



Queensland Higher Mass Limits Operator's Guide

Queensland Higher Mass Limits Declaration 2019

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Introduction

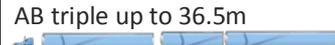
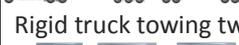
The Queensland Higher Mass Limits Operator's Guide outlines the requirements for operating a heavy vehicle under the *Queensland Higher Mass Limits Declaration 2019* (the Notice).

What is Higher Mass Limits?

Higher Mass Limits (HML) is a mass exception allowing an increase in mass limit for specific single axles or axle groups of heavy vehicles. To be eligible to operate at HML:

- the vehicle must be listed as an eligible vehicle in the Notice
- the single axle or axle group operating at HML must be fitted with certified road-friendly suspension system¹
- vehicles or combinations fitted with a tri-axle group and operating at HML on those axles must be accredited under the Mass Management Module of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS).

Eligible vehicles

Vehicles eligible to operate under the Notice. These images are for illustration purposes only, and a tri-axle dolly or tandem axle semitrailer is eligible.	
	Rigid truck operating without a trailer
	Prime mover and semitrailer
	B-doubles that meet the requirements of National Class 2 B-double Authorisation Notice 2019
A-double up to 36.5m  B-triple (Modular) up to 35m  B-triple up to 36.5m  AB triple up to 36.5m 	Type 1 road trains (up to 36.5m) that meet the requirements of the National Class 2 Road Train Authorisation Notice 2020
AB triple up to 44.0m  A-triple up to 53.5m  BAB quad up to 53.3m  ABB quad up to 53.5m  Rigid truck towing two trailers up to 47.5m 	Type 2 road trains (up to 53.5m) that meet the requirements of the National Class 2 Road Train Authorisation Notice 2020
Heavy vehicles operating under Performance Based Standards (PBS) scheme, including quad-axle combinations.	

¹ Certified road-friendly suspension system means a suspension system certified as a road-friendly suspension system by the Vehicle Safety Standards Branch of the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Transport in accordance with *Vehicle Standards Bulletin (VSB) No. 11* (revised edition) published by that branch in July 2004 and as amended from time to time.

Eligible axle groups

Under the Notice, HML applies to the following heavy vehicle axle groups in Queensland:

- a 6-tyred tandem axle group
- an 8-tyred tandem axle group
- a tri-axle group
- PBS quad-axle group, as per the Vehicle Approval.

Note: In Queensland, tri-axle drive group (drive axle group with more than two axles) are ineligible under the Notice. Operators will need to apply for a permit for all vehicle types with a tri-axle drive group, including rigid and articulated configurations.

For information on how to apply for an HML permit, visit <https://www.nhvr.gov.au/road-access/access-management/applications/higher-mass-limits-permit>.

Axle group mass limits

The following table shows the maximum mass allowable on an axle or axle group operating at HML.

Table 1 Mass limits for single axles and axle groups

Axles	Axle group/tyres	Axle/vehicle details	Mass limit (t) GML	Mass limit (t) HML
	6-tyred tandem axle groups	Any eligible vehicle	13	14
	Tandem axle group Dual tyres	Any eligible vehicle	16.5	17
	Tri-axle group Dual tyres	Any eligible vehicle	20	22.5

Note: PBS axle groups and mass are as approved by the Vehicle Approval.

Road-friendly suspension

HML may only be applied to single axles or axle groups fitted with a certified road-friendly suspension system as per *Vehicle Standards Bulletin (VSB) 11—Certification of Road-Friendly Suspensions*.

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

Stated areas or routes

The Queensland networks approved under the Notice are published and maintained by the Queensland Government and located on the [Queensland Globe website](#). Table 2 provides an overview of the approved routes in the Notice.

Table 2 Routes and areas for eligible HML vehicles

Vehicle category	Routes or areas authorised for HML
General access	A general access vehicle may only use routes approved for HML.
B-double	A B-double may use the routes and areas that are approved for both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HML; and • Multi-combination routes.
Type 1 road train	A Type 1 road train may use the routes and areas that are approved for both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HML; and • Road train routes
Type 2 road train	A Type 2 road train may use the routes and areas that are approved for both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HML; and • Type 2 Road train routes.
PBS vehicle	A PBS vehicle may use the routes and areas that are approved for both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HML; and • Approved PBS routes as per approval.

