



RIDE SAFE INDIANA

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM

MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT FAQs

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Information for Obtaining a Motorcycle Endorsement

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

A motorcycle endorsement may be issued to Indiana residents who:

- Are at least 16 years and 90 days of age
- Hold a valid Indiana driver's license
- Have successfully completed a Ride Safe Indiana (RSI)-authorized motorcycle safety training course and driver education

For all other applicants, to add a motorcycle endorsement to your Indiana driver's license, you must:

- Be 16 years and 270 days of age and provide proof you:
 - Successfully completed a Ride Safe Indiana (RSI)-authorized motorcycle safety training course; or
 - Passed a motorcycle knowledge test based on the Indiana Motorcycle Operator's Manual, and passed a motorcycle riding skills exam at an authorized examination site.
 - These can be found online at [RideSafeIndiana.com](https://www.RideSafeIndiana.com).

If you are less than 18 years of age 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. Eligible courses can be found at [RideSafeIndiana.com](https://www.RideSafeIndiana.com).

Option Two:

1. Visit your local BMV branch and successfully complete a written knowledge exam to obtain your motorcycle permit.
2. Take a motorcycle skills exam at an authorized exam site. These can be found at [RideSafeIndiana.com](https://www.RideSafeIndiana.com).
3. 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](#) if your Indiana license is new or due for renewal.



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What restrictions does Indiana recognize on motorcycle endorsements?

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

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

To remove a restriction, the motorcycle endorsement holder must successfully complete a written knowledge exam to obtain a motorcycle permit and successfully complete a motorcycle skills exam on a standard motorcycle (other than the motorcycle types listed above) at an authorized exam site.

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

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

Motorcycle-only licenses must obtain a learner permit, log 50 hours of drive time, and pass a drive exam in addition to passing the motorcycle knowledge exam to obtain an Indiana operator's license with motorcycle endorsement.

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 two years before the license expires. If you are less than 18 years of age when you get your license, you must renew your license between your 21st birthday and no more than 30 days after your 21st birthday.

Additional information on renewal requirements is located at <http://www.in.gov/bmv/2758.htm> on [myBMV](#).

How do I replace my operator's license with motorcycle endorsement?

You may request a replacement online at myBMV.com, provided none of your information has changed since your last issuance. You may also request a replacement at any Indiana license branch.



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How do I get the endorsement again if I dropped it?

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 you removed the endorsement more than 180 days ago but less than three years ago a motorcycle knowledge exam, only, is required. If it has been more than three years a knowledge exam, skills exam, and vision screening is required or successful completion of a motorcycle safety course must be submitted. Refer to [RideSafeIndiana.com](https://www.RideSafeIndiana.com) for a list of approved providers.

Motorcycle Riding Skills Exam

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

Yes, you must hold a valid motorcycle learner's permit prior to completing a skills exam.

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

Yes, if you operate a motorcycle with a motorcycle learner's permit, only, you must wear a United States Department of Transportation-approved helmet, you may ride only during daylight hours, and you may not carry passengers.

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

Yes, you must provide the motorcycle you intend to use for the skills exam.

How do I schedule a riding skills exam?

Schedules and riding skills exam locations can be found at [RideSafeIndiana.com](https://www.RideSafeIndiana.com).

How much is the riding skills exam?

The fee to take the riding skills exam varies by provider.

What if I fail my riding skills exam?

If you fail the riding skills exam you must wait until the next business day before you may attempt the exam again. If you fail the exam three times you must wait two months before attempting the exam again.



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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. Its mission is to train motorcyclists and educate motorists in order to decrease motorcycle fatalities and accidents. RSI offers safety courses for new and experienced riders across Indiana, including an entry-level motorcycle safety course, an advanced-skills motorcycle training course, and a three-wheel motorcycle entry-level safety course.

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?

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

How long does the Entry Level Motorcycle Safety Course take?

The course is approximately 20 hours. Seven hours are dedicated to classroom instruction and 13 hours to riding exercises in a controlled environment. The course is two or three sessions, depending on the provider.

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

Training motorcycles are provided. Some providers offer loaner helmets, but you should plan to provide your own as you are required to wear a DOR-compliant helmet during the riding portion of your class.

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

You should come to the riding portion of the course with eye protection, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket, full-fingered gloves, long pants (jeans without holes) and sturdy over-the-ankle footwear. You will not be permitted to participate without the required equipment.



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

No. The Entry Level Motorcycle Safety Course is designed for beginner riders. At a minimum, you must be able to ride a bicycle. If you have not recently ridden a bicycle you may want to 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?

Experienced riders may opt for the Advanced Skills Motorcycle Training Course. Riders must bring their own motorcycles and helmets for this more advanced half-day course. Participants must possess a valid Indiana motorcycle endorsement or motorcycle permit.

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

Yes. You must be at least 15 years of age, hold a valid state-issued identification card or learner's permit and have the permission of a parent or guardian to enroll in a course.

Do I need to get a motorcycle learner's 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.

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

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

Will I get a motorcycle endorsement after the course?

All successful course participants will receive a graduation document. This document must be taken to any Indiana license branch to waive the knowledge and skills tests required to obtain a motorcycle endorsement.



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

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

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

Yes. Please send an email to MotorcycleSafety@bmv.in.gov for assistance.