CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle” includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle.

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle” includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
This section…

**39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads**

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

This section…

**39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles**

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.

This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condi-
tion and adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner
in violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 
20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two 
headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate 
license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side 
thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying 
white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on 
the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in 
addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more 
than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to 
comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the 
rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except 
a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all 
length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following 
lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification 
lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single 
lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front 
identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification 
lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the 
front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, 
two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with 
adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in 
over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, 
shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided 
for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect 
to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the 
front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such 
vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional 
height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or 
near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

   1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

   2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

   3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT
This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT
This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for
snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level
tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72
inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for
carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of
the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to
indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for
carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front
clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's
chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction
they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-
faceted turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be
visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as
close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a
horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab
is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the
center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front
identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend
below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or
semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by
the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum
likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be
securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required
direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a
headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an
intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will
strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75
feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn
vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. "Converter dolly" is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. "Highway" …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. "Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. "Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

   a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

      1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

      2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

   b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

      1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

      2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

   c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

   Source: 39:3-61.4

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

   When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

   Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. "Converter dolly" is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. "Highway" includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. "Motor vehicle" includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. "Operate" includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. "Vehicle" or "motor vehicle" includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet...
head; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
-ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

   g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

**COMMENT**

*39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps*

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b. All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by
the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail
lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a
vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp
providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving
lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in
working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe
place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which
event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected
and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility
Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving
lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface
upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no
part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane
in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a
motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity
greater than 300 candela power, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a
vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender
lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit
a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up
lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may
not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be
dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a
vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for
snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level
tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72
inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for
carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of
the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to
indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for
carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front
clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's
chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction
they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-
faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be
visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as
close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a
horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab
is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the
center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front
identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend
below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or
semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by
the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum
likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be
securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required
direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a
headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an
intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will
strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75
feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn
vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear. 

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b. All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every...
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet...
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other
vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual
care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to
any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall
be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the
same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously
flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning
lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as
practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of
color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less
than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear
turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types
mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be
equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other
vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the
omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the
vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one
shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required
lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any
nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or
combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal
when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light
is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an
identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be
turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again
when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

   a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

      1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

      2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

   b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

      1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

      2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

   c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

   Source: 39:3-61.4

   This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

   When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

   Source: 39:3-62.

   This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

d. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

   1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

   2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

   3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

   1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

   2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

   3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any non-required lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

**COMMENT**

**39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission**

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

**COMMENT**

**39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter**

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

**COMMENT**
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any
rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal
shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted.
Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible
from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is
not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level
of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance
of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level
on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be
sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may
select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or
high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet
ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity
portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under
any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the
eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with
multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without
glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head
lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500
feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no
case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which
the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet
ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands
at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be
equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two
turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two
turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered
passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop
lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals.
Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or
more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are
not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or
near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with
approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white
or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b. All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
This section…

39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.

This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rate candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by
the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a
vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp
providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving
lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in
working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe
place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which
event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected
and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility
Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving
lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface
upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no
part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane
in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a
motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity
greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a
vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender
lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit
a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up
lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may
not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be
dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a
vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
This section…

39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

   a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

      1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

      2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

   b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

      1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

      2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

   c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

       Source: 39:3-61.4

       This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

   When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

       Source: 39:3-62.

       This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

   e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

   f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

   g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the headlamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any
time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause
there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of
any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for
use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems
an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the
construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may
establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is
submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and
may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under
this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause
or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or
motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to
endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any
person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and
adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in
violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and
implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as
specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

   a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

   b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

   c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

   d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

   e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

   a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

   b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

   c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

   d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

   1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

   2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

   3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

   1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

   2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

   3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
This section…

39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. “Converter dolly” is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. “Highway” …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

   a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

   b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

   c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

   d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

   e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

   Source: 39:3-47.

