

# SPECIALY CONSTRUCTED VEHICLE



SECRETARY OF STATE  
**POLICE**

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## EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Specially Constructed Vehicles requiring inspection in the State of Illinois must meet or exceed the requirements of Illinois law. Below are items a Specially Constructed Vehicle must display in operating condition:

- ✓ **Headlights** — At least two driving lamps, one on each side of the front of the vehicle, visible for at least 500 feet in the direction the vehicle is traveling. The lights must be dimmed upon the approach of another vehicle and satisfy U.S.D.O.T. requirements.
- ✓ **Taillights** — At least two red taillights mounted on the left rear and right rear of the vehicle, visible for at least 500 feet in the reverse direction.
- ✓ **Parking lights** — Two parking lamps on the front and two on the rear of the vehicle.
- ✓ **Stop lights** — Red or amber lights on the rear of the vehicle visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet to the rear in normal sunlight and activated upon application of the service brake.
- ✓ **Turn signals** — Electric turn signals for indicating right or left turns in the form of flashing lights at and showing to the front and rear of the vehicle on the side of the vehicle toward which the turn is made. The lamps showing to the front must be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as possible and, when signalling, emit a white or amber light, or any shade in between. Lamps on the rear must be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced as possible and, when signalling, emit a red or amber light.
- ✓ **Brakes** — Adequate brakes to control the movement of and to stop and hold the vehicle, including two separate means of applying the brakes, each of which effective to apply the brakes to two wheels on all first and second division vehicles.
- ✓ **Mirrors** — Located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear.
- ✓ **Windshield** — Front windshield in accordance with those standards described in Illinois law (625 ILCS 5/12-503).
- ✓ **Tires** — Pneumatic tires in reasonable and safe condition based on criteria described in Illinois law (625 ILCS 5/12-400).
- ✓ **Electric horn** — Capable of emitting a sound under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 200 feet.
- ✓ **Muffler** — Adequate muffler or exhaust system in constant operation and properly maintained to prevent any excessive or unusual noise.
- ✓ **Seat belts** — Two sets of safety belts installed in the front seat of the vehicle.
- ✓ **Suspension system-first division vehicle** — Must have a clearance between the frame and the ground of no more than 22 inches. The lowest portion of the body floor must not be more than 4 inches above the top of the frame. The vehicle may not be modified to cause the vehicle body or chassis to come in contact with the ground, expose the fuel tank to damage from collision or cause the wheels to come in contact with the body under normal operation.
- ✓ **Suspension system-second division vehicle** — Frame heights must be in accordance with Illinois law (625 ILCS 5/12-607.1).
- ✓ **Bumpers** — Front and rear bumpers must be designed to absorb the impact of a collision and to extend no less than the width of the respective wheel tracks' outermost distance. Maximum bumper height on first division vehicles is 22 inches; second division bumper height is based on gross vehicle weight rating.
- ✓ **License plate brackets** — Front and back plate brackets must be mounted horizontally. The rear bracket must be lighted to illuminate the rear plate and make it clearly legible from a distance of at least 50 feet to the rear.
- ✓ **Unsafe Condition** — It is unlawful for a person to operate any vehicle on any highway in such unsafe condition as to endanger any person or property, or which does not contain those parts, or is not at all times equipped with such lamps and other equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in Chapter 12 of the Illinois Vehicle Code.

If the Specially Constructed Vehicle is deemed unsafe in any way based on Illinois law, the inspection will be considered a "failure" and all original paperwork and fees may be returned to the applicant. The applicant may reapply after the vehicle is brought into compliance with Illinois law.