



MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT FAQs

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Information for Obtaining a Motorcycle Endorsement

Indiana residents who hold a valid Indiana driver's license may obtain a motorcycle endorsement by completing one of the following options:

Option One

- Successfully complete an Entry Level Motorcycle Safety Course with an authorized Ride Safe Indiana provider

Upon completion of the course, graduation results are electronically submitted to the BMV by course providers

Option Two

- Successfully complete a motorcycle knowledge exam at a BMV branch and obtain a motorcycle permit.
- Pass a motorcycle skills exam at an authorized Ride Safe Indiana training location

Upon successful completion of the skills exam, visit a BMV branch with your signed and stamped motorcycle permit to gain your motorcycle endorsement.

If you are less than 18 years of age you must have a parent or guardian sign an Agreement of Financial Liability.

For more information on all offered Safety Courses and obtaining a motorcycle endorsement, please visit RideSafeIndiana.com.

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 motorcycle 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 RSI 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's 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 BMV 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.com

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

You may request a replacement online at myBMV.com, BMV Connect, or BMV branch provided none of your information has changed since your last issuance.

How do I get an 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 motorcycle knowledge exam, skills exam, and vision screening is required or successful completion of a motorcycle safety course must be submitted. Refer to 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 you must wear a United States DOT-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.

How much does the riding skills exam cost?

The fee to take the riding skills exam varies by provider. A list of providers can be found at RideSafeIndiana.com

What if I fail my riding skills exam?

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

Motorcycle Safety Education Courses

What is Ride Safe Indiana (RSI)?

RSI is the State of Indiana's authorized motorcycle safety program within the BMV. Its mission is to train motorcyclists and educate motorists in order to decrease motorcycle fatalities and collisions. 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 providers.

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 length of the course is dependent upon each 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 DOT-compliant helmet during the riding portion of your class.

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

Yes. 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.

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 Entry Level Motorcycle Safety Course is designed for beginner riders. At a minimum, you must be able to ride a bicycle.

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 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?

Upon completion of the course, graduation results are electronically submitted to the BMV by the course providers. Participants must then visit a BMV location to add the endorsement to their driver license.

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

Possibly. All out of state training documents must be submitted to MotorcycleSafety@bmv.in.gov for review.

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.