



# Motorcycle Laws by State

Remember that while other laws vary from state-to-state, all 50 states require a motorcycle operator's license.

The AMA assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information included in this guide. Every effort has been made to ensure the information is accurate at the time of publication.

## Safety Helmet Legend

**Delaware:** requires helmets be worn by riders under 19 and all novice riders. All others must have helmets in their possession. All helmets are required to have reflectorization.

**Florida:** helmets not required for riders over 21 with a minimum of \$10K in medical insurance.

**Kentucky:** requires helmets of all instructional permit holders, novice riders & riders under 21.

**Maine:** requires helmets for all riders under 15, all instructional permit holders, all novice riders & all passengers of operators for whom a helmet is required.

**Pennsylvania:** helmets not required of riders over 21 with successful completion of rider training or two full years riding experience.

**Rhode Island:** requires helmets be worn by all novice riders, all riders under 21 & all passengers.

## Rider Ed Legend

\* Most states require both a knowledge test and a skills test for licensure.

## Eye Protection Legend

● required unless equipped with a windscreen that is at least 15" above handlebars.

◇ required unless equipped with windscreen

PH: required of all permit holders, regardless of equipment

35: required at speeds over 35 mph, regardless of equipment

## Daytime Headlight Use Legend

**Dates:** headlight use required for all vehicles manufactured during or after these dates.

**NOTE:** modulating headlights are permitted in all 50 states per federal regulation 49 CFR 571.108 S7.9.4

	Safety Helmet	State Funded Rider Ed *	Eye Protection	Daytime Use of Headlight (see legend for date information)
Alabama	Required	available		
Alaska	Under 18 & passengers		●	Use required
Arizona	Under 18	Completion waives skills test	◇	
Arkansas	Under 21		Required	Use required
California	Required	Req. under 21, waives skills test		1978
Colorado	Under 18 & passengers	Completion waives skills test	Required	
Connecticut	Under 18, permit holders	Req. under 18, waives skills test	◇	1980
Delaware	See legend	Req. under 18, waives both tests	Required	
Florida	See legend	Req. under 21, waives both tests	Required	Use required
Georgia	Required	Waives skills & knowledge tests	◇	Use required
Hawaii	Under 18, with reflectorization	Completion waives skills test	◇	
Idaho	Under 18	Req. under 21, waives skills test		
Illinois	Not required	Req. under 18, waives both tests	◇	Use required
Indiana	Under 18, permit holders	Completion waives skills test	Under 18	after 1/1/1956
Iowa	Not required	Req. under 18, waives skills test		after 4/1/1977
Kansas	Under 18	Waives skills & knowledge tests	◇	1978
Kentucky	See legend	Completion waives skills test	Required	
Louisiana	Required	Completion waives skills test	◇	
Maine	See legend	1 <sup>st</sup> time applicants, both waived		Use required
Maryland	Required	Req. under 18, waives both tests	◇	
Massachusetts	Required	Completion waives skills test	PH, ◇	
Michigan	Required	Req. under 18, waives skills test	◇, 35	
Minnesota	Under 18, permit holders	Req. under 18, waives skills test	Required	Use required
Mississippi	Required			
Missouri	Required	Completion waives skills test		
Montana	Under 18	Completion waives skills test		Use required
Nebraska	Required	Waives skills & knowledge tests		
Nevada	Required	Waives skills & knowledge tests	◇	
New Hampshire	Under 18	Completion waives skills test	◇	
New Jersey	Req. with reflectorization	Completion waives skills test	x-PH, ◇	
New Mexico	18 with reflectorization	Req. under 18, waives both tests	◇	
New York	Req. with reflectorization	Completion waives skills test	Required	Use required
North Carolina	Required	Completion waives skills test		Use required
North Dakota	18 with reflectorization	Required under age 16		
Ohio	Under 18 & novice riders	Req. under 18, waives skills test	◇	
Oklahoma	Under 18		◇	Use required
Oregon	Required	Req. under 21, waives both tests		Use required
Pennsylvania	See legend	Waives skills & knowledge tests	Required	after 1973
Rhode Island	See legend	1 <sup>st</sup> time applicants, both waived	Required	
South Carolina	Under 21, with reflectorization	available	Under 21, ◇	Use required
South Dakota	Under 18	Waives skills & knowledge tests	◇	
Tennessee	Required	Waives skills & knowledge tests	◇	Use required
Texas	21 with reflectorization	Req. under 18, waives skills test		after 1974
Utah	Under 18	Completion waives skills test		
Vermont	Req. with reflectorization	Completion waives skills test	◇	
Virginia	Required	Completion waives skills test	◇	
Washington	Required	Req. under 18, waives both tests	◇	Use required
West Virginia	Required	Waives skills & knowledge tests	Required	Use required
Wisconsin	Under 18, permit holders	Req. under 18, waives skills test	●	Use required
Wyoming	Under 18	Completion waives skills test		Use required
Dist. Of Columbia	Req. with reflectorization		◇	
Puerto Rico	Required		Required	Use required
Canada	Required			