



Fact sheet



Heavy Vehicle National Law

If your project involves the operation of heavy vehicles on roads in certain states in Australia, you may require authorisation for road access under this law.

1. What approvals do I need?

Certain heavy vehicles require authorisation to access the road network across each jurisdiction in Australia, except for Western Australia and the Northern Territory, in accordance with the Heavy Vehicle National Law (the National Law). The National Law is contained within the schedule to the [Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012 \(Qld\)](#) and generally regulates vehicles over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass.

Depending on mass and dimension, the following heavy vehicles may require an access permit or notice:

- agricultural vehicles
- oversize overmass vehicles
- special purpose vehicles
- freight-carrying vehicles
- buses
- vehicle carriers
- livestock vehicles
- Performance-Based Standards vehicles.

A [fact sheet](#)^[PDF] outlining definitions and examples of each of these heavy vehicle types is available from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR).

The type of authorisation required will depend on the class of heavy vehicle and the jurisdiction of operation. To determine which requirements apply to your vehicle, please refer to [guidance](#) on the NHVR website.

2. Who provides the approvals?

As the administrator of the National Law, the NHVR processes permit applications and regulates heavy vehicles across the Australian Capital Territory, New

South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria.

As part of the permit or notice application process, various approvals may be required from [third parties](#) including electricity companies and rail authorities.

Heavy vehicles operating on roads in Western Australia and the Northern Territory are subject to different rules and legislation. Approval requirements are overseen by the relevant regulatory authority in those jurisdictions.

3. How do I apply for the approvals?

Applications for permits are made online using the [NHVR Portal](#). Please refer to the NHVR website for detailed [guidance](#) on the application process.

Different jurisdictions may have specific application requirements and approval processes. Details can be found within the individual [Acts and Regulations](#) that apply the National Law in each jurisdiction.

4. More information

National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

Further information on National Law requirements for heavy vehicles is available on the NHVR [website](#).

The NHVR can be contacted by email at info@nhvr.gov.au.

Major Projects Facilitation Agency

If you would like assistance to identify potential Australian Government regulatory approvals required for your project, please refer to the [Major projects help tool](#) self-assessment.

The MPFA team can be contacted by email at MPFA@industry.gov.au.