   COMMENT

   This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

   a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

   b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

   c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

   d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b. All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plateillumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
39A:11-LR17. Maintenance of lamps and reflectors

All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.
CHAPTER 11. LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

39A:11-LR1. Definitions

a. "Approved" means approved by the Commission, in good working order, and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

b. "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

c. "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

d. "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam headlamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour and of vehicle loading.

e. "Converter dolly" is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

f. "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

g. "Highway" …includes streets.

h. "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

i. "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple-beam or asymmetric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are approaching within 500 feet or when signaled and designed so that the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

j. “Motor vehicle”…includes any combination of vehicles.

k. "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two or more distributions of light on the road.

l. “Operate” includes, driving, moving and parking of a vehicle…

m. "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give an indication by reflected light.

n. "Single beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one distribution of light on the road.

o. “Vehicle” or “motor vehicle”…includes combination of vehicles.

p. "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise; whenever rain, mist, snow or other precipitation or
atmospheric moisture requires the use of windshield wipers by motorists; and during any time when, due to smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or for any other cause there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-46; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR2. Powers of Commission

a. The Commission has authority to pass upon the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> with a view to its safety for use on a highway. The Commission may refuse registration to any vehicle that it deems an improper vehicle to be used upon a highway.

b. The Commission is authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the construction and equipment of any motor vehicle.

 c. The Commission may require the approval of any equipment or device and may establish the procedure which shall be followed when any equipment or device is submitted for approval. The Commission may disapprove any equipment or device and may, after a hearing, revoke or suspend for cause any certificate of approval issued under this article.

Source: 39:3-43.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR3. Scope of chapter

a. No person shall operate or be in custody of, nor shall any owner or lessee cause or knowingly permit to be operated on any highway, any motor vehicle <motor vehicle or motor-drawn vehicle> which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property. A motor vehicle operated or in the custody of any person shall, at all times, contain the parts or equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in this chapter, and shall not be equipped in any manner in violation of this chapter.

b. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to agricultural machinery and implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines or farm tractors except as specifically made applicable.

Source: 39:3-44; 39:3-45.

COMMENT

This section…
39A:11-LR4. Illuminating devices

   a. No person shall operate or be in custody of any motor vehicle on any highway unless such vehicle is equipped with the lamps and illuminating devices required for a vehicle of that class.

   b. No person shall operate or be in custody of any vehicle on any highway during the times when lighted lamps are required unless such vehicle displays the required lighted lamps and illuminating devices.

   c. No person shall use any approved electric lamp or similar device on any vehicle unless the light source of such device complies with the conditions of approval as to focus and rated candlepower.

   d. No person shall alter the equipment or performance of equipment of any vehicle approved at an official inspection station with intent to defeat the purpose of such inspection, and no person shall operate any vehicle with equipment so altered.

   e. Failure to use lighted lamps when lighted lamps are required may result in a fine not to exceed $50. In no case shall motor vehicle points or automobile insurance eligibility points pursuant to C:17:33B-14 be assessed against any person for a violation of this section. A person fined under this section shall not be subject to a surcharge under the New Jersey Merit Rating Plan.

Source: 39:3-47.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR5. Visibility

   a. Whenever this chapter requires lamps or devices to render objects visible from a certain distance or to be themselves visible at a certain distance, those provisions shall apply during the times when lighted lamps are required upon a straight level unlighted highway and under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

   b. The light from every required exterior lamp on a vehicle shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction set forth in (d) below except that the light illuminating a license plate shall cause the license plate to be clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Such visibility is not required when the light is obscured by another vehicle in a combination.

   c. Every required Class A reflector shall be visible between 100 and 600 feet, and every required Class B reflector shall be visible between 100 and 350 feet, when illuminated by the upper beam of headlamps.

   d. Light from every headlamp, other driving lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp and single-faced turn signal mounted on or at the front of a vehicle, and front parking light, shall be visible to the front. Light from every side-marker lamp and side reflector shall be visible to the side. Light from every stop lamp, tail lamp, clearance lamp, identification lamp, back-up lamp and reflector mounted on the rear, from every
turn signal mounted on the rear of a vehicle or the cab of a truck tractor, and from any rear parking lamp, shall be visible to the rear. Light from any double-faced turn signal shall be visible to the front and to the rear at the side on which such lamp is mounted. Light from any projecting load marker lamp or combination marker lamp shall be visible from the direction stated in the provision requiring it.

e. Approved single-beam headlamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is not loaded, none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes at a distance of 25 feet ahead. In no case shall the beam project higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead. The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

f. Approved multiple beam headlamps shall be arranged so that the driver may select between different distributions of light. The uppermost distribution of light, or high intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 350 feet ahead for all conditions of loading. The lowermost distribution of light, or low intensity portion, shall reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead. Under any condition of loading, none of the high-intensity portion of the beam shall strike the eyes of an approaching driver. Every New Jersey registered motor vehicle equipped with multiple beam headlights shall be equipped with a beam indicator, readily visible without glare to the driver, which shall be lighted only when the high intensity portion of the head lamps is in use. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within 500 feet, the distribution of light shall not project into the eyes of the oncoming driver. In no case shall the high-intensity portion projected beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling be aimed higher than the center of the lamp at a distance of 25 feet ahead, or higher than a level of 42 inches above the level upon which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 feet ahead.

