

Operation Permit (MV1815) Information Sheet

Vehicles requiring the permit

Operation permits may be required for non-conforming vehicles restricted under the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) section 3.1 and Division 24 of the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations to incidental highway operation. These are generally light duty work utility vehicles, ATVs, snowmobiles, off highway motorcycles, golf carts and other vehicles designed primarily for off-road operation.

Depending on how these vehicles are used, they may be licensed: with a Restricted plate; licensed with an Off-Road Vehicle plate; or exempt from being registered, licensed and insured with ICBC. Division 24 sets out the specific circumstances for legal operation of these vehicles and circumstances requiring an operation permit (see table below for details).

Operator must obtain permit

When a permit is required, it must be obtained from the municipal police department or R.C.M.P. detachment stationed nearest to where the vehicle will be operated.

For a snowmobile operated on a Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail highway traverse, the permit may be obtained from any R.C.M.P. detachment responsible for any Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail highway traverse.

Police may issue permit and specify limitations and term of permit

A member of the R.C.M.P. detachment or a constable of a municipal police force may use their discretion: to issue the operation permit; specify limitations and conditions of operation within the permit (for example, time of day, days of week, areas of operation); and specify how long the permit is valid, for a period of up to two years.

If the vehicle will be operated on the untravelled portion of a highway in an unorganized area of BC, the district transportation manager responsible for the transportation district where the vehicle is operated may require that additional limitations and conditions be added to the operation permit.

Police may order permit stock by faxing a requisition to the ICBC Burnaby Warehouse at 604-320-2051.

Police may cancel permit

An operation permit may be cancelled by the officer who issued the permit or their chief constable or detachment commander, as the case may be, or their designates.

Enforcement

If an operation permit is required, the operator must operate the vehicle in accordance with the limitations and conditions specified in the operation permit and carry the permit with the vehicle.

Number plate	Restricted use	Restricted highway operation	Permit requirement
ORV plate and validation decal or Restricted plate and validation decal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off road, business or pleasure 	Restricted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossing highway where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> traffic crossing a highway, with speed limit of 100 km/hr or less, is controlled by a stop sign or traffic light; and traffic crossing a highway, with speed limit over 100 km/hr, is controlled by a traffic light Loading and unloading vehicle to and from another vehicle in a parking lot Other highway operation as authorized by the permit 	Permit required for any highway operation outside controlled crossings and parking lots if displaying an ORV plate. If displaying a Restricted plate, an operation permit is also not required for controlled crossings and parking lots but other operations without permit are allowed (see next row)

Number plate	Restricted use	Restricted highway operation	Permit requirement
Restricted plate and validation decal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farming, • landscaping, • maintenance or • industry 	Restricted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highway crossing • Untravelled part of highway • Travelled part of highway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in a designated area – within 100 metres of the worksite or further if used for sweeping or plowing highway 	Permit required unless vehicle is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a fork lift • used in a designated area, university or college campus, or on a highway intersecting these properties with a speed limit of 50 km/hr or less or less, and is used by or on behalf of the property owner/operator • used for public works on highway with speed limit of 50 km/hr or less
	General transportation on limited access island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility vehicles only (for example, golf carts or side by side ATV's) • Restricted to highways on limited access islands 	Permit required for operation on limited access Island Highway with speed limit > 20 km/hr
	Law enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted to highway crossing, designated areas, limited access islands and untravelled portion of highway 	No permit required
	Golf cart not owned or leased by golf course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted to highway crossing between two parts of same golf course or golf course parking lot or driveway 	No permit required
No plate— Exempt from registration, licensing, and ICBC insurance. Owners must have TPL insurance with limit that is not less than that required for similar vehicles that are not exempt. This coverage is not available from ICBC.	Work purpose, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • industrial, • maintenance or • landscaping 	Restricted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highway crossing that intersects worksite • Untravelled part of highway at worksite • Travelled part of highway next to worksite for loading or unloading the vehicle • Worksite on travelled part of highway that is closed to the public • Parking lot or driveway where vehicle is operated by or on behalf of property owner/operator 	Permit required for vehicle with net weight less than 1,600 kg operated on highway with speed limit greater than 50 km/hr or less
	Golf cart owned or leased by a golf course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted to highway crossing between two parts of same golf course or golf course parking lot or driveway 	No permit required



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