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# **WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme Application & Approval Process**

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Refer to the Main Roads website for the current version.

D16#365314  
September 2024

# Contents

<b>DOCUMENT CONTROL</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>AMENDMENTS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>RELATED DOCUMENTS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>2 IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>3 PBS VEHICLE DESIGN APPROVAL</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>4 PBS VEHICLE CERTIFICATION</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>5 OBTAIN A PBS PERMIT</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>6 CONTACTS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>7 PROCESS FLOW CHART</b> .....	<b>8</b>

## Document Control

<b>Owner</b>	Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services
<b>Custodian</b>	Manager Heavy Vehicle Road Network Access
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## Amendments

Revision Number	Revision Date	Description of Key Changes	Section
1	12 December 2023	Updated entire document	
2	13 August 2024	Updated wording to clarify in-vehicle telematics enrolment requirements	s. 5

## Related Documents

The following documents are related to the WA PBS Scheme and should be read in conjunction with this Application & Approval Process. These documents are available on the Performance Based Standards (PBS) page on the Main Roads website.

Document Name	Location
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Access Levels and Principles</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-access-levels.pdf?v=48f8d9">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-access-levels.pdf?v=48f8d9</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Application and Approval Process</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-application-and-approval-process-as-at-5-november-2020.pdf?v=4928b3">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-application-and-approval-process-as-at-5-november-2020.pdf?v=4928b3</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Assessment Results (Part A)</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Audit Framework</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-audit-framework.pdf?v=4928cb">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-audit-framework.pdf?v=4928cb</a>

Document Name	Location
<b>WA PBS In-principle Vehicle Design Approval Application</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standard-pbs-vehicle-access-agreement-or-in-principle-vehicle-design-approval-application.pdf?v=48eca9">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standard-pbs-vehicle-access-agreement-or-in-principle-vehicle-design-approval-application.pdf?v=48eca9</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Manufacturer's Declaration - Duplicate Vehicles</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Manufacturer's Declaration - Towing Vehicle</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Manufacturer's Declaration – Trailer</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) – Permit Application</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/performance-based-standards-pbs-permit-application.pdf?v=48ec78">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/performance-based-standards-pbs-permit-application.pdf?v=48ec78</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Road Train TEBS Voltage Test Procedure</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-pbs-scheme-road-train-tebs-voltage-test-procedure.pdf?v=4a65ab">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-pbs-scheme-road-train-tebs-voltage-test-procedure.pdf?v=4a65ab</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Standards and Vehicle Assessment Rules</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-standards-and-vehicle-assessment-rules.pdf?v=49a411">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-standards-and-vehicle-assessment-rules.pdf?v=49a411</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Trailer Manufacturer's Checklist</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Vehicle Certification Application</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standard-scheme-vehicle-certification-application.pdf?v=48ecd9">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standard-scheme-vehicle-certification-application.pdf?v=48ecd9</a>

Document Name	Location
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Vehicle Certification Rules</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-vehicle-certification-rules.pdf?v=4a647f">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/heavy-vehicles/getting-a-permit/pbs/wa-performance-based-standards-pbs-scheme-vehicle-certification-rules.pdf?v=4a647f</a>
<b>WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Vehicle Specifications (Part B)</b>	<a href="https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/">https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/heavy-vehicles/permit-order-scheme/PBS/</a>

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme is designed to enable the transport industry to achieve higher productivity and safety through innovative and optimised vehicle design. The WA PBS Scheme focuses on how well a vehicle behaves on the road, through a set of safety performance standards, rather than assessing a vehicle based solely on prescriptive mass and dimension limits.

The PBS Scheme also enables transport operators to access roads with vehicle combinations that would not otherwise be approved, such as longer PBS vehicles that are demonstrated to perform within the same envelope as shorter prescriptive vehicles.

The WA PBS Scheme may be followed if a transport operator only intends to use the PBS vehicle in WA. If the transport operator intends to use the vehicle outside of WA, the National PBS process should be followed.

## 2 IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL

Prior to engaging a PBS Assessor to conduct the full PBS assessment, the applicant may wish to apply for an In-principle approval to ensure their proposed vehicle design and required level of access will be approved by Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Services (HVS). All applications for an In-principle Approval will be assessed in accordance with the *WA PBS Access Levels and Principles* document.

To apply for an In-principle Approval, the applicant will need to submit a *WA PBS In-principle Vehicle Design Approval Application*, accompanied by a schematic drawing of the proposed vehicle design to HVS. The application will be assessed and if approved, an In-principle Vehicle Design Approval will be issued to the vehicle design owner, which will specify approved access, maximum mass limits and any other relevant conditions.

