Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Amendment Regulations 2026

Cindy Kiro, Governor-General

Order in Council

At Wellington this 22nd day of June 2026

Present:
Her Excellency the Governor-General in Council

These regulations are made under section 167 of the Land Transport Act 1998 on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Council.

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Regulations

1 Title

These regulations are the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Amendment Regulations 2026.

2 Commencement

(1) These regulations come into force on 6 August 2026.

(2) However, regulation 5(1) and (3) comes into force on 1 November 2026.

3 Principal regulations

These regulations amend the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999.

4 Regulation 4B replaced (Penalties in respect of overloading offences that are also breaches of permit conditions)

Replace regulation 4B with:

4B Penalties in respect of overloading offences that are also breaches of permit or 50MAX proforma conditions

If a condition of a permit or a 50MAX proforma issued under section 4 or 5 of Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2016 is breached because of overloading, the applicable penalties are—

(a) the penalty in Schedule 1 for breach of the applicable provision of section 2 or 4 of Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2016; and

(b) the penalty for overloading specified in the scale in the applicable table in Schedule 1A or Part 3 of Schedule 1B, as applicable.

5 Schedule 1 amended

(1) In Schedule 1, item relating to Tyres and Wheels 2001 (32013), replace the item relating to clause 4.1 with:

4.1	Responsibilities of operators	1,000	1,000	350	350

(2) In Schedule 1, item relating to Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2016 (41001), after the item relating to clause 2.4, insert:

4.3(12)(a) and (b)	Operator of 50MAX vehicle exceeds gross mass limits	5,000	5,000	2,000	2,000
4.3(13)	Breach of conditions	5,000	5,000	2,000	2,000

(3) In Schedule 1, item relating to Vehicle Standards Compliance 2002 (35001/1), replace the item relating to clause 10.2(1) with:

10.2(1)	Responsibilities of operators	500	500	200	200
10.2(1)	Operating vehicle without current warrant of fitness for	500	500	200	200

	period of less than 2 months				
10.2(1)	Operating vehicle without current warrant of fitness for period of 2 months or more	500	500	350	350

6 Schedule 3 amended

In Schedule 3, Part 2, paragraph 10, replace "Land Transport Authority" with "New Zealand Transport Agency".

Rachel Hayward,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the regulations but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations, which mostly come into force on 6 August 2026, amend the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999 (the **principal regulations**) to—

- create new offences in relation to exceeding weight limits and non-compliance with access restrictions, with penalties and infringement fees that are—
  - comparable to the penalties that apply for breaching critical conditions of a permit to exceed mass limits issued under Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2016; and
  - required following the removal at the same time of the requirement in that rule for operators of 50MAX vehicles (a type of high-productivity motor vehicle) to hold such a permit; and
- increase the infringement fees for operating a vehicle with non-compliant tyres and wheels; and
- increase the infringement fees for operating a vehicle with a warrant of fitness that has been expired for 2 months or more from $200 to $350.

Regulation 5(1) and (3) of these regulations (which relates to the increased infringement fees) comes into force on 1 November 2026 to align with amendments being made to Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Standards Compliance 2002 that come into force on that date.

The removal of the permit requirement in that rule has been accelerated as part of the Government's fuel crisis response to relieve compliance costs for the heavy vehicle industry, which is under strain due to high fuel costs.

Regulatory impact statement

The Ministry of Transport produced regulatory impact statements on 25 March 2026 and 8 May 2026 to help inform the decisions taken by the Government relating to the contents of this instrument.

Copies of these regulatory impact statements can be found at—

- https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/land-transport-rules-reform-programme-2025
- https://www.regulation.govt.nz/our-work/regulatory-impact-statements/

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