
324 VERTICAL CLEARANCE SIGNING

Arizona Revised Statutes §28-1094 states that the maximum height of a vehicle shall not exceed 13'- 6" except by permit. The MUTCD states that low clearance signing is intended for "clearances of less than the maximum vehicle height permitted plus 12 inches." Therefore, warning signs are intended for locations with vertical clearances of 14'- 6" and less to indicate the clearance between the roadway and the structure.

A rectangular vertical clearance sign (W12-2a) shall be installed overhead on the approach side of all overhead bridge structures or other overhead obstructions having a clearance of 14'- 6" or less. If practical, the W12-2a sign should be mounted on the structure in a location that minimizes the need for a lane closure to maintain it.

A Low Clearance Sign (W12-2) shall be installed in addition to the W12-2a in advance of structures or obstructions with clearances of 14'- 6" or less. For roadways other than freeways, the sign should be installed at the nearest intersecting road or wide point in the road at which a vehicle can detour or turn around. For freeways, the Low Clearance signs should be installed on both sides of each approaching roadway in advance of the exit immediately preceding the structure.

A rectangular vertical clearance sign (I101-1) should be installed overhead on the approach side of all overhead bridge structures or other overhead obstructions having an adjusted clearance greater than 14'- 6", but less than 16'- 0". If practical, the I101-1 should be mounted on the structure in a location that minimizes the need for a lane closure to maintain it. These signs provide supplemental information to operators of taller vehicles and require no additional signing. Adjusted clearance is typically the measured clearance minus 3" to account for vehicle oscillation. I101-1 signs may be placed at locations with clearances greater than 16'- 0" with the approval of the State Traffic Engineer or their designee.

The determination of vertical clearances is delegated to Bridge Group. Coordination with Bridge Group is required in determining clearances, for installing new clearance signing, or for replacing, revising, or removing existing signing.