## 3 PBS VEHICLE DESIGN APPROVAL

To obtain a WA PBS Vehicle Design Approval, the applicant will need to engage an [Approved PBS Assessor](#) to complete a full PBS assessment, in accordance with the *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Standards and Vehicle Assessment Rules*.

The PBS Assessor will be required to complete and submit the *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Assessment Results (Part A)* form and *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Vehicle Specifications (Part B)* form to HVS for review to ensure all required standards have been met. If all standards are met, a WA PBS Vehicle Design Approval will be issued to the vehicle design owner. The vehicle can then be built in accordance with the approved design.

**Note:** PBS Assessors will charge a fee for their services. This is a commercial arrangement between the PBS Assessor and their client. Main Roads will not be liable for any costs associated with these services.

## 4 PBS VEHICLE CERTIFICATION

Once an approved vehicle has been built and is ready to be put into service, the applicant will need to submit a *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Vehicle Certification Application* to HVS, requesting for a vehicle certification to be conducted.

If the built PBS vehicle combination includes vehicle units that are not an approved vehicle model within the relevant manufacturer's *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Manufacturer's Approved Vehicle Models list*, an onsite certification inspection of the new vehicle model(s) is required.

If a PBS vehicle combination consists only of vehicle models that are all within the relevant manufacturer's *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Manufacturer's Approved Vehicle Models list*, the relevant manufacturer can declare that all vehicle units within the PBS

vehicle combination have been built with identical physical characteristics and an onsite certification inspection will not be required.

We will carry out all vehicle certifications in accordance with the *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme - Vehicle Certification Rules*.

Once a vehicle has been certified, the vehicle will be added to the manufacturer's *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Manufacturer's Approved Vehicle Models* list and a *WA Performance Based Standards Scheme (PBS) Certification Approval* will be issued to the transport operator.

## 5 OBTAIN A PBS PERMIT

Once the Certification Approval has been issued, the applicant will need to apply for the PBS permit and confirm that an approved telematics in-vehicle unit (IVU) has been fitted to the towing vehicle(s) by submitting the *WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Permit Application*.

If the applicant has not previously enrolled under the Telematics Monitoring Application for PBS WA (TMAPBSWA) or the former Intelligent Access Program (IAP), they will also need to submit the *TMAPBSWA Enrolment / Cancellation* form with their permit application. Visit the TCA website for information regarding TMAPBSWA.

The PBS permit is then issued for the vehicle combination, which will specify the approved access and operating conditions.

## 6 CONTACTS

For further information about the WA PBS Scheme please visit the Performance Based Standards (PBS) page on the Main Roads Website or contact Main Roads Heavy Vehicle Access Improvement and Policy Section via:

Email: [hvsnetworkaccess@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:hvsnetworkaccess@mainroads.wa.gov.au)

Telephone: 138 486

Website: [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au)

## 7 PROCESS FLOW CHART

### Step 1

- The applicant should contact a PBS Assessor and Main Roads to discuss the proposed vehicle and required level of access. If 'In-principle' approval is sought, an application must be submitted.
- For *In-principle Vehicle Design Approval* - **Approximate timeframe is 4 weeks from application.**

### Step 2

- To obtain a Design Approval for a proposed PBS combination, the applicant must engage an Approved PBS Assessor to conduct a PBS Assessment.
- The PBS Assessor will forward the completed PBS Assessment to Main Roads.
- Approximate timeframe - subject to the availability of the PBS Assessor.**

### Step 3

- Main Roads will review the PBS Assessment and issue a Design Approval to the Design Owner and include the PBS Assessor of the outcome.
- Approximate timeframe - 72 hours** to issue the Design Approval from when completed application is received, subject to all required information being supplied and the vehicle assessment meeting all relevant PBS Standards.

### Step 5

- Once the approved vehicle is built, the applicant will request HVS conduct a vehicle certification by submitting the *WA PBS Vehicle Certification Application*. **At least 4 weeks notice must be provided to ensure HVS availability.**
- Approximate timeframe - Allow 4 weeks for inspection, once inspected and all anomalies finalised, allow 48 hours** to issue a Certification Approval and WA Performance Based Standards (PBS) Scheme – Manufacturer's Approved Vehicle Models list.

### Step 6

- Once the Certification Approval has been issued, the applicant can then apply for a permit and confirm towing vehicle fitted with IVU by submitting the *PBS Permit Application and the TMAPBSWA- Enrolment /or Cancellation form (if needed)*.
- Approximate timeframe - 72 hours**, subject to confirmation of vehicle telematics unit being fitted to the vehicle.