Additional 500 metres approved HML access

An eligible vehicle operating under the Notice may operate up to a radial distance of 500 metres from the National Road Network onto an approved network listed in Table 3.

The Queensland National Road Network is located on the [Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications website](#).

There are two maps for Queensland: [National Land Transport Network Road Corridors – Queensland](#) and [Urban National Land Transport Network Road – Brisbane](#).

Table 3 HML 500 metres radial access

Configuration	Approved area/routes
23m B-double	An eligible 23m B-double may operate up to 500m from the National Road Network onto a connecting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23–25m B-double network • 25–26m B-double network • Type 1 or 2 road train network.
25-26m B-double	An eligible 26m B-double may operate up to 500m from the National Road Network onto a connecting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25–26m B-double network • Type 1 or 2 road train network.
Type 1 road train	An eligible Type 1 road train may operate up to 500m from the National Road Network onto a connecting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 1 or 2 road train network.
Type 2 road train	An eligible Type 2 road train may operate up to 500m from the National Road Network onto a connecting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 2 road train network.

Intelligent Access Program

Enrolment in the Intelligent Access Program (IAP) is a requirement of the Notice.

Vehicles must have an Intelligent Transport System (ITS) approved by Transport Certification Australia (TCA) installed for the purpose of IAP, for use by an IAP service provider to monitor the relevant monitoring matters for an IAP vehicle.

Each vehicle is subject to monitoring of the following by an ITS used by an IAP service provider:

- the roads on which the vehicle is to be used on those routes and networks indicated in the Queensland HML Network
- the times when the vehicle may be driven on the road under the Notice
- the maximum speed at which the vehicle may be driven on the road under the Notice
- any other information as agreed between the operator and the IAP service provider, including vehicle mass and configuration, system malfunctions, tampering and speed.

The Department of Transport and Main Road (TMR) is the point of contact for IAP in Queensland.

To enrol in IAP in Queensland, visit the [Queensland Government Intelligent Access Program](#) webpage.

Enquiries can be directed to TMR at:

IAP email: iapadmin@tmr.qld.gov.au

IAP hotline: 1300 753 427 (1300 QLD IAP)

Self Declaration Input Device

In Queensland, operators can elect to install a Self Declaration Input Device (SDID) that sends information to a certified IAP service provider.

The SDID requires the driver (or transport operator) to enter the:

- vehicle's configuration;
- number of axle in the configurations; and
- total mass of the vehicle or combination, including the mass of the hauling unit and any attached trailers, plus any load on board the vehicle or combination.

This information must be declared at the following times:

- at the start of the journey; and
- whenever there is a change in the vehicle configuration; and
- whenever there is a change in the total mass of the vehicle or combination, including the mass of the hauling unit and any attached trailers, plus any load on board the vehicle or combination; and
- whenever prompted by SDID, if a SDID is available in the vehicle.

Mass declaration requirements must be made through:

- the SDID in the vehicle that is certified by the TCA and linked to the IAP service provider; or
- an alternative method approved and certified by TCA.

IAP malfunctions

The operator must take all reasonable steps to ensure that, before a journey begins, the vehicle's driver is aware of their obligation to report to the operator any malfunction of the ITS fitted to the vehicle as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the malfunction.

The operator must act as soon as practicable after becoming aware of a malfunction of the ITS fitted to a vehicle listed under the Notice, and must report the malfunction to both:

- TMR (as a delegate for the NHVR):
 - Telephone – 1300 753 427 (1300 QLD IAP)
 - Email – iapadmin@tmr.qld.gov.au
- the IAP service provider, to develop a rectification schedule if applicable.

If an approved ITS has malfunctioned and is not rectified either as soon as practicable or as determined by the NHVR or its delegate, the Notice becomes invalid for the vehicle(s) affected by the malfunction.