

## State Motor Scooter Registration and Licensing Requirements

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### Issue

Provide motor scooter registration and licensing requirements in all 50 states. This report updates OLR Report [2020-R-0257](#).

### Summary

The term “motor scooter” usually refers to two- or three-wheeled vehicles with seats, relatively small motors, and low top speeds. It is sometimes used interchangeably with “moped” (i.e. a vehicle with both bicycle pedals and a motor). In Connecticut, these vehicles typically fall under the definition of “motor-driven cycles,” which do not need to be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) before being operated on public roads.

In the 2025 legislative session, the legislature expanded the definition of motor-driven cycle, in part to clarify the classification of similar electric powered scooters. Effective October 1, 2025, a motor-driven cycle is any motorcycle, scooter, or bicycle with an attached motor that has a seat height at least 26 inches high and a gas, electric, or hybrid motor that has a capacity less than 50 cubic centimeters (cc) or a wattage of 3,700 or less or that produces 5 brake horsepower (BHP) or less ([PA 25-159](#), § 39). It excludes electric bicycles (e-bikes) and electric scooters (e-scooters), which are regulated more similarly to bicycles.

As micromobility (i.e. using small, low-speed vehicles for transport, particularly in urban environments) has increased in popularity and different types of vehicles and devices have come to market, the policy landscape pertaining to these vehicles has become increasingly complex and

continues to evolve. State definitions of vehicle categories and regulatory structures reflect this complexity. This report focuses on registration and licensing requirements for categories of vehicles similar to those that fall under Connecticut's motor-driven cycle definition; we exclude vehicles that fall into the e-bike or e-scooter categories from our comparison.

Thirty-six states appear to require all motor scooters to be registered before they may be driven on public roads, while 14 exempt a category of motor scooters from registration. Connecticut and South Dakota appear to exempt the broadest category of motor scooters from registration. Nearly all states require some form of license to operate a motor scooter. Some require just a standard driver's license, some require a motorcycle credential, and some have a special permit or restricted license for motor scooter operation. We identified four states that do not appear to require any license or permit for some motor scooters.

## **Connecticut**

### ***Legislative History of the Categorization of Motor Scooters and Motorized Bicycles***

Prior to 1976, scooters and mopeds were considered motorcycles. But in 1976, the legislature defined "bicycles with helper motors" and removed them from the laws' motorcycle requirements, instead treating them as bicycles. The legislature did so, in part, at the urging of moped manufacturers, distributors, and dealers, who touted mopeds as possessing more of the qualities of bicycles than motorcycles. In 2008, the legislature replaced "bicycle with helper motor" with the broader category of "motor-driven cycles," which were motorcycles, motor scooters, or bicycles with attached motors that had a seat height of at least 26 inches and a maximum output of 5 BHP. In 2013, the legislature changed the limit from 5 BHP to 50cc. (OLR Report [2015-R-0253](#) provides a detailed legislative history of these changes.)

In 2018, the legislature passed a law to create a category for electric bicycles (e-bikes) and generally require them to be treated like bicycles under the law ([PA 18-165](#)). By law, an e-bike is a bicycle that has operable foot pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts and falls into one of three classifications (see Table 1 below). In doing so, the legislature excluded e-bikes from the definition of motor-driven cycle. E-bikes do not require registration or a driver's license, but someone must be age 16 or older to ride a Class 3 e-bike.

**Table 1: E-Bike Classes**

Class	Motor Engagement	Motor Disengagement	Top Speed
<b>Class 1</b>	Only while the rider uses the foot pedals	When the rider stops pedaling or when it hits the top speed	20 mph
<b>Class 2</b>	While the rider pedals or with a throttle (i.e. they may be powered exclusively by the motor)	When the brakes are applied or when it hits the top speed	20 mph
<b>Class 3</b>	Only while the rider uses the foot pedals	When the rider stops pedaling or when it hits the top speed	28 mph

Source: [CGS § 14-1](#)

In 2025, the legislature modified the definition of motor-driven cycle again ([PA 25-159](#), § 39). They did so in part to address ambiguity in the treatment of two- and three-wheeled vehicles powered by an electric motor. Because the motor-driven cycle limit was measured in cc (a measurement that only applies to internal combustion engines), it was unclear how similar vehicles powered by an electric motor would be classified. Under the new law (which takes effect October 1, 2025), motor-driven cycle includes motorcycles, scooters, and bicycles with attached motors that have a seat height of at least 26 inches and a gas, electric, or hybrid motor that has a capacity less than 50cc or a wattage of 3,700 or less or that produces 5 BHP or less. The definition excludes vehicles classified as “e-bikes” or “electric scooters” (see below). The act also expanded the motor-driven cycle category to include motorized unicycles, which are one-wheeled vehicles with floorboards that can be stood upon while riding or with foot rests for the operator.

