobe light(s) or rotating beacon light(s) with amber or yellow lens may be used both to the front and to the rear of the vehicle.
	Sign panels shall be lighted when used between the hours of sunset to sunrise. Lighting shall be such that it will enable reading the sign from a distance of 500 feet	Projections extending more than 3 feet ahead of the front bumper or 4 feet or more to the rear of the bed of the vehicle shall display a red warning flag not less than 18 inches square.	Two simultaneously flashing lights spaced as far apart as practical, shall show white or amber to the front and amber or red to the rear and shall flash at a flash rate of 60 to 90 flashes per minute. The warning light lens shall be a minimum of 4" in diameter or have a minimum lens surface area of 12.5 square inches.	Flags must be clean and in good repair and shall have not less than two corners attached to the bracket or standard.

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	Oversize load signs are required on all vehicles which exceed 12 feet in width, 95 feet in length. The sign shall be kept clean, legible and in good repair when in use		Amber or yellow lights must be used in lieu of or in conjunction with flags for night movements at all points which require flags for daylight movement. These lights are to be used in addition to any warning lights required for oversize loads.	Wide load or long load sign must be displayed on top of escort vehicles.
	The appropriate sign shall be mounted on or above the escort vehicle, cab of the towing vehicle, and on the rear of the trailing vehicle or load, not less than 5 feet above the ground.		Two warning lights are required front and rear, to be used in conjunction with the "Oversize Load" signs and these lights show simultaneous flashing white or amber to the front and either amber or red to the rear.	
			Warning lights shall be mounted a minimum of 20 inches above the ground and shall be clearly visible to approaching and overtaking traffic.	
	"Oversize Load" sign shall be displayed on the front and/or rear of the escort vehicle which ever is applicable . A sign mounted on the top of the vehicle with printing on both sides is acceptable.	Two red or orange flags must be mounted on the front of the vehicle if lead escorts accompany, on the rear of the vehicle if rear escorts accompany		

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Missouri	The minimum size of the "Oversize Load" sign on escort vehicles shall be 5' wide X 1' high with 8" high letters	Loads over 10' 6" in width must have a red or orange fluorescent flags (18" square) displayed at extreme ends or projections of all overwidth and overlength loads and on all four corners of manufactured homes and extremities.		
	An oversize load sign shall be displayed on the front and rear of manufactured homes.			
	Signs (on loads) must be 7' wide by 18" high with 10" letters. All signs must be of yellow background with black letters and visible for 300' Legend shall read "Oversize Load."			
Nebraska	Signs shall read "OVERSIZE LOAD." Signs other than those required in 001.10 (escort vehicles), shall be no less than seven feet long and eighteen inches high. The signs shall be constructed of yellow material with black letters at least ten inches high.	Flags shall be a plain red cloth or orange fluorescent cloth marker having minimum size of eighteen inches square in good repair and free of printing or other markings.	The light bar attachment must comply to the following: (1) The light bar must have a left and right rotating amber, yellow or flashing light of a sufficient size to be seen at a distance of not less than eight hundred (800) feet. (2) The light bar attachment shall be mounted on the rear of the load at a height sufficient to be seen clearly by traffic to the rear.	A light bar may be allowed in lieu of an escort vehicle on divided highways when expressly stated on the permit.
	An "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign shall be displayed on the front and/or on the rear of the escort vehicle and the sign shall be no less than five feet (5') long by twelve inches (12) high with eight-inch (8") high letters.	Flags shall be required on all four corners of the escort vehicle.	Escorts shall have a revolving amber, yellow or flashing light mounted a minimum of fifty-three inches above the roadway on top of the vehicle and be of sufficient size to be seen at a distance of 800 feet.	

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	Signs shall be present on loads more than ten (10) feet in width, signs stating "OVERSIZE LOAD" must be displayed to the front of the hauling vehicle and to the rear of the load.	On loads more than twelve (12) feet in width, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, must be displayed on all four corners of the vehicle or vehicles.	Lights may be required on escort vehicles for the movement of overdimensional vehicles or loads when such vehicles or loads exceed: (1) eight feet six inches (8' 6") in width, ninety (90) feet in length or fourteen feet six inches (14' 6") in height.	
Ohio	OVERSIZE LOAD signs shall be displayed on any vehicle/load exceeding the maximum legal length limit, Or if the width is 10 ft. or greater. Or If the height is 14 ft 6 in or greater. The signs shall be in good repair, 7 ft long and 18 in high, and read "OVERSIZE LOAD". Signs shall be displayed on the front and rear.	Flags shall be 18" square, red or orange in color, in good repair and free of any printing or markings.	Clearance and side marker lights, in addition to the standard lights required by law, need not mark the extremities of an oversize load unless it is specially authorized to move at night or when visibility is less than 1000 feet, in which case the additional lighting shall be at the widest or longest extremities.	All permitted vehicle's standard vehicle lighting must be in operating order.
	The signs shall be in good repair, 7 ft long and 18 in high, and read "OVERSIZE LOAD".	Flags shall be securely fastened by at least one corner or securely mounted on a staff.	Lights shall be amber flashing or rotating lights of such intensity as to be clearly seen at a minimum distance of 1,000 ft. in normal daylight conditions.	The headlights must be on during the movement of any overdimension vehicle/load.
	The sign shall be yellow with black lettering. The letters shall be at least 10 in high with a brush stroke of 1.41 in. If series E Modified is used, then the brush stroke shall be 2 in.	Overwidth vehicles and loads shall bear two flags at the widest extremities of the vehicle/load as well as one flag at each corner of the vehicle/load.		Signs shall be displayed on the front and the rear of loads

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		Overlength vehicles/loads with a rear overhang of 4' or greater shall display a single flag at the extreme rear of the overhang.		
Wisconsin	OVERSIZE LOAD sign must be mounted on the roof of the escort vehicle. Lettering must be black, 10" high and 1 1/2" wide. Background must be yellow or amber. The whole sign must be at least 5' wide and 1' high.	If overlength a single flag at rearmost. If overwidth flags at each corner and widest projection. Flags must be red or orange and 18" square.	Escort Vehicles shall have 2 amber warning lamps or a strobe on or above the roof. Lights must be visible at 500'. Lights must be visible 360 degrees.	An escort warning sign or oversize warning sign shall be attached 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
	If vehicle exceeds 10' 0" an "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign must be displayed front and rear. The sign must be at least 7' long 18" high with letter no less than 10" high and 1 1/2" wide., background color is yellow.		Oversize Vehicles: Lights required for operation during hours of darkness. Any overwidth requires amber lamp visible from front and side at foremost edge of projection; red lamp at rearmost. Longer projections require more red lamps and reflectors. Warning lamps are as required on permit, they can be amber or strobe.	