

Motor Vehicle Division Information Memo # 19-22

2019 Legislation – Gross Weight for Special Farm Trucks

DATE: June 19, 2019

FROM: Sara Siedsma, Compliance Officer, MVD

TO: All Vehicle and Motor Carrier Services staff, Iowa County Treasurers and County Treasurer's staff

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains legislation enacted during the 2019 legislative session relating to the gross weight of special farm trucks.

SUMMARY

House File 769 amends Iowa Code chapter 321 relating to a "special truck" defined in section 321.1(75) as a truck used by a person engaged in farming to transport commodities for use in the owner's own farming operations by increasing the maximum gross weight registration of a special truck from 32 tons to 39 tons. By increasing the registration tonnage from 32 tons to 39 tons, while maintaining the existing fees per ton, owners of special trucks will be allowed to maximize the 25% registration weight tolerance to meet the legal weight limits. In other words, with the law change, a special truck will be able to utilize the 6 and 7 axle configurations in Iowa Code section 321.463 to operate on non-interstate highways at a weight of up to 96,000 pounds (38.4 tons + 25% is what equals 96,000 pounds). The bill also provides that the registration fee for a special truck in section 321.121 is \$25 for each ton over 20 tons and an additional \$10 for gross weight registration in excess of 38 tons, but not exceeding 39 tons. While the legislation maintained the per ton structure in the code for consistency, the last ton from 38 to 39 was priced equivalent to .4 of a ton, which worked out to \$10.

To further demonstrate the applicable special truck fees and weights, please review the table attached at the end of this memo.

The legislation is effective July 1, 2019.

LINK TO LEGISLATION

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGE/88/HF769.pdf>

CURRENT

Current law limits the gross weight tonnage for a special truck to 32 tons, but exempts special trucks from the maximum gross weight registration table in section 321.463(6) for commercial motor vehicles operating on noninterstate highways.

NEW

The new legislation raises the registration tonnage for a special truck from 32 to 39 tons and adds an additional registration fee of \$10 for gross weight registrations in excess of 38 tons, but not exceeding

39 tons. The legislation also strikes the exemption allowing a special farm truck to exceed the maximum gross weight registration table in section 321.463(6).

BUSINESS IMPACT

This directive will require us to adjust the registration fee calculations in ARTS for special farm trucks to account for the new tonnage limit up to 39 tons and the new additional \$10 fee. Please see the table at the end of this memo for additional information.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following questions and answers provide additional information that will be helpful to you and to customers.

WHY IS THE FEE FOR LAST TON \$10 WHILE THE FEE FOR EVERY OTHER TON IS \$25?

The intent of the legislation was to allow a special truck to utilize the 6 and 7 axle configurations in Iowa Code section 321.463 up to 96,000 pounds, and 38.4 tons + 25% is what equals 96,000 pounds. To keep the code consistent, the per ton structure was maintained but the last ton from 38 to 39 was priced equivalent to .4 of a ton, which worked out to be \$10.

IS THE CURRENT 25% WEIGHT TOLERANCE FOR A SPECIAL TRUCK BEING DISCONTINUED BY THIS LEGISLATION?

No. The 25% weight tolerance remains in the code and is not being removed by this legislation. Increasing the maximum tonnage to 39 tons will allow special trucks to take advantage of the existing provision in Iowa Code section 321.463 that allows trucks with 6 or 7 axles to operate up to 96,000 pounds on non-interstate highways.

Vehicle Weight	Full-Year Fee	Half-Year Fee	5% Tolerance (in Pounds)	25% Tolerance (in Pounds)
6 Ton	\$100.00	\$50.00	12,500	15,000
7 Ton	\$125.00	\$62.50	14,600	17,500
8 Ton	\$155.00	\$77.50	16,700	20,000
9 Ton	\$170.00	\$85.00	18,800	22,500
10 Ton	\$190.00	\$95.00	20,900	25,000
11 Ton	\$205.00	\$102.50	23,000	27,500
12 Ton	\$225.00	\$112.50	25,100	30,000
13 Ton	\$245.00	\$122.50	27,200	32,500
14 Ton	\$265.00	\$132.50	29,300	35,000
15 Ton	\$280.00	\$140.00	31,400	37,500
16 Ton	\$295.00	\$147.50	33,500	40,000
17 Ton	\$305.00	\$152.50	35,600	42,500
18 Ton	\$315.00	\$157.50	37,700	45,000
19 Ton	\$325.00	\$162.50	39,800	47,500
20 Ton	\$375.00	\$187.50	41,900	50,000
21 Ton	\$400.00	\$200.00	44,000	52,500
22 Ton	\$425.00	\$212.50	46,100	55,000
23 Ton	\$450.00	\$225.00	48,200	57,500
24 Ton	\$475.00	\$237.50	50,300	60,000
25 Ton	\$500.00	\$250.00	52,400	62,500
26 Ton	\$525.00	\$262.50	54,500	65,000
27 Ton	\$550.00	\$275.00	56,600	67,500
28 Ton	\$575.00	\$287.50	58,700	70,000
29 Ton	\$600.00	\$300.00	60,800	72,500
30 Ton	\$625.00	\$312.50	62,900	75,000
31 Ton	\$650.00	\$325.00	65,000	77,500
32 Ton	\$675.00	\$337.50	67,100	*80,000
33 Ton	\$700.00	\$350.00	69,200	*82,500
34 Ton	\$725.00	\$362.50	71,300	*85,000
35 Ton	\$750.00	\$375.00	73,400	*87,500

36 Ton	\$775.00	\$387.50	75,500	*90,000
37 Ton	\$800.00	\$400.00	77,600	*92,500
38 Ton	\$825.00	\$412.50	79,700	*95,000
39 Ton	\$835.00	\$417.50	81,900	*96,000

*A Special truck is able to utilize the 6 & 7 axle configurations in Iowa Code section 321.463 up to 96,000 pounds, and 38.4 tons + 25% is what equals 96,000 pounds. To keep the code clear-cut the per ton structure was maintained but the last ton from 38 to 39 was priced equivalent to .4 of a ton, which worked out to \$10.