The 2025 law also created the category of “electric scooter,” defined as a two- or three-wheeled device that (1) weighs 100 pounds or less; (2) has handlebars; (3) is designed to be ridden in an upright or seated position; (4) is powered by electric and human power; and (5) has a maximum speed of 20 mph ([PA 25-159](#), § 38). It did so by replacing and expanding the prior definition of “electric foot scooter” to include heavier devices and allow them to have a seat. In 2019, when the definition was initially enacted ([PA 19-162](#)), this category included only scooters that riders stand on when riding. It was designed to regulate the growing use of e-scooters, especially through scooter rental companies (e.g., Lime, Bird, and Veo). Some of these companies now provide scooters with seats for rental, and the new law clarifies the treatment of these vehicles by carving them out of the definition of motor-driven cycle.

### ***Motor Scooter Registration and License Requirements***

Connecticut law requires motor vehicles to be registered with DMV, but it exempts motor-driven cycles and electric foot scooters (now “e-scooters,” see above) from the definition of “motor vehicles” ([CGS § 14-1\(59\)](#)). Thus, owners of scooters that fall under these categories do not need to register the scooters with DMV in order to operate them on public roads.

Connecticut law generally requires motor-driven cycle riders to hold a driver's license, but they do not need to hold a motorcycle endorsement. E-scooters are generally treated as bicycles under the law and do not require a driver's license ([CGS §§ 14-286. et seq.](#)).

Motor scooters that do not fall under the motor-driven cycle or e-scooter categories are generally considered motorcycles and require registration and a motorcycle endorsement. (If a scooter has a seat height of less than 26 inches, it is considered a "mini-motorcycle" and may not be operated on public roads or sidewalks ([CGS § 14-289j](#)). Thus, these vehicles cannot be registered.)

## Other States' Laws

### *Definitions*

The categorization of motor scooters and moped-type vehicles varies widely among states. The definitions are based on one or more of the following characteristics: (1) number of wheels; (2) the presence of a seat and its height; (3) the presence of a motor or the motor type (e.g., internal combustion engine (ICE) or electric); (4) the vehicle's or motor's maximum capacity or output; (5) the vehicle's top speed; (6) whether the vehicle has pedals or can be powered by human power; and (7) the power drive or transmission, and whether it is automatic or requires shifting.

In Table 2 below, for each state, we list each defined category that encompasses vehicles similar to those falling under Connecticut's motor-driven cycle category. Some states have a category for motor-driven cycles that matches the federal definition (i.e. a motorcycle with a motor producing 5 BHP or less ([49 C.F.R. § 571.3](#))). Federal vehicle safety regulations use this category to exclude these vehicles from certain equipment requirements that apply to motorcycles, and some states similarly do so in their equipment laws. We excluded this category for states that treat these vehicles the same as motorcycles for licensing and registration purposes.

Most states have adopted laws defining e-bikes with the three-class structure and regulating them similarly to bicycles ("[Overview of Electric Bike Regulations](#)," People for Bikes). Many states have also adopted laws regulating the use of e-scooters ("[States Roll Out Electric Scooter Laws](#)," National Conference of State Legislatures). Like Connecticut, most states generally exclude e-bikes and e-scooters from other categories of low-powered cycles and scooters. We excluded e-bike and e-scooter categories from the table below and noted if an included category explicitly excluded these vehicles (states laws may still exclude them even if they do not do so in the definition).

As in Connecticut, motor scooters that do not meet the definitions included in the table below and do not fall into the e-bike or e-scooter category are generally considered motorcycles and require registration and motorcycle credentials.

## ***Registration***

Thirty-six states require all motor scooters to be registered before they may be driven on public roads. In some states (e.g., California and Maryland), it is only a one-time registration that does not need to be periodically renewed like most vehicle registrations.

Fourteen states, including Connecticut, exempt a category of motor scooters from registration. Of these states, Connecticut and South Dakota appear to have the broadest category of registration-exempt vehicles. Eleven of these states have a limit on the speed capability of registration-exempt vehicles in addition to limits on engine power/capacity. The most common limit is a top speed of 30 mph, but the limits range from 20 mph to 35 mph. Additionally, five of these states limit the registration-exempt category to vehicles that have pedals for human propulsion in addition to the motor. South Dakota and Connecticut include non-pedal vehicles in their registration-exempt category and do not specify a speed limit. South Dakota's category has a 50cc limit, but it does not have a horsepower limit or specify a limit for electric-powered vehicles.

## ***Licensing***

The licensing requirements for operating a motor scooter or moped type vehicle vary considerably by state. As displayed in Table 2 below, in the majority of states, a standard driver's license allows someone to operate these vehicles. However, as discussed above, states do not uniformly define motor scooters and mopeds and many have multiple vehicle categories that cover these vehicle types. For example, a number of states (1) separately define "motor-driven cycles," which generally may have a more powerful motor, and (2) require operators to have a motorcycle license or endorsement (e.g., Arkansas and Idaho). Some states require a motorcycle license or endorsement for all motor scooters or mopeds, such as Mississippi, Texas, and West Virginia. Additionally, several states offer a restricted license or special permit that allows younger riders (typically age 14 or 15) to operate these vehicles (e.g., Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Indiana, and Iowa). In some of these states, older individuals without a driver's license are also eligible to apply for a restricted license or special permit.

