

---

## Do I need registration and insurance ?

Each state has different regulations, here are some examples. If you would like us to add more states into the list, please send us the links.

### Moped and Scooter regulations

#### by State

##### California Mopeds or Motorized Bicycles

The California Motorcycle Driver Handbook describes two different types of motorized bicycles, or mopeds.

The first type is a two- or three-wheeled vehicle,

- Fully functional pedals for human propulsion.
- An internal combustion engine producing less than two gross brake horsepower with automatic transmission.

The "20 mph" classification of a moped may be driven without a license, proof of financial responsibility, or a moped license plate. The driver need only be 16 years old and wearing a properly fitting bicycle helmet.

(On the other hand, the quicker moped requires a Class M2 driver license and registration)

Furthermore, you will want to check with your insurance carrier on possible coverage regarding your moped.

To register your moped simply submit a Motorized Bicycle Instruction/Application form (REG 230) by mail or at you local DMV.

You can't ride your moped on freeways or any type of bike path or trail, unless local law has given permission. You can drive your moped in lanes designated for bicycles, but be considerate of other bikers.

##### Illinois

---

All vehicles in Illinois must be titled and registered if they travel on the roadways. This includes motorcycles, scooters,

and mopeds.

#### Title and Registration

The process to register a scooter or moped is the same as for motorcycle registrations. You must complete Form VSD-190, available only at your local Secretary of State office, and submit the appropriate documentation and required fees and taxes. It costs \$38 to register a moped or scooter and \$65 to title it.

#### License to Ride

You'll need to carry a Class L driver's license to ride a moped or scooter, as long as the engine displacement is less than 150 cubic centimeters. If the displacement is 150cc or more, you'll need a Class M license. Visit our Motorcycle License section for information about how to apply for these licenses.

#### Maine

[www.dmv.org/me-maine/other-types.php](http://www.dmv.org/me-maine/other-types.php)

#### Missouri

What are the licensing laws for motor scooters (under 50cc)? For Missouri.

Licensing for a scooter or moped depends on whether the vehicle meets the definition of a motorized bicycle. The Missouri statute definition of a motorized bicycle is as follows:

"Any two-wheeled or three-wheeled device having an automatic transmission and a motor with a cylinder capacity of not more than fifty (50) cubic centimeters, which produces less than three (3) gross brake horsepower, and is capable of propelling the device at a maximum speed of not more than thirty (30) miles per hour on level ground."

A motorized bicycle does not have to be registered with the Missouri Department of Revenue. However, you must have a valid driver license (though no motorcycle endorsement is required).

Missouri statute does not require a helmet to be worn when operating a motorized bicycle. Please contact your local law enforcement agencies for any county/municipal codes that deal with helmets and motorized bicycles.

Keep in mind that no motorized bicycle may be operated on any public thoroughfare located within this state that has been designated as part of the federal interstate highway system.

#### Mississippi

Titling a scooter or moped with the Mississippi Motor Vehicle Licensing (MVL) Bureau is optional, but you must register for a tag (license plate) if you plan to drive such a vehicle on the roadways. Most people go ahead and title the scooter or moped at the same time; you'll need a title to sell the vehicle

## Nevada Mopeds & Scooters

Mopeds in the state of Nevada have very specific requirements. To be classified as a moped, this vehicle:

- Must not produce more than 2 gross brake horsepower.
- Must not have an engine bigger than 50 cubic centimeters.
- Must not reach speeds greater than 30 mph on a flat surface.

A moped which meets all of these criteria does not require insurance or vehicle registration, but it must have all the proper safety equipment and you must carry a regular Class C or higher driver's license to operate in order to drive it on public streets.

[www.dmv.org/nv-nevada/other-types.php](http://www.dmv.org/nv-nevada/other-types.php)

## New-York

New York State's Vehicle and Traffic Law defines a limited use motorcycle as a "low-speed vehicle with two or three wheels." Under this interpretation mopeds and scooters are considered limited use motorcycles which means they must adhere to motorcycle registration and licensing laws.

### Mopeds and Scooters

The New York Department of Motor Vehicles (MVD) treats them very seriously. Mopeds and scooters, just like motorcycles, require full registration and a driver's license to operate.

To register you must visit a DMV office and bring:

- A completed Vehicle Registration/Title Application.
- A completed Statement of Transaction for Sales Tax, or proof of being tax exempt, or proof of having paid the sales tax.
- Proof of ownership. A Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin (MCO), a bill of sale, or a previous registration that was transferred over to you will suffice as rock-solid proof.

- Proof of identity.

- Cash, check, or credit card to pay all applicable fees.

#### Moped and Scooter Classifications

The DMV divides mopeds and scooters into three classifications (A, B, and C) based on top speed. Each class comes with specific requirements and restrictions.

Class A reaches top speeds between 30 and 40 mph, requires a class M/MJ license, and can operate in any traffic lane.

Class B reaches top speeds between 20 and 30 mph, does not require a specific license, and can only operate in either the right hand lane or along the shoulder.

Class C reaches top speeds of 20 mph or less, does not require a specific license, and can only operate in either the right hand lane or along the shoulder.

#### Texas

[www.scooterrevolution.com/index.php](http://www.scooterrevolution.com/index.php)

Other  
Need more information?

Check with your local Department of Motor Vehicles (unofficial site)

or try Cornell's "Statutes by state" site

[Back to Moped Laws](#)