

# ON-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLE LAWS, BY STATE | While other laws vary from state-to-state, ALL 50 states require a motorcycle operator's license.



## EDWARDS LAW FIRM MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS EDWARDSMOTORCYCLELAW.COM | CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

	Safety Helmet	State-Funded Rider Ed	Eye Protection	Daytime Use of Headlight	Passenger Seat / Footrests	Two Abreast in Same Lane	Passenger Age (none under)	Helmet Speakers	Mirror: Left (L) Right (R)	Traffic-Actuated Signals	Turn Signals
Alabama	x	#			>/>	YES			x		
Alaska	x-4, 8		x-16	x	>/>	YES			x (L-R)		
Arizona	x-4	#-13	x-15		>/>	YES			x		
Arkansas	x-6		x	x	>/>	*	Age 8		x	with caution	
California	x	#-6,13		x-20	>/>	*		23	x		x
Colorado	x-4, 8	#-13	x		>/>	YES			x		
Connecticut	x-4, 9	#-4, 13	x-15	x-21	>/>	YES			x		
Delaware	x-1, 2, 5, 9	#-4, 13, 14	x		>/>	*			x		
Florida	x-26	#-12	x	x	>/>	YES			x		x
Georgia	x	#-13, 14	x-15	x	>/>	YES		24	x		x-32
Hawaii	x-1, 4	#-13	x-15		>/>	YES	Age 7		x		
Idaho	x-4	#-6, 13			>/>	*			x	1 full cycle	
Illinois		#-4, 13, 14	x-15	x	>/>	*		24	x	min 120 sec+	
Indiana	x-4, 9	#-13	x-4	x-18	>/>	YES			x-18	min 120 sec	x-18
Iowa		#-4, 13		x-19	>/>	YES			x		
Kansas	x-4	#-13, 14	x-15	x-20	>/>	YES			x (L)	with caution	x-28
Kentucky	x-3, 6, 9	#-13	x		>/>	*			x	min 120 sec	
Louisiana	x	#-13	x-15		>/>	YES	Age 5		x (L)		
Maine	x-3, 4, 31	#-12, 13, 14		x	>/>	YES			x		x-22
Maryland	x	#-4, 13, 14	x-15		>/>	YES		23	x (L, R)		38
Massachusetts	x	#-13	x-9, 15		>/>	YES		*	x		x
Michigan	x-35	#-4, 13	x-15, 17		>/>	YES			x		
Minnesota	x-4, 9	#-4, 13	x	x	>/>	YES		23	x	36	
Mississippi	x					*					
Missouri	x	#-13				*				36	
Montana	x-4	#-13		x	>/>	YES			x		
Nebraska	x	#-13, 14			>/>	YES					
Nevada	x	#-13, 14	x-15		>/>	YES			x (L, R)		x-28
New Hampshire	x-4	#-13	x-15		>/>	YES			x		x-28
New Jersey	x-1	#-13	x-9, 15		>/>	*			x		
New Mexico	x-1, 4	#-4, 13, 14	x-15		>/>	*			x		
New York	x	#-13	x	x	>/>	YES		23	x		x-29
North Carolina	x	#-13		x	>/>	YES			x	min 180 sec	
North Dakota	x-1, 4	#-11			>/>	YES			x		
Ohio	x-3, 4, 31	#-4, 13	x-15		>/>	YES			x		x-27
Oklahoma	x-4	#-13	x-15	x	>/>	*			x (L, R)	with caution	x-33
Oregon	x	#-6, 13, 14		x	>/>	YES			x		x
Pennsylvania	x-30	#-4, 13, 14	x	x-34	>/>	YES		24	x-25		
Rhode Island	x-3, 6, 8	#-12, 13, 14	x		>/>	YES		39	x		
South Carolina	x-1, 6	#	x-6, 15	x	>/>	YES			x	min 120 sec	
South Dakota	x-4	#-13, 14	x-15		>/>	YES			x		x
Tennessee	x	#-13, 14	x-15	x	>/>	YES			x	with caution	
Texas	x-6, 10	#-12, 13		x-22	>/>	*	Age 5		x		
Utah	x-4	#-13			>/>	YES			x (L)	min 90 sec	
Vermont	x-1	#-13	x-15		>/>	NO			x		x
Virginia	x	#-13	x-15		>/>	YES		24	x	37	
Washington	x	#-4, 13, 14	x-15	x	>/>	YES	Age 5		x (L, R)	1 full cycle	x
West Virginia	x-1	#-13, 14	x	x	>/>	*			x		x
Wisconsin	x-4, 9	#-4, 13	x-16	x	>/>	YES			x	min 45 sec	x
Wyoming	x-4	#-13		x	>/>	YES			x		
District of Columbia	x-1		x-15		>/>				x		
Puerto Rico	x		x	x	>/>				x		

- x** Required by law
- \*** No reference in administrative code or statutes
- #** Available for all eligible applicants
- Prohibited to use or possess
- >** Required if carrying a passenger
- +** No exemption for Chicago
- 1** Reflectorization required
- 2** Must have in possession
- 3** Required for novice riders
- 4** Required under age 18
- 5** Required under age 19
- 6** Required under age 21
- 7** Under age 15; or operating under a learner's permit; or operating less than one year with license/endorsement; or as a passenger of an operator required to wear protective headgear
- 8** Required for passengers
- 9** Required for instructional permit holders
- 10** Not required 21 and over with successful completion of rider training or \$10,000 medical insurance
- 11** Required under age 16
- 12** Required for first-time applicants
- 13** May waive skills test for successful completion of rider ed
- 14** May waive knowledge test for successful completion of rider ed
- 15** Required unless equipped with windscreen
- 16** Required unless equipped with windscreen which is 15" or higher above handlebars
- 17** Required at speeds over 35mph
- 18** Required for vehicles manufactured after 1/1/56
- 19** Required for vehicles manufactured after 4/1/77
- 20** Required for vehicles manufactured during or after 1978
- 21** Required for vehicles manufactured during or after 1980
- 22** Not applicable if manufactured prior to 1975
- 23** Single earphone only
- 24** To be used for communication purposes only
- 25** Required by inspection regulations
- 26** Not required 21 and over with a minimum of \$10,000 in medical insurance
- 27** Required if manufactured after 1968
- 28** Required if manufactured after 1973
- 29** Required if manufactured after 1985
- 30** Not required 21 and over with successful completion of rider training or two full years riding experience
- 31** Required for all passengers of operators who are required to wear a helmet, regardless of the age or license status of the passenger
- 32** Required if manufactured on or after 1/1/1972
- 33** Required if manufactured on or after 1/1/2005
- 34** Required if manufactured on or after 1/1/1986
- 35** Not required 21 and over with a minimum of \$20,000 in medical insurance and 2 years of riding experience or successful completion of motorcycle safety course.
- 36** Affirmative defense
- 37** After 2 cycles or 2 minutes
- 38** Required for inspection
- 39** Cannot touch ear and must not impair hearing