Source: 39:3-48; 39:3-57; 39:3-58; 39:3-59; 39:3-60.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR6. Lamps and reflectors required on particular vehicles

a. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front with: at least two headlamps, an equal number at each side; two turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side. A New Jersey registered passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. Every vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing parking light as required in 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and visible to passing drivers. A motor vehicle need not be equipped with approved headlamps if it is equipped with two lighted lamps on the front displaying white or yellow lights without glare capable of revealing persons and objects seventy-five feet
ahead; provided, however, that no such vehicle shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour during the times when lighted lamps are required.

b. Every motorcycle shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if a side car or other extension is attached to the side thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of displaying white light to the front.

c. Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped on the front with two clearance lamps, one at each side, and three identification lamps, in addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. If the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at its center shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

d. Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (a) of this section:

1. On the front: 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps except that if the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front identification lamps;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear.

e. Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with two tail lamps, two stop lamps, two turn signals and two reflectors, one of each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination. Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a converted dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this section:

1. On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

2. On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps; and

3. On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamps and reflectors to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform spacing in the length of the vehicle.

f. Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:
1. On the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; three identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load being transported.

2. On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

3. On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support for the load, one red reflector.

4. Nothing in this subsection shall apply to a single axle, skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width designed to transport poles and owned by a public utility as defined in 48:2-13 except that such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, two tail lamps, one at each side; two stop lamps, one at each side; two turn signals, one at each side; two reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

g. Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one tail lamp, two reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-55; 39:3-61.

COMMENT

This section...

39A:11-LR7. Operation of lamps

a. Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by the Director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width, they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

b. All required lamps, except for stop lamps, shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever a vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps are required, except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided for in 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as provided for in 39:3-64 or 39:3-54. Turn signals on the side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate the turning movement.

c. Every stop lamp shall indicate, by a substantial increase in illumination, that the service brakes of the vehicle have been applied. Stop lamps are not required to be lighted when the emergency feature of trailer brakes is activated by means of either manual or automatic control on the towing vehicle. Stop lamps on a towing vehicle need not be lighted when service brakes are applied to the towed vehicle or vehicles only. No stop
lamp need be lighted as such when it is in use as a turn signal or when it is turned off by the turn signal switch.

d. License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp illuminates, with a white light, the rear registration plate on a vehicle and renders it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp providing such illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

e. Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby to restore the lamp to working order before moving the vehicle, in which event there is no violation of this chapter.

f. Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

Source: 39:3-61; 39:3-61.3.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR8. Optional lamps

a. A motor vehicle may be equipped with no more than two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height between 12 and 42 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. Every auxiliary driving lamp shall be aimed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the beam is directed beyond the left side of the lane in which the vehicle is traveling or more than 100 feet ahead of the vehicle. When a motor vehicle is equipped with a lamp on the front projecting a beam of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower, not more than a total of four lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.

b. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps, and not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side, which shall emit a white or yellow light without glare. A motor vehicle may be equipped with a back-up lamp which shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

c. A motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp which may not be used for driving purposes. Every lighted spot lamp shall be aimed so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

Source: 39:3-49; 39:3-51; 39:3-52; 39:3-53; 39:3-55; 39:3-56.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR9. Lights; color; permits

a. The color of light emitted or reflected by exterior lamps or reflectors on a vehicle shall be as follows:
1. White when the lamp is a headlamp, a spot lamp, illuminates a license plate or a destination sign, or is located on the outside limit of a side car or other attachment on a motorcycle;

2. Substantially white or amber when the lamp is a side-cowl or fender lamp, running-board or courtesy lamp, front parking lamp, back-up lamp, auxiliary driving lamp, or a turn signal on or facing the front;

3. Amber when a lamp or reflector not otherwise specified by this section is on the front or on either side other than at or near the rear;

4. Substantially red or amber when the lamp is a turn signal or a stop lamp on or facing the rear; and

5. Red when any other lamp or any reflector is on the rear or on either side at or near the rear, except as otherwise provided in 39:3-61(f) for a combination marker lamp.

b. Lamps and reflectors on projecting loads shall emit or reflect light with color as provided in 39:3-61.4.

