

## Protective Apparel

Michigan law requires riders to wear an approved U.S. Department of Transportation helmet when riding on public roads. If the motorcycle is not equipped with a windshield, riders must wear shatterproof eye protection at speeds above 35 m.p.h.

Riders should also:

- Cover arms and legs completely
- Wear protective gear designed for motorcycle riding, even in summer
- Wear boots that provide support and protection well above the ankle
- Wear gloves for protection and for help gripping
- Wear brightly colored clothing with reflective material for greatest visibility



## MICHIGAN MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM



For more information on motorcycle safety, contact the Department of State at

**(517) 241-6850**  
or visit our Web site at:  
**[www.Michigan.gov/sos](http://www.Michigan.gov/sos)**



4000 Collins Road  
PO Box 30633  
Lansing, MI 48909  
**(517) 336-6477**  
[www.michigan.gov/ohsp](http://www.michigan.gov/ohsp)

*Not paid for with state funds. Paid for with funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation.*

Get your  
motorcycle  
endorsement  
and stay  
safe

Ride Safe  
for a Lifetime



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# Getting Your Motorcycle Endorsement is as Easy as **1-2-3!**

To legally ride a motorcycle on Michigan roads, you must have a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement "CY." Complete the following three steps to get an endorsement:

1. Visit a Secretary of State office to take the vision and written knowledge tests. The Michigan Motorcycle Operator Manual, available at any branch office or [www.Michigan.gov/sos](http://www.Michigan.gov/sos), is a valuable study guide for the written test. After passing, a Temporary Instruction Permit will be issued, allowing you to practice riding under supervision on public roads.
2. Pass a skills test from a third-party testing agency OR successfully complete a certified motorcycle safety course. Teens ages 16 and 17 **are required** to take a motorcycle safety course.
3. Present your completion certificate at a Secretary of State office. The "CY" endorsement will be added to your license.



## Motorcycle Skills Testing

Once you have a Temporary Instruction Permit and are comfortable with your riding skills, contact a third-party testing agency to schedule a skills test. The test must be completed on a safe, properly registered, equipped and maintained motorcycle.

When you pass, you will receive a completion certificate to obtain your endorsement.

A list of approved third-party testing agencies is available at Secretary of State branch offices or at [www.Michigan.gov/sos](http://www.Michigan.gov/sos).

## Motorcycle Safety Courses

Successful completion of an approved course will allow you to waive the skills test requirement. Courses are designed for novices and experienced riders. For additional course information or availability, visit [www.Michigan.gov/sos](http://www.Michigan.gov/sos) or the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Web site, [www.msfc-usa.org](http://www.msfc-usa.org).

## Riding Impaired

Riding a motorcycle requires a greater level of skill, dexterity, and concentration than driving a car. Alcohol and drugs should never be consumed before or during a ride. Your alertness and ability to react is critical in helping avoid crashes, injuries, or death.

## Driver Awareness and Responsible Riding

Motorcycles can be difficult for other motorists to see. Darting in and out of traffic and cutting over on the shoulder to avoid traffic tie-ups is dangerous and illegal. Obey traffic signs, signals, markings, and speed limits. Pay attention to the weather and adverse road conditions. Match your skills for the size of the motorcycle you choose to ride.

