



## Do I Need Oregon Operating Authority?

You need to establish an account to operate in Oregon when:

- Any one vehicle exceeds five temporary passes.
- A motor carrier account exceeds 35 temporary passes within one twelve month period.
- Operating trucks with a combined weight over 26,000 pounds.
- Operating trucks weighing 26,000 pounds or less and hauling for-hire.

For a list of vehicles exempt from motor carrier regulation, see [ORS 825.015 and 825.017](#).

## Who Needs a Temporary Pass?

If you do not have an established motor carrier account before operation you must get a temporary pass.

- You may only operate on temporary passes for a limited time per [Oregon Administrative Rule \(OAR\) 740-35-0015](#).
- Once you reach the limit of temporary passes, you will be required to provide a highway use tax bond and establish an account.

Vehicles operating in Oregon without a permanent plate will receive a Temporary Enrollment Document (TED).

- This TED is only valid until the vehicle receives their permanent plate. At that time, the motor carrier is required to call Commerce and Compliance Division (CCD) or login to your [Oregon Trucking Online](#) (TOL) account to amend their enrollment information.
- All TEDs expire on December 31 of each calendar year if the vehicle is not plated and enrolled by that time.

**Note:** Motor carriers are responsible for reporting and paying weight-mile taxes until a vehicle is canceled. To cancel a vehicle from the Weight-Mile Tax Program, call CCD or login to your TOL account.

## Do I need a U.S. DOT Number to operate?

Companies that operate commercial vehicles transporting passengers or hauling cargo in interstate commerce must be registered with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and must have a United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) Number. Also, commercial intrastate hazardous materials carriers who haul types and quantities requiring a safety permit must register for a U.S. DOT Number.

Visit the [FMCSA website](#) which includes an [interactive tool](#) to help you determine if you need a U. S. DOT Number.

## Does a farmer need a U.S. DOT number?

Yes. To obtain or renew transportation credentials including Oregon farm plates, the ODOT Commerce and Compliance Division requires a motor carrier operating vehicles in commerce with a GVWR or GCWR of 10,001 pounds or more to have a U.S. DOT number. This requirement follows Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations [Title 49 CFR, Part 390.19](#).

## How does a farmer obtain a U.S. DOT number?

Register for a U.S. DOT number online at the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration website.

- Go online to [apply for a U.S. DOT number](#).
- For website technical assistance, contact the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration office in Salem at 800 832-5660.

If you have registration questions, please call the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration at 503 399-5775 or 800 832-5660.

## How does a farmer get farm registration for a truck?

If you wish to register a truck as a farm vehicle in Oregon, follow these steps.

- 1) Complete a [Farm Certification Application](#).
- 2) Pay vehicle registration fees at a DMV office.
- 3) Call the ODOT Commerce and Compliance Division, Farm Certification Unit at 503-378-5203 if you have any questions.
- 4) More information is found within [ORS 805.300 — Farm vehicle registration; general requirements; fees](#).

Upon approval receipt of a completed farm application, you will receive:

- A 45-day temporary permit from the DMV allowing immediate use of the vehicle.

Upon approval of a completed farm certification application, you will receive:

- An approval letter from the Farm Certification Unit.
- Farm license plates and stickers will be mailed from DMV headquarters.

## How does a motor carrier determine truck registration weight?

The registration weight for a vehicle should be limited to the capacity of the vehicle and vehicle weight limits in Oregon.

The legal operating weight of a truck is determined by

- Tire size.
- The number of axles.
- The wheelbase of the truck.
- The combination of truck and trailer(s).

Legal weights are determined on the basis of:

- Gross allowable weight for single axles and tandem axles.
- Gross allowable weight for any vehicle, group of axles and combination of vehicles.

The weight limits in Oregon are:

- The maximum legal gross weight limit is 80,000 pounds.
- The gross weight of a single axle cannot exceed 600 pounds per inch of total tire width on the axle (limited also by manufacturer's sidewall tire rating), or 20,000 pounds, whichever is less.
- The gross weight of a tandem axle cannot exceed 600 pounds per inch of total tire width of the wheels on tandem axle, or 34,000 pounds, whichever is less.
- Combinations with a total gross weight over 80,000 pounds and up to 105,500 pounds must obtain an Extended Weight Permit.

**Exception:** Tow vehicles and mobile home toters may register the actual weight of the vehicle.

### **Need more information about extended weight and variance permits?**

Contact the [Commerce and Compliance Division](#) at 503-373-0000.

### **Why do I need both a registration weight and declared weight?**

The registered weight and declared weight are both needed for Oregon weight-mile tax purposes. Motor carriers with registered vehicles over 26,000 pounds must enroll in the Oregon Weight-Mile Tax Program to avoid paying a fuel tax at the pump.

- **Registration weight** is the heaviest loaded weight a vehicle will operate at during the registration reporting period, January 1 through December 31.
- **Declared weight** is the weight of the vehicle plus the load. It represents the heaviest weight that will actually be carried in a given configuration for the reporting period, either monthly or quarterly.

Carriers who plan to operate in excess of either their registration weight or declared weight:

- Must contact Commerce and Compliance Division staff in Salem at 503-378-6699.
- Use [Oregon Trucking Online](#) in advance to increase these weights.
- May not change declared weights on a weight-mile tax report.

**Exception:** Tow vehicles and mobile home haulers may register the actual weight of the vehicle. They may operate with declared weights higher than registration weights.

### **What are the different types of truck registration?**

**Commercial Registration** is for vehicles that are Oregon based and operate solely in Oregon. Registration fees are based on the heaviest weight of the vehicle with its load for the registration period (January 1 through December 31). To operate in another state or Canadian province, the carrier must purchase registration trip permits for that state.

See our [Vehicle Registration](#) web page for information and forms.

**Apportioned Registration** is for vehicles that will operate in more than one state or province, known as jurisdictions. Motor carriers must have either permanent or temporary registration in each of those jurisdictions.

See our [Motor Carrier Account](#) web page for forms.

**Temporary Registration** is for vehicles that do not have registration or that do not have Oregon listed on the cab card.

See our [Temporary Registration and Tax Enrollment](#) web page for registration instructions and forms.

## **How does a company close an Oregon account?**

Please follow the steps below to close an Oregon business account.

- 1) Contact the Commerce and Compliance Division in writing to request closure of your account and a refund of any bond or cash deposit and any outstanding credits.
- 2) Prepare to return all Oregon plates and cancel any vehicles registered in the Weight-Mile Tax Program. Your account cannot be closed until all tax liabilities have been satisfied
- 3) To avoid any penalties, you should file weight-mile tax reports through the date that the plates are returned and vehicles are cancelled.
- 4) Keep the Commerce and Compliance Division informed of any address changes until the account has been audited and closed.
- 5) Keep records for three years.

## **How can a carrier reinstate their account?**

Once all of the deficiencies are fulfilled, the account may be reinstated. See our [Report Your Taxes](#) web page for information on account reinstatement.

Find more answers to your questions on our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) web page.