c. No person shall operate any vehicle or equipment upon any highway equipped with any device or lamp capable of displaying a light of any other color than permitted by this section, except an authorized emergency vehicle, an authorized school bus, or a vehicle authorized by a permit issued by the Director.

d. A permit authorizing a vehicle to be equipped with a lamp capable of displaying a flashing light, except as provided in 39A:11-E8 (39:3-54), or a light of a color other than permitted by this section, visible from directly in front of the vehicle, may be issued by the Director when necessary for the reasonable and safe movement of traffic. The permit shall specify the type and color of the lamp and the conditions under which it may be displayed. The permit shall be valid only when its conditions are complied with and may be revoked by the Director whenever the conditions for its issuance no longer exist or on any other reasonable grounds.

Source: 39:3-50.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR10. Mounting of lamps and reflectors

Lamps and reflectors shall be mounted on a vehicle as follows:

a. Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and securely mounted on a permanent part of the vehicle. When two lamps or reflectors of the same type are required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be mounted at the same level and spaced as far apart laterally as practicable. The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured from its center to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

b. Headlamps shall be mounted so their beams are readily adjustable and their aim is not readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of operation at a mounted height of
between 24 and 54 inches. The height requirements shall not apply to trucks prepared for snowplowing.

c. Tail lamps shall be mounted at a height of between 15 and 72 inches. Eye-level tail lamps may be mounted outside the passenger vehicle at a height of no more than 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids as a cargo.

d. Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width and height of the vehicle so far as is practicable, except that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the extreme width of the cab. On flatbed vehicles and vehicles designed for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the direction they face.

e. Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on the side of a vehicle.

f. Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front shall be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

g. Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced between six and 12 inches apart. Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. No part of front identification lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle that is towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

h. Reflectors shall be mounted to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood of damage at a height of between 20 and 60 inches. A reflector may be securely installed on flexible strapping or belting if it reflects light in the required direction under conditions of normal operation.

Source: 39:3-61.1;

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR11. Restrictions on lamps; emergency warning lights

a. Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle other than a headlamp, spot lamp or auxiliary driving lamp which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300 candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

b. Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, motorcycles and motor-drawn vehicles except as a means for indicating a right or left turn; provided, however, any
vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning the operators of other
vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual
care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and shall display such warning in addition to
any other warning signals required by law. The lamps used to display such warning shall
be of a type approved by the Director. Warning lights in the front shall be mounted at the
same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously
flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. Warning
lights in the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as
practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of
color between amber and red. Warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less
than 500 feet at any time when lighted lamps are required. The two front and two rear
turn signals shall be flashed simultaneously to display a warning on vehicles of the types
mentioned in section 39:3-64.

c. In addition to the flashing devices permitted above, an omnibus may be
equipped with two flashing devices for the purpose of warning the operators of other
vehicles and law enforcement officials that an emergency situation exists within the
omnibus. These devices shall:

1. Be capable of activation by the operator of the omnibus;
2. Be of a type approved by the Director;
3. Be mounted one at the front and one at the rear of the omnibus; and
4. Display flashing red lights which shine on the roadway under the

vehicle.

Source: 39:3-54.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR12. Combination of lighting devices and reflectors

a. Any two or more lighting devices and reflectors may be combined into one
shell or housing except as stated below, provided that the requirements for each required
lighting device or reflector are met and that neither the mounting nor the use of any
nonrequired lighting device is inconsistent with this article in any respect:

1. No turn signal may be combined with another lighting device or
combination thereof capable of producing a greater intensity of light than the turn signal
when the turn signal is operating.
2. No turn signal may be combined with a stop lamp unless the stop light
is extinguished whenever the turn signal is in use.
3. No clearance lamp may be combined with a tail lamp or an
identification lamp.

b. Any lamps combined in the same shell or housing with a turn signal may be
turned off by the same switch that turns the signal on for flashing, and turned on again
when the turn signal is turned off.
39A:11-LR13. Lamps and flags on overhang loads

a. Whenever the load in or on any vehicle extends four or more feet beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed:

1. When lighted lamps are required, at the extreme rear end of the load two red lamps visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from the rear and located so as to indicate maximum width if the width of the overhang load exceeds 50% of the width of the vehicle. Otherwise, one red lamp is required, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang.

2. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than 18 inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section.

b. When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle transporting a load which projects beyond the sides thereof shall be equipped with additional lamps as follows:

1. The foremost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with an amber lamp visible from the front and side.

2. The rearmost edge of the projecting load at its outermost extremity shall be marked with a red lamp visible from the rear and side.

c. Load marker lamps shall conform to the requirements for clearance, side-marker and identification lamps.

