



Motorcycle riders are encouraged to take a certified motorcycle safety training course. Motorcyclists under 18 years of age with a Michigan driver's license are 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. **Present a motorcycle safety course completion certificate** at a Secretary of State office, **apply for the CY endorsement, and pass a vision test.**

METHOD 2

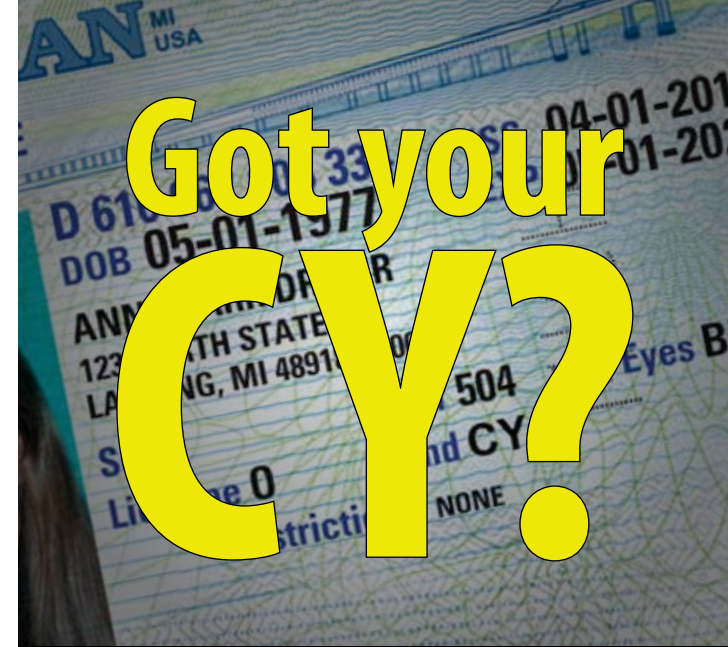
1. **Pass vision and written knowledge tests** at a Secretary of State office and **receive a Temporary Instruction Permit** that allows practice riding while under the supervision of an endorsed rider.
2. **Pass a skills test through a third-party testing organization.**
3. **Present a skills test certificate** at a Secretary of State office and **apply for the CY endorsement.**



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



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**GET YOUR MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT
AND RIDE SAFELY**



SAFETY COURSES

Successful completion of a Basic Rider Course or Returning Rider Course allows a rider to waive the skills and knowledge test requirement. Courses are offered throughout the state for novice and experienced riders.

Some insurers offer discounts on motorcycle insurance premiums for riders who complete these courses.

Visit Michigan.gov/motorcycling to locate a training site.



SKILLS TESTING

Once riders are issued a Temporary Instruction Permit and are comfortable with their skills, they can contact a third-party testing organization to schedule a skills test. The test must be completed on a safe, properly registered, equipped, and maintained motorcycle.

Upon passing the test, a completion certificate will be issued, allowing the rider to apply for their endorsement.

Visit Michigan.gov/motorcycletest for more information.



UPDATED LAW

Beginning February 7, 2017, 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.*



BASIC RIDER COURSE (BRC) AND RETURNING RIDER COURSE (RRC)

Operating a motorcycle safely requires a combination of skill, experience, judgment, and risk management. The BRC and RRC 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.*



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 seventy 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 Judgement: Always be aware of your surroundings to minimize risk.

Search: Constantly scan for hazards.

Evaluate: Plan ahead how to respond to potential hazards.

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

PROTECTIVE GEAR

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

- *A 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.*

Helmets are 37 percent effective in preventing fatal injuries to riders and 41 percent for passengers (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).

