

Motorcycle riders are encouraged to take a certified motorcycle safety training course. A motorcyclist under the age of 18 with a Michigan driver's license is required to take a motorcycle safety course, as well as anyone who fails the Rider Skills Test twice.

A valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement (CY) is required to legally ride a motorcycle on Michigan roadways. There are two methods for obtaining an endorsement.

METHOD 1

1. *Successfully complete an approved motorcycle safety course. Visit Michigan.gov/Motorcycling to locate a training site.*
2. *Students who complete their training will receive an email with instructions to either go online or visit a Secretary of State (SOS) office to obtain a CY motorcycle endorsement.*

METHOD 2

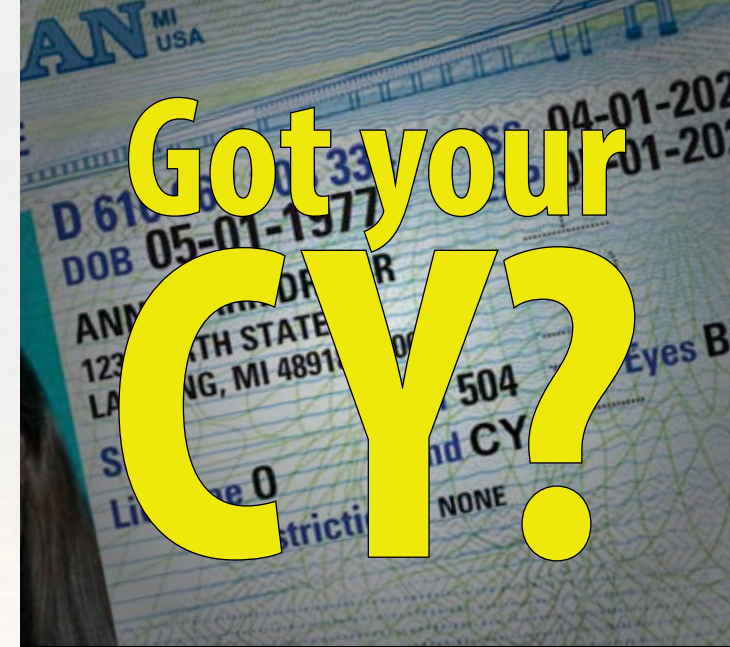
1. *Study the Michigan Motorcycle Operator Manual.*
2. *Visit an SOS office to take the vision and written knowledge tests and obtain a Temporary Instruction Permit (TIP).*
3. *Practice riding up to 180 days with an endorsed motorcyclist and other restrictions.*
4. *Schedule and pass a Rider Skills Test. The tester will submit the results to the SOS.*
5. *An email will be sent with instructions to go either online or into an SOS office to obtain a CY motorcycle endorsement.*



For more information on motorcycle safety, including skills testing locations and approved training programs, contact the Department of State at 888-SOS-MICH (888-767-6424) or visit Michigan.gov/Motorcycling



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**GET YOUR MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT
AND RIDE SAFELY**



SKILLS TESTING



After studying the *Michigan Motorcycle Operator Manual*, a rider should visit a Secretary of State (SOS) office to take the vision and written knowledge tests. Upon successfully passing the tests, the rider will receive a Temporary Instruction Permit (TIP) and should then practice riding for up to 180 days with an endorsed motorcyclist. Riders will also be

under other restrictions with a TIP. Please visit the website below for more details.

Once riders are comfortable with their skills, they need to schedule and pass a Rider Skills Test through a Driver Testing Business (DTB). The DTB will submit the Rider Skills Test results to the SOS. Riders will receive instructions through email to go either online or into an SOS office to obtain their CY motorcycle endorsement.

Visit Michigan.gov/Motorcycletest for more information.

THE SKILLS

There are basic but important skills that can help make riding a safer experience.

Negotiating Curves: Riders should slow down before a curve, look where they want to go, and press the handlebar in the same direction as the curve (this is called countersteering).

Proper Braking: About 70 percent of a motorcycle's stopping power is in the front brake. Squeezing the front brake and pressing down on the rear brake simultaneously will allow a rider to make smooth, controlled stops.

Awareness and Judgment: Riders should always be aware of their surroundings to minimize risk.

Search: Constantly scan for hazards.

Evaluate: Plan ahead on how to respond to potential hazards.

Execute: Make smooth adjustments to avoid hazards and reduce risk.

SAFETY COURSES—RECOMMENDED

Successful completion of a Basic RiderCourse (BRC), Basic RiderCourse 2 (BRC2), or Returning Rider Basic RiderCourse (RRBRC) allows a rider to waive the SOS knowledge test and the skills test requirement. Courses are offered throughout the state for novice and experienced riders.

Taking a safety course is the recommended method for obtaining a motorcycle endorsement. Some insurers offer discounts on motorcycle insurance premiums for riders who complete these courses.

Visit Michigan.gov/MI-REP to locate a training site.



PROTECTIVE GEAR

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation recommends riders dress for safety by wearing:

- A Department of Transportation (DOT)-compliant helmet and eye protection. A full-face helmet gives the most protection.
- Brightly colored, highly visible clothing and a light-colored helmet.
- Leather or other durable, protective clothing.
- Long sleeves, pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves.

Michigan Helmet Law: A helmet **MUST** be worn, unless a rider (or passenger) is over the age of 21 and has the proper qualifications and insurance.



Operating a motorcycle safely requires a combination of skill, experience, judgment, and risk management.

The BRC, BRC2, and RRBRC teach the basics of motorcycle riding, including:

- How to start and stop a motorcycle and operate motorcycle controls.
- What to wear to be safe on the road.
- Strategies to avoid trouble and stay safe.
- How to increase visibility and optimize lane position.
- Swerving and maximum braking technique.
- Negotiating curves and avoiding obstacles.



PENALTIES FOR THE UNENDORSED

A person riding without an endorsement is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by:

- Up to 90 days in jail or a \$500 fine, or both, for a first offense.
- Up to one year in jail or a \$1,000 fine, or both, for a second offense.