Source: 39:3-61.4

39A:11-LR14. Lamps on parked vehicles

When lighted lamps are required, any vehicle parked or stopped in areas other than a business or residential district, upon a highway or the adjacent shoulder, shall be equipped with at least two lamps which exhibit a white, yellow or amber light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front and at least two lamps which exhibit a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear except when it is displaying vehicular traffic hazard warning signals as permitted by 39:3-54 or required by 39:3-64. Any lighted headlamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed.

Source: 39:3-62.
39A:11-LR15. Traffic hazard warning signals

a. Every truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer, 80 inches or more in width shall have a signaling system that signals turning movements as provided for in 39:4-126 and has a switching arrangement that will cause the two front turn signals and the two rear turn signals on the vehicle or combination of vehicles to flash simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The system shall be capable of flashing simultaneously with the engine operating or stopped.

b. When lighted lamps are required, no person shall drive on any highway any commercial motor vehicle 80 inches or more in width, or any omnibus having a carrying capacity of over 10 passengers except an omnibus operated within business or residential districts on a route under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, unless it carries ready for immediate use portable emergency warning devices as follows:

1. At least 3 liquid burning flares (pot torches), three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors, and at least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors are carried. A commercial motor vehicle transporting inflammable liquids in bulk or compressed inflammable gases or explosives as a cargo or part of a cargo shall carry red electric lanterns or portable red emergency reflectors.

2. Each device other than a fusee shall be capable of displaying light visible from a distance of at least 600 feet for a period of at least 12 hours.

3. Every flare, lantern, reflector or fusee shall be of a type approved by the Director.

c. When lighted lamps are required, any motor vehicle of a type mentioned in paragraph (b) above, other than motorbuses manufactured before January 1, 1960, inspected and approved as to construction and safety devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, or any combination of such vehicles, that become disabled on any roadway or shoulder, shall, except where there is sufficient lighting provided to make the vehicle discernible to persons on the highway at a distance of 500 feet, immediately upon learning of the disability, flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously as a vehicular traffic hazard warning signal. The vehicle shall continue such flashing until the portable emergency warning devices required in paragraph (b) of this section have been placed in use on the roadway, and during the time such portable emergency warning devices are being picked up for storage prior to movement of the vehicle or combination thereof.

d. The flashing warning signals may be given at other times during vehicle disablement in addition to but not in lieu of placement of portable emergency warning devices on the highway as required herein. The driver also shall immediately place on the traveled portion of the highway at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, a lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector. As soon thereafter as possible, and within the burning period of the fusee, the driver shall place three lighted liquid burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:
1. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby and toward traffic approaching in that lane;

2. One at a distance of approximately 100 feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the traffic lane occupied thereby; and

3. One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, not less than 10 feet to the front or rear thereof. If a lighted red electric lantern or a portable red emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles, it may be used for this purpose.

e. If the vehicle disablement occurs within 500 feet of a curve, crest of a hill or other obstruction to view, the driver shall place the warning device in that direction as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than 100 feet nor more than 500 feet from the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles. If the vehicle disablement occurs upon any roadway of a divided or one-way highway, the driver shall place one required emergency warning device at a distance of 200 feet and one such device at a distance of 100 feet to the rear of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles in the center of the lane occupied thereby; and one such device at the traffic side not less than 10 feet to the rear thereof.

f. If gasoline or any other inflammable liquid, combustible liquid or gas seeps or leaks from a motor vehicle stopped upon a highway, no portable emergency warning device producing a flame shall be lighted or placed except at such distance from any such liquid or gas as will assure the prevention of a fire or explosion.

g. Whenever a vehicle or combination of vehicles 80 inches or more in width is stopped or parked on a roadway or shoulder thereof at a time and under conditions where the immediate activating of vehicular traffic hazard warning signal is required in paragraph (c) of this section, the driver shall immediately flash the two front and two rear turn signals simultaneously and continue the flashing while the vehicle is so stopped or parked.

Source: 39:3-64.

COMMENT

This section…

39A:11-LR16. Lamps on other vehicles

All vehicles, including agricultural machinery or implements, road machinery, road rollers, traction engines and farm tractors specifically required to be equipped with lamps, shall, when lighted lamps are required, be equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and with a lamp exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, and such lamps shall exhibit lights to the sides of such vehicle.

Source: 39:3-65.
All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices required by this chapter shall be kept clean and in good working order.

Source: 39:3-66.