We identified four states that do not appear to require any license or permit for at least some categories of motor scooters or mopeds (North Carolina, Oklahoma, Vermont, and Virginia). Additionally, some states generally allow local governments to regulate the operation of these vehicles within their jurisdiction. For example, motorized scooter operators in Oklahoma (1) do not need a driver's license unless one is required by local ordinance and (2) must be at least age 14 unless a local ordinance requires an older age.

**Table 2: State Registration and License Requirements**

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Alabama	“Motor-driven cycle” is (1) any motorcycle (including motor scooter) that is $\leq 150$ cc, $\leq 5$ BHP, and $< 200$ pounds and (2) a bicycle with a helper motor, other than an e-bike ( <a href="#">Ala. Code § 32-1-1.1</a> )	Yes	Motorcycle endorsement or restricted license	14- and 15-year-olds can apply for restricted motor-driven cycle license	<a href="#">Ala. Code § 32-12-22</a> ; <a href="#">Ala. Code §§ 40-12-240 &amp; -242</a> ; <a href="#">Ala. Admin. Code r. 810-5-1-.238</a>
Alaska	“Motor-driven cycle” is a motorcycle, motor scooter, motorized bicycle, or similar vehicle that is $\leq 50$ cc ( <a href="#">Alaska Stat. § 28.90.990</a> )	Yes	Standard driver’s license or motor-driven cycle permit	14- and 15-year-olds can apply for motor-driven cycle permit	<a href="#">Alaska Stat. §§ 28.10.011 &amp; 28.10.421(b)(4)</a> ; <a href="#">Alaska DMV</a>
Arizona	“Moped” is a bicycle with a helper motor, excluding an e-bike and certain scooters, that (1) is $\leq 50$ cc and $\leq 1.5$ BHP and (2) has a top speed $\leq 25$ mph ( <a href="#">Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 28-101</a> )	Yes	Any class of driver’s license		<a href="#">Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 28-2513</a>
Arkansas	“Motorized bicycle” is any bicycle, excluding an e-bike, with an automatic transmission that displaces $\leq 50$ cc “Motor-driven cycle” is any vehicle, other than a motorized bicycle, that (1) has up to three wheels and a seat for the rider and (2) is $\leq 250$ cc ( <a href="#">Ark. Code § 27-20-101</a> )	<u>Motorized Bicycles</u> : No <u>Motor-Driven cycles</u> : Yes	<u>Motorized bicycle</u> : Standard driver’s license, motorcycle license, motor-driven cycle license, or motorized bicycle certificate <u>Motor-driven cycle</u> : Motorcycle license or motor-driven cycle license	14- and 15-year-olds can apply for motorized bicycle certificate or motor-driven cycle license	<a href="#">Ark. Code §§ 27-20-105, -106, &amp; -111</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
California	<p>"Moped" is any two- or three-wheeled device with (1) fully operable pedals (or none if powered solely by electrical energy), (2) an automatic transmission, (3) a motor producing &lt; 4 gross BHP, and (4) a top speed ≤ 30 mph.</p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" is a motorcycle with an engine displacing &lt; 150cc (excluding a moped)</p> <p>(<a href="#">Cal Veh. Code §§ 405 &amp; 406</a>)</p>	Yes (but a moped registration is one-time)	<p><u>Moped</u>: M2 (moped) or M1 (motorcycle) license/endorsement</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: M1 motorcycle license/endorsement</p>		<p><a href="#">Cal. Veh. Code § 12804.9</a>;</p> <p><a href="#">California DMV Motorcycle Handbook</a>;</p> <p><a href="#">California DMV: Motorcycles, mopeds, and scooters</a></p>
Colorado	<p>"Low-power scooter" is any self-propelled vehicle with (1) three or fewer wheels, (2) no manual clutch, and (3) a motor either ≤ 50cc or ≤ 4,475 watts. It excludes e-bikes and e-scooters</p> <p>(<a href="#">Colo. Rev. Stat. § 42-1-102</a>)</p>	Yes	Standard driver's license		<p><a href="#">Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles</a></p>
Connecticut	<p>"Motor-driven cycle" is any motorcycle, motor scooter, or bicycle with helper motor (but not an e-bike or e-scooter) that has (1) a seat height ≥ 26 inches and (2) a gasoline, hybrid, or electric motor that has a capacity &lt; 50cc, has a wattage of 3,700 watts or less, or produces ≤ 5 BHP</p> <p>(<a href="#">CGS § 14-1</a>, as amended by <a href="#">PA 25-159</a>, § 39)</p>	No	Standard driver's license		

