

# MOTORCYCLES AND MOPEDS

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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For more information about, or for the differences between a moped, a motordriven cycle and a motorcycle please see the “Mopeds, Motor-Driven Cycles and Motorcycles Fact Sheet” by visiting [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us) and clicking on the **Motorcycle Information Center**.

### **Do I need a helmet or eye protection to operate a moped?**

No helmet or eye protection is required while operating a moped.

### **Do I need a Class M license to operate a moped?**

No; a moped may be operated with a Class C license.

### **Do I need a Class M license to operate a motor-driven cycle?**

Yes. If you're interested in obtaining a license to operate a motor-driven cycle, you can apply for a Class M learner's permit on a DL-5 form. After successful completion of the licensing exam, you will be issued a motorcycle license with the “8” restriction indicating that you're restricted to a motor-driven cycle.

### **How do I get the 8 restriction removed?**

You may call PennDOT at (717) 787-6453 and request a test authorization letter. Upon successful completion of a skills evaluation on a motorcycle, the “8” restriction will be removed.

### **My learner's permit has expired. How do I get an extension?**

You must complete the Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application (DL-5), submit the \$10.00 fee, and pass a vision screening and knowledge test. However, you may extend your learner's permit before it expires one time without taking the knowledge test again.

### **I lost my motorcycles learner's permit. How can I obtain another Permit?**

You must complete the Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application (DL-5) and submit a \$10.00 fee.

## **Can the learner's permit be issued at all Driver's License Centers or must the application be mailed to PennDOT?**

All motorcycle learner's permits must be applied for at a PennDOT Driver License Center.

## **Are there any restrictions on my motorcycle learner's permit?**

Yes. Motorcycle permit holders are only authorized to operate a motorcycle between sunrise and sunset. No nighttime driving is permitted. Motorcycle permit holders cannot carry any passenger other than an instructor properly licensed to operate a motorcycle. Also, if you do not currently hold another class of license (such as a Class C) then you can only operate a motorcycle under the instruction and immediate supervision of a licensed motorcycle operator.

## **What are the road test requirements?**

The skills test for motorcycle riders is given on a test pad at a PennDOT Driver's License Center. An "in-traffic" skills test is not administered. The skills portion of the test consists of a pre-trip inspection and the evaluation of the following skills: left circles, right circles, and figure eights.

## **What should I bring with me the day of the skills test? Do I need to bring a licensed driver?**

If you already have another class of license, you will need to bring the following: your valid PA motorcycle (Class M) learner's permit, valid PA driver's license, valid inspection sticker, valid registration card for the motorcycle, and proof that the motorcycle is currently insured. You will not need to be accompanied by a driver with a motorcycle license.

If you are not already licensed to operate another class of vehicle, you will need to be accompanied by a licensed motorcycle rider in addition to the requirements above.

## **Do I need to wear a helmet when riding a motorcycle?**

Pennsylvania law requires that any person who operates a motorcycle must wear protective headgear, unless he or she is over 21 years of age and has either two years of riding experience or has completed a motorcycle safety course approved by PennDOT or the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

**If you are exempt from wearing a helmet and your passenger is older than 21 years of age, your passenger is also exempt from wearing a helmet.**