

MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT FAQs



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Information for Obtaining a Motorcycle Endorsement

How old must you be to apply for a motorcycle endorsement?

16 years and 180 days of age with a valid Indiana driver's license.

If you are less than 18 years of age when you apply for a motorcycle endorsement, you must have a parent or guardian sign an [Agreement of Financial Liability](#).

What are the qualifications to add the motorcycle endorsement to my Indiana license?

Option One:

- Sign up and complete a Ride Safe Indiana (RSI)-authorized safety course at RideSafeIndiana.com.

Option Two:

- Visit your local BMV branch and successfully complete a written knowledge test to obtain your motorcycle permit.
- Take a motorcycle skills test at an authorized testing site. These can be found at RideSafeIndiana.com.
- Upon successful completion, visit a BMV branch with your signed and stamped motorcycle permit to receive your motorcycle endorsement.

You may be required to pass a [standard vision screening test](#) if your Indiana license is new or due for renewal.

What restrictions does Indiana recognize on motorcycle endorsements?

A driver with a motorcycle endorsement may have one of the following restrictions applied to his or her license.

- Three-wheel motorcycle
- Side car
- MDC - Class A.

To remove a restriction, the holder of the motorcycle endorsement must pass a riding skills test on a regular motorcycle.

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How do I transfer my out-of-state motorcycle license or endorsement?

New Indiana residents who hold a valid motorcycle endorsement or motorcycle only license from another state may transfer that endorsement to their Indiana driver's license after passing a motorcycle knowledge test based on the [Motorcycle Operator Manual](#).

How long is my motorcycle endorsement valid?

Your Indiana motorcycle endorsement is valid for the period of validity of your driver's license.

You may renew your motorcycle endorsement at any Indiana license branch up to one year before the license expires. If you are less than 18 years of age when you get your license, you must renew your license on or before 30 days after your 21st birthday.

Additional information on renewal requirements is located on the myBMV website at <http://www.in.gov/bmv/2758.htm>.

How do I replace my motorcycle endorsement?

The endorsement follows the driver's license. To replace your driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement, you may request a replacement online at myBMV.com, provided none of your information has changed since your last issuance, or visit a license branch.

If you removed your endorsement and want to get it back, it depends on how long the endorsement has been removed from the driver's license. If it's been 180 days to less than 3 years, a knowledge test is required. If it's been over 3 years, then a knowledge, skills, and vision test is required.

Motorcycle Riding Skills Test

Do I need a motorcycle learner's permit before I can take a riding skills test?

Yes, you must hold a valid motorcycle learner permit prior to conducting skills testing.

Are there any restrictions when operating a motorcycle with the motorcycle learner's permit?

If you hold a motorcycle learner's permit you may practice driving a motorcycle or motor driven cycle. You must wear a United States Department of Transportation-approved helmet when you ride, you may only ride during daylight hours, and you may not carry passengers.

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Do I need to bring my own motorcycle to take the riding skills test?

Yes. You must provide the motorcycle you intend to use for testing.

How do I schedule a riding skills test?

Schedules and locations can be found at RideSafeIndiana.com.

How much is the riding skills test?

\$10.00

What if I fail my riding skills test?

If you fail the riding skills test you must wait until the next business day before you may reattempt the test. If you fail the test three times you must wait two months before reattempting.

Motorcycle Operator Safety Education Courses

What is Ride Safe Indiana (RSI)?

RSI is the State of Indiana's authorized motorcycle safety program within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Our mission is to train more motorcyclists and educate motorists in order to decrease motorcycle fatalities and accidents. RSI offers a basic rider course and an advanced training course for new and experienced riders across the state of Indiana.

Who administers/conducts motorcycle safety courses in Indiana?

Motorcycle safety courses are administered by Ride Safe Indiana-approved partners.

How much does an RSI-authorized course cost?

Contractor schedules and fees can be found at RideSafeIndiana.com.

How long does the Basic Rider Course (BRC) take?

The course is approximately 20 hours. 7 hours are dedicated to classroom instruction and 13 hours to riding exercises in a controlled environment. The course is 2-3 sessions depending on the provider.

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Do I need to bring my motorcycle and helmet to the course?

No. Training motorcycles and helmets are provided. Regardless of your riding experience, you are required to wear a DOR compliant helmet during the riding portion of your class. RSI will provide the motorcycle for your course. Some providers offer loaner helmets. You should plan to provide your own.

Do I need to wear any special clothing or equipment to attend a course?

You should come to the riding portion with eye protection, a long sleeved shirt or jacket, full fingered gloves, long pants (jeans no holes) and sturdy over the ankle footwear. You will not be permitted to participate in the course without the required equipment.

I've never operated a motorcycle but I want to take a safety course. Do I need any riding experience prior to signing up?

The Basic Rider Course is designed for beginner riders. It is not essential to have any riding experience. Students must only at a minimum be able to ride a bicycle. You need to have the ability to balance and stabilize a two-wheeled vehicle. If you have not ridden a bicycle in a long time, it would be a good idea to get some practice before attempting to ride a motorcycle.

I have experience with operating a motorcycle but I've never received my endorsement. Do you offer any courses that qualify for more seasoned riders?

More experience riders may opt for the Basic Rider Course 2 or Advanced Rider Course. These courses are a more advance half-day course and you must use your own motorcycle and helmet. Contact your local training provider for more information on qualifications.

If I'm under 18 years old, can I enroll in the course?

Yes. You must be at least 15 years of age and have the permission of a parent or guardian to enroll in a course.

Do I need to get a motorcycle learner permit before I take the course?

No. Only a state issued driver's license or identification card is required to be presented in order to take a course.

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What if I don't pass the knowledge test or the riding skills evaluations at the end of the course?

If you do not pass the written knowledge test you are not allowed to re-test. You must re-take the safety course and successfully pass the written and riding skills test to be eligible for waiver of the BMV's written and skills test when applying for a motorcycle endorsement. You may reattempt the riding skills test one time the same day after a failed attempt.

Will I get a motorcycle endorsement after the course?

All successful course participants will be given State Form 54910. Visit your local BMV branch and provide staff with your safety course completion form—*State Form 54910*—to receive your motorcycle endorsement.

Can I receive a waiver of the riding skills and knowledge test if I complete a safety course in another state?

No. Out-of-state completion certificates are not accepted.

Are accommodations made for active US military personnel who complete a safety course in another state?

Yes. Please contact the Motorcyclist Safety Program email at jestokes@bmv.in.gov for assistance.