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Delaware	<p>"Moped" is a pedal or non-pedal bicycle, other than an e-bike, with two tandem wheels, at least one of which is 10 inches in diameter, that has (1) an ICE <math>\leq</math> 50cc or (2) an electric motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle faster than 20 mph or continues to provide pedal assistance at speeds faster than 28 mph</p> <p>(<a href="#">Del. Code tit. 21, § 101</a>)</p>	Yes	Standard driver's license		<a href="#">Delaware DMV</a>
Florida	<p>"Moped" is any vehicle with (1) pedals to allow human propulsion; (2) a seat or saddle for the rider; (3) a motor rated <math>\leq</math> 2 BHP that cannot propel the vehicle faster than 30 mph (and, if it has an ICE, is <math>&lt;</math> 50cc); and (4) a power drive system that functions without clutching or shifting. It excludes e-bikes</p> <p>(<a href="#">Fla. Stat. § 320.01</a>)</p>	Yes	Standard driver's license		<a href="#">Fla. Stat. § 320.0803</a> ; <a href="#">Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles</a>



Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Georgia	<p>"Moped" is a two- or three-wheeled motor-driven cycle (1) with or without pedals; (2) that has an independent source providing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP (and <math>\leq 50</math>cc, if it has an ICE); (3) that has a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph; and (4) that has a power drive system that functions without clutching or shifting</p> <p><a href="#">(Ga. Code § 40-1-1)</a></p>	No	Standard driver's license or instruction permit		<p><a href="#">Ga. Code § 40-2-20</a>;  <a href="#">Ga. Code § 40-6-351</a>;  <a href="#">Georgia Driver Services</a></p>
Hawaii	<p>"Moped" is a device with (1) two or three wheels; (2) a motor with a maximum power output of <math>\leq 2</math> HP (1,492 watts) and, if ICE, a piston displacement <math>\leq 50</math>cc; (3) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph; and (4) a power drive system that does not require shifting or clutching. It excludes an e-scooter</p> <p><a href="#">(Haw. Rev. Stat. § 286-2)</a></p>	Yes	Any class of driver's license or a moped license		<p><a href="#">Haw. Rev. Stat. § 291C-194</a>;  <a href="#">Hawaii Department of Transportation (DOT)</a></p>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Idaho	<p>"Moped" is a two- or three-wheeled, limited-speed motor-driven cycle that has (1) wheels less than 20 inches in diameter and (2) a motor with a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph. If an ICE is used, it must be <math>\leq</math> 50cc engine and have a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting. It includes non-pedal e-bikes that produce <math>&lt;</math> 2 BHP and meet federal safety standards for motor-driven cycles</p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" is a cycle producing <math>\leq</math> 5 BHP as originally manufactured that meets federal safety standards. Idaho DOT applies a 3,729 watt limit for electric motors. It excludes e-bikes</p> <p>(<a href="#">Idaho Code § 49-114</a>)</p>	<p><u>Moped</u>: No</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Yes</p>	<p><u>Moped</u>: Standard driver's license</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Motorcycle endorsement</p>		<p><a href="#">Idaho Code § 49-114</a>;  <a href="#">Idaho Transportation Department</a></p>
Illinois	<p>"Moped" is a motor-driven cycle, with or without pedals, that has a (1) speed attainable in one mile of more than 20 mph but not more than 30mph and (2) motor producing <math>\leq</math> 2 BHP (and, if an ICE, <math>\leq</math> 50cc)</p> <p>(<a href="#">625 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/1-148.2</a>)</p>	Yes	Standard driver's license		<p><a href="#">Illinois Secretary of State: Rules of the Road &amp; FAQ</a></p>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Indiana	“Motor driven cycle” is a motor vehicle that (1) has a seat or saddle for the rider’s use, (2) has three or fewer wheels, (3) complies with specified equipment requirements, (4) is ≤ 50cc, and (5) is registered under state law. It excludes e-bikes ( <a href="#">Ind. Code § 9-13-2-104.1</a> )	Yes	Standard driver’s license or permit or unexpired ID card with motor driven cycle (MDC) endorsement	Residents at least age 15 are eligible to obtain MDC endorsement	<a href="#">Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles: Motorcycles and Motor-Driven Cycle Classifications &amp; FAQ</a>
Iowa	“Motorized bicycle” is a motor vehicle that has a seat for the rider, up to three wheels, and a top speed of ≤ 39 mph. It excludes e-bikes ( <a href="#">Iowa Code § 321.1</a> )	Yes	Standard driver’s license or motorized bicycle license	Those who are at least age 14 are eligible for a motorized bicycle license; applicants under age 16 must pass an approved motorized bicycle education course	<a href="#">Iowa Code § 321.189</a> ; <a href="#">Iowa DOT</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Kansas	<p>"Motorized bicycle" is any device with two tandem or three wheels that can be propelled by human power or a motor, or both, and has (1) a motor that produces <math>\leq</math> 3.5 BHP, (2) a cylinder capacity <math>\leq</math> 130cc, (3) an automatic transmission, and (4) a maximum top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph. It excludes e-bikes  <a href="#">(Kan. Stat. § 8-126)</a></p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" is any (1) motorcycle (including a motor scooter) producing <math>\leq</math> 5 BHP or (2) bicycle with attached motor, excluding motorized bicycles and e-bikes  <a href="#">(Kan. Stat. § 8-1439)</a></p>	Yes	<p><u>Motorized bicycle</u>: Standard driver's license or restricted motorized bicycle license</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Standard driver's license</p>	Those who are at least age 15 are eligible for a restricted motorized bicycle license after passing the required written and visual examinations	<a href="#">Kan. Stat. § 8-235</a> ; <a href="#">Kansas Department of Revenue: Driving Handbook</a> & <a href="#">Motorized Bicycle Registration Form</a>
