

Higher Mass Limits

What are Higher Mass Limits?

Higher Mass Limits (HML) allows particular heavy vehicles to access additional mass entitlements providing:

- operators of vehicles or combinations running HML on tri-axle groups are accredited under the Mass Management Module of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (with an accreditation label fitted to the hauling unit); and
- vehicles are fitted with certified road friendly suspension; and
- vehicles are on an authorised route.

HML provides a significant increase in the productivity of road freight transport vehicles.

Limits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law

Below are standard axle mass limit increases for vehicles fitted with certified road friendly suspensions under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL).

Type of axle group	Maximum mass permitted under GML	Maximum mass permitted under HML
Tandem axle group	16.5t	17t
Tri-axle group	20.0t	22.5t
Single drive axles on buses	9.0t	10.0t
Six tyred tandem axle groups	13.0t	14.0t

Road friendly suspension

To be eligible for HML, vehicles must be fitted with certified road friendly suspensions on the axle groups being loaded to HML.

A list of certified road friendly suspension systems is available on the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure's website [here](#).

Road friendly suspension systems reduce the impact of laden axles on road pavements.

Intelligence Access Program

The Intelligence Access Program (IAP) is a national program developed in partnership with Australian road agencies. It uses satellite tracking and wireless communication technology to remotely monitor where and when heavy vehicles are being operated on the road network.

In Queensland and New South Wales transport operators running HML must participate in IAP. For more information about the requirements of IAP, please refer to this [information sheet](#).

Authorised routes

When operating at HML, operators must ensure that the route is authorised for their particular vehicle.

The NHVR Route Planner is an interactive online map service which displays authorised routes for use by heavy vehicles.

Please note the networks shown on Route Planner are indicative only and should be confirmed using the relevant state road transport authority mapping site.

Operators also need to ensure they consult the relevant notices to identify all conditional and route requirements.

More information about the Route Planner can be found [here](#).

Permit Applications

Where an operator wishes to:

- seek expanded HML access (that is, access roads beyond [authorised routes](#)); and/or
- use an HML vehicle configuration that is not currently covered by a notice

Then the operator must apply to the NHVR for a permit. If road manager consent is granted, a HML permit will be then be issued.

For more information:

Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au

Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe

Email: info@nhvr.gov.au

Phone: 1300 MYNHVR* (1300 696 487)

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