



TIRE CHAIN REQUIREMENTS IN GEORGIA (O.C.G.A. § 32-6-5)

IS YOUR COMMERCIAL VEHICLE or BUS EQUIPPED WITH TIRE CHAINS?

DID YOU KNOW that failing to use tire chains during certain weather emergencies is a violation of Georgia law?



OCGA § 32-6-5 allows the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) to close or limit access to any portion of road during a “Declared State of Emergency” for inclement weather conditions. When such conditions exist, GDOT shall erect or post signage of adequate size indicating that a portion of the state highway system has been closed or access has been limited.

Once access to a roadway has been limited due to inclement winter weather conditions, notice shall be given to motorists through posted signage that **motor vehicles must be equipped with tire chains**, four-wheel drive with adequate tires for existing conditions, or snow tires with a manufacturer's all weather rating in order to proceed on such section of roadway.

Operators of commercial vehicles (other than buses) with four or more drive wheels traveling on a road declared as limited access due to inclement winter weather conditions **shall affix tire chains to at least four of the drive wheel tires.**

Bus operators shall affix tire chains to at least two of the drive wheel tires before proceeding on a road with limited access due to inclement winter weather conditions.

Tire chains are defined by OCGA § 32-6-5 as metal chains which consist of two circular metal loops, positioned on each side of a tire, connected by not less than nine evenly spaced chains across the tire tread or any other traction devices capable of providing traction equal to or exceeding that of such metal chains under similar conditions.

A driver of a motor vehicle who causes an accident or blocks the flow of traffic while failing to comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of OCGA § 32-6-5, when access is limited on the state highway system due to a declared state of emergency for inclement weather conditions, shall be fined up to \$1,000.00.

*A Safety Message from the
Georgia Department of Public Safety
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