Kentucky	<p>"Moped" is any motorized bicycle with or without pedals that (1) produces <math>\leq</math> 2 BHP, (2) is <math>\leq</math> 50cc, (3) has an automatic transmission, and (4) has a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph  <a href="#">(Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 186.010 &amp; 186.020)</a></p>	No	Standard driver's license	As of July 15, 2024, Kentucky no longer offers a stand-alone moped license	<a href="#">Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 189.285 &amp; 186.410</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Louisiana	“Motorized bicycle” is any pedal bicycle, other than an e-bike, which (1) can be propelled by motor, human power, or both; (2) is rated $\leq 1.5$ BHP; (3) has a capacity $\leq 50$ cc; (4) has an automatic transmission; and (5) has a top speed $\leq 25$ mph ( <a href="#">La. Stat. § 32:1</a> )	Yes	Standard driver’s license		<a href="#">La. Stat. §§ 32:198 &amp; 47:501</a>
Maine	“Motorized bicycle” is a bicycle, other than an e-bike, with or without pedals, that has an attached motor rated $\leq 1.5$ BHP and a top speed $\leq 25$ mph “Moped” is a motorized device, other than an e-bike, that has (1) two or three wheels at least 10 inches in diameter; (2) a motor $\leq 50$ cc or $< 1,500$ watts; and (3) a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting ( <a href="#">Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 29-A, § 101</a> )	<u>Motorized bicycle</u> : No <u>Moped</u> : Yes	<u>Motorized bicycle</u> : Any class of operator’s license, instruction permit, or motorcycle or moped endorsement <u>Moped</u> : Any class of operator’s license (including moped license)	Moped license may be issued to applicants who are at least age 16 and have passed the required examination	<a href="#">Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 29-A, § 1254</a> ; <a href="#">Maine Department of the Secretary of State</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Maryland	<p>"Moped" is any bicycle (other than an e-bike) that is designed to use human power with motor assistance and has (1) pedals that drive the rear wheels; (2) two or three wheels with at least one more than 14 inches in diameter; and (3) a motor rated <math>\leq 1.5</math> BHP and, if it is an ICE, <math>\leq 50</math>cc  <a href="#">(Md. Code, Transp. § 11-134.1)</a></p> <p>"Motor Scooter" is a non-pedal vehicle, other than an e-scooter, with (1) a seat for the operator and two wheels, one of which is more than 10 inches in diameter; (2) a step-through chassis; (3) a motor rated <math>\leq 2.7</math> BHP and, if it is an ICE, <math>\leq 50</math>cc; and (4) an automatic transmission  <a href="#">(Md. Code, Transp. § 11-134.5)</a></p>	Yes (but owners receive a title decal, not a license plate, that must be displayed and does not need to be periodically renewed)	Standard driver's license or moped permit	Those who are at least age 16 can apply for a moped permit, which requires vision screening and a knowledge test	<a href="#">Maryland DOT</a>
Massachusetts	<p>"Motorized bicycle" is any bicycle (other than an e-bike), with or without pedals, that has (1) a helper motor <math>\leq 50</math>cc, (2) an automatic transmission, and (3) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph  <a href="#">(Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 90, § 1)</a></p>	Yes	Standard driver's license or permit		<a href="#">Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles: Moped Registration &amp; Moped Operating Requirements</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Michigan	“Moped” is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle (other than an e-bike) that has a (1) motor $\leq$ 100cc with a top speed $\leq$ 30 mph and (2) power drive system that does not require shifting ( <a href="#">Mich. Comp. Laws § 257.32b</a> )	Yes	Standard driver’s license (among various other license classes) or a moped license	Those who are at least age 15 and unlicensed may apply for moped license and must pass required tests	<a href="#">Michigan Department of State</a>
Minnesota	“Motorized bicycle” is any bicycle (other than an e-bike) (1) with a liquid fuel or electric motor that is $\leq$ 50cc and $\leq$ 2 BHP and (2) has a top speed $\leq$ 30 mph ( <a href="#">Minn. Stat. § 169.011</a> )	Yes	Standard driver’s license or moped permit	Those who are at least age 15 may obtain a moped permit after completing required tests (including a state-approved moped safety course)	<a href="#">Minnesota Department of Public Safety</a>
Mississippi	“Motor scooter” is a two-wheeled vehicle with (1) a seat for the operator; (2) one wheel that is at least ten inches in diameter; (3) a step-through chassis; and (4) a motor $<$ 2.7 BHP and, if the motor is an ICE, $\leq$ 50cc ( <a href="#">Miss. Code § 63-3-103</a> )	Yes	Motorcycle endorsement		<a href="#">Mississippi Department of Revenue</a> ; <a href="#">Mississippi Department of Public Safety</a>
Missouri	“Motorized bicycle” is any two- or three-wheeled device (other than an e-bike) with (1) an automatic transmission, (2) a motor $\leq$ 50cc and $\leq$ 3 BHP, and (3) a top speed $\leq$ 30 mph ( <a href="#">Mo. Stat. § 307.180</a> )	No	Standard driver’s license		<a href="#">Missouri Department of Revenue</a> ; <a href="#">Missouri Highway Patrol</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Montana	<p>"Moped" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle with (1) foot pedals to allow muscular propulsion; (2) an independent power source providing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP that cannot propel the device, unassisted, faster than 30 miles an hour; and (3) a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting</p> <p>(<a href="#">Mont. Code § 61-8-102</a>)</p>	No	Motorcycle endorsement		<a href="#">Montana Department of Justice</a>
Nebraska	<p>"Moped" is any device with (1) pedals for human propulsion, (2) an automatic transmission, (3) a motor <math>\leq 50</math>cc and producing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP, and (4) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph</p> <p>(<a href="#">Neb. Rev. Stat. § 60-338</a>)</p>	No	Standard driver's license		<a href="#">Neb. Rev. Stat. § 60-6.310</a> ; <a href="#">Nebraska DMV</a>
Nevada	<p>"Moped" is any two- or three-wheeled motor-driven scooter, motor-driven cycle, or similar vehicle (other than an e-bike or e-scooter) with (1) an engine <math>\leq 2</math> gross BHP that has a displacement <math>\leq 50</math>cc or produces <math>\leq 1,500</math> watts and (2) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph</p> <p>(<a href="#">Nev. Rev. Stat. § 482.069</a>)</p>	Yes (does not require renewal)	Any class of driver's license		<a href="#">Nevada DMV</a>



Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
New Hampshire	<p>"Moped" is any motor-driven cycle (other than an e-bike) that (1) has a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph; (2) has a displacement <math>\leq</math> 50cc, if it has an ICE; and (3) has a power-drive system that does not require shifting  <a href="#">(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 259:57)</a></p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" is any (1) motorcycle or motor scooter producing <math>\leq</math> 5 HP or (2) bicycle with attached motor, excluding e-bikes  <a href="#">(N.H. Rev. Stat. § 259:65)</a></p>	Yes	<p><u>Moped</u>: Any class of license or a moped license</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Motor-driven cycle license which allows the operator to drive any moped, motor scooter, bicycle with attached motor, or small motorcycle with up to 5 HP</p>		<a href="#">N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 261:40 &amp; 261:141;</a> <a href="#">New Hampshire DMV</a>
New Jersey	<p>"Motorized bicycle" is any pedal bicycle (excluding class 1 and class 2 e-bikes and e-scooters) with (1) a helper motor that is either <math>\leq</math> 50cc or <math>\leq</math> 1.5 BHP and the bicycle has a top speed <math>\leq</math> 25 mph or (2) with an electric motor that can propel the bicycle faster than 20 mph but has a top speed <math>\leq</math> 28 mph  <a href="#">(N.J. Stat. § 39:1-1)</a></p>	Yes	Standard driver's license or moped permit/license	Those who are at least age 15 can obtain a moped permit and must pass required testing to validate the permit before receiving a moped license	<a href="#">New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission</a>
New Mexico	<p>"Moped" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle with (1) an automatic transmission, (2) a motor <math>\leq</math> 50cc, and (3) a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph  <a href="#">(N.M. Stat. §§ 66-1-4.11 &amp; 66-3-1101)</a></p>	No	Standard driver's license		<a href="#">New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
New York	<p>"Limited use motorcycle" is a two- or three-wheeled vehicle with a saddle for the rider, classified as follows: (1) Class A for vehicles with a top speed between 30 mph and 40 mph; (2) Class B for vehicles with a top speed between 20 mph and 30 mph; and (3) Class C for vehicles with a top speed <math>\leq</math> 20 mph</p> <p><a href="#">(N.Y. Veh. &amp; Traf. Law § 121-b)</a></p>	Yes	<p><u>Class A</u>: Motorcycle license</p> <p><u>Class B or C</u>: Any license class</p>		<a href="#">New York Department of Motor Vehicles</a>
North Carolina	<p>"Moped" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle, excluding a e-bike, with (1) no external shifting device and (2) an electric, motor fuel, alternative fuel, or combination motor that is <math>\leq</math> 50cc and has a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph</p> <p><a href="#">(N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-4.01)</a></p>	Yes	No driver's license required (need driver's license or ID to register moped)		<a href="#">North Carolina DMV</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
North Dakota	<p>"Motorized bicycle" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle that has (1) foot pedals for human propulsion or footrests for the riders' use, (2) a power source providing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP having a maximum piston or rotor displacement of 3.05 cubic inches (roughly 50cc) [49.98 milliliters] if an ICE is used, (3) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph, (4) a power drive system that does not required clutching or shifting, and (5) a width <math>&lt; 32</math> inches. It excludes e-bikes</p> <p><a href="#">(N.D. Cent. Code § 39-01-01)</a></p>	Yes	Operator's license, temporary permit, instruction permit, motorcycle permit, or motorized bicycle permit	Those who are at least age 14 can obtain a motorized bicycle permit after passing a written examination	<a href="#">North Dakota Department of Transportation;</a> <a href="#">North Dakota Highway Patrol</a>
Ohio	<p>"Motorized bicycle or moped" is any vehicle that (1) has either two tandem wheels or one wheel in the front and two wheels in the rear, (2) may be pedaled, (3) has a helper motor <math>\leq 50</math>cc that produces <math>\leq 1</math> BHP, and (4) a top speed <math>\leq 20</math> mph. It excludes an e-bike</p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle or motor scooter" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle that (1) has a seat and a floor pad for the rider's feet; (2) has a motor between 50 and 100cc, that produces <math>\leq 5</math> BHP; and (3) can go faster than 20 mph</p> <p><a href="#">(Ohio Rev. Code § 4501.01)</a></p>	Yes	<p><u>Motorized bicycle / moped:</u> Standard driver's license or moped license</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle / motor scooter:</u> Motorcycle or motor scooter license or endorsement</p>	Those who are ages 14 or 15 (or do not have a valid driver's license) can obtain a moped license after passing the required tests; probationary licenses required for those under age 16	<a href="#">Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles: Vehicle Registration &amp; Driver's Licenses;</a> <a href="#">Ohio Driver Manual</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Oklahoma	<p>“Motorized bicycle” is any bicycle with (1) pedals for propulsion by human power; (2) a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting; (3) an ICE <math>\leq</math> 80cc; and (4) a top speed <math>\leq</math> 35 mph. It excludes e-bikes  <a href="#">(Okla. Stat. Tit. 47 § 1-104 (C))</a></p> <p>“Motorized scooter” is any vehicle with three or fewer wheels and with (1) handlebars and a foot support or seat for the rider’s use; (2) a power source (<math>\leq</math> 50cc if an ICE); and (3) a top speed <math>\leq</math> 35 mph (if electric power source, vehicle must be programmed to not exceed this speed)  <a href="#">(Okla. Stat. tit. 47, § 1-133.3)</a></p> <p>“Moped” is any motor-driven cycle with (1) an electric motor or ICE producing <math>\leq</math> 2 BHP and (2) a top speed <math>\leq</math> 35 mph. If it has an ICE, it must be <math>\leq</math> 50cc and have a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting. If it has an electric power source, it must be <math>\leq</math> 750 watts  <a href="#">(Okla. Stat. tit. 47, § 1-133.2)</a></p> <p>“Motor-driven cycle” is any motor vehicle with up to three wheels, a seat or saddle for the rider and either (1) an ICE that is between</p>	<p><u>Motorized bicycle</u>: No</p> <p><u>Motorized scooter</u>: No</p> <p><u>Moped</u>: Yes</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Yes</p>	<p><u>Motorized scooter</u>: No driver’s license unless required by local ordinance</p> <p><u>Motorized bicycle</u>: standard driver’s license</p> <p><u>Moped</u>: Unclear</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Motorcycle endorsement</p>	<p>Motorized scooter operators must be at least age 14, unless a local ordinance requires an older age; the law authorizes municipalities to regulate motorized scooter use</p>	<p><a href="#">Okla. Stat. tit. 47, § 1-133.3</a></p> <p><a href="#">Service Oklahoma: Motorcycles, Trailers &amp; More</a> and <a href="#">Motorcycle Endorsement</a></p>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Oklahoma (continued)	35cc and 150cc or (2) an electric motor with an output less than 1,000 watts <a href="#">(Okla. Stat. tit. 47, § 1-136)</a>				
Oregon	“Moped” is generally any vehicle with up to three wheels that (1) has a seat for the rider; (2) has an independent power source and a top speed of $\leq 30$ mph; (3) if an ICE is used, has a displacement of 35.01cc to 50cc; and (4) has a power drives system that does not require clutching or shifting. It includes any bicycle with a power source, but not e-bikes <a href="#">(Or. Rev. Stat. § 801.345)</a>	Yes	Standard driver’s license		<a href="#">Oregon DOT</a>
Pennsylvania	“Motorized pedalcycle” is any motor-driven cycle with (1) operable pedals, (2) a motor rated $\leq 1.5$ BHP and $\leq 50$ cc, (3) an automatic transmission, and (4) a top speed $\leq 25$ mph. It specifically includes motor-driven cycles powered by electric motor or battery “Motor-driven cycle” is any motorcycle, including a motor scooter, that produces $\leq 5$ BHP <a href="#">(75 Pa. Stat. and Cons. Stat. § 102)</a>	Yes	<u>Moped</u> : Standard driver’s license <u>Motor-driven cycle</u> : Standard driver’s license (up to 50cc), otherwise, motorcycle license or restricted motorcycle license		<a href="#">Pennsylvania DOT: Fact Sheet and License Types &amp; Restrictions</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Rhode Island	<p>“Motorized bicycle” is any two-wheeled vehicle that (1) may be propelled with human power or motor power, or both, (2) has a motor rated <math>\leq 4.9</math> BHP and <math>\leq 50</math>cc, and (3) has a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph</p> <p>“Motor scooter” is any motor-driven cycle with (1) a motor rated <math>\leq 4.9</math> BHP and <math>\leq 50</math>cc and (2) has a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph</p> <p>(<a href="#">31 R.I. Gen. Laws § 31-1-3</a>)</p>	Yes	Standard driver's license		<p><a href="#">31 R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 31-3-2.2 &amp; 31-10.1-1</a>;  <a href="#">Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles</a></p>
South Carolina	<p>“Moped” is any cycle with or without pedals for human propulsion that has up to three wheels and has a motor powered by gasoline, electricity, alternative fuel, or a hybrid. It also must meet the following criteria, as applicable (1) <math>\leq 50</math>cc; (2) greater than 750 watts but no more than 1,500; and (3) a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting, if it has an ICE</p> <p>(<a href="#">S.C. Code § 56-1-10</a>)</p>	Yes	Standard driver's license or moped license	Those who are at least age 15 can apply for a moped license by taking the required vision and knowledge tests (skills test not required)	<p><a href="#">South Carolina DMV: Moped Registration &amp; Moped License</a></p>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
South Dakota	<p>"Moped" is a two- or three-wheeled motor-driven cycle. If it has an ICE, it must be <math>\leq 50</math>cc and have a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting  <a href="#">(S.D. Codified Laws § 32-20-1)</a></p>	No	Standard driver's license or permit		<a href="#">S.D. Codified Laws §§ 32-3-2.3, 32-5-1.2 &amp; 32-20-2</a>
Tennessee	<p>"Motorized bicycle" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle, other than an e-bike, with (1) an automatic transmission, (2) a motor <math>\leq 50</math>cc producing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP, and (3) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph  <a href="#">(Tenn. Code § 55-8-101)</a></p> <p>"Motor driven cycle" is any motorcycle, including every motor scooter, that is <math>\leq 5</math> BHP, or is <math>\leq 125</math>cc  <a href="#">(Tenn. Comp. R. &amp; Regs. 1340-01-12-.02)</a></p>	Yes	<p><u>Motorized bicycle</u>: Standard driver's license or motorized bicycle license</p> <p><u>Motor driven cycle</u>: Motorcycle or restricted motor-driven cycle license</p>		<a href="#">Tenn. Code §§ 55-3-101 &amp; 55-8-101</a> ; <a href="#">Tennessee Department of Safety &amp; Homeland Security</a> ; <a href="#">Tennessee Motorcycle Operator Manual</a> ; <a href="#">Tenn. Comp. R. &amp; Regs. 1340-01-12-.05</a>
Texas	<p>"Moped" is any motor vehicle with up to three wheels that has (1) a rider's saddle, (2) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph, and (3) an engine that produces <math>\leq 5</math> BHP and, if it is an ICE, is <math>\leq 50</math>cc and has a power drive system that does not require shifting  <a href="#">(Tex. Transp. Code § 541.201)</a></p>	Yes	Motorcycle license		<a href="#">Texas Department of Motor Vehicles</a> ; <a href="#">Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Utah	<p>"Moped" is any motor-driven cycle with (1) pedals to allow human propulsion; (2) a motor producing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP (and, if it is an ICE, <math>\leq 50</math>cc), and (3) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph. If it has an ICE, it must be <math>\leq 50</math>cc and not require clutching or shifting</p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" is a motorcycle, moped, or motorized bicycle that is <math>\leq 150</math>cc or <math>\leq 5</math> HP  <a href="#">(Utah Code § 41-6a-102)</a></p>	Yes	<p><u>Moped</u>: Standard driver's license</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Motorcycle endorsement</p>		<p><a href="#">Utah Code §§ 41-1a-102 &amp; -202</a>;</p> <p><a href="#">Utah Code § 53-3-202</a>;</p> <p><a href="#">Utah Motorcycle Handbook</a></p>
Vermont	<p>"Motor-assisted bicycle" is any bicycle or tricycle, other than an e-bike, with fully operable pedals and a motor with a top speed <math>\leq 20</math> mph. If the motor is an ICE, it must have a maximum output <math>\leq 1,000</math> watts or <math>\leq 1.3</math> horsepower; if it is electric, it must have an output <math>\leq 1,000</math> watts and not fall under one of the three e-bike classes</p> <p>"Motor-driven cycle" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle that has a (1) power source providing <math>\leq 2</math> BHP (and if an ICE, <math>\leq 50</math>cc); (2) top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph, and (3) power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting  <a href="#">(Vt. Stat. tit. 23, § 4)</a></p>	<p><u>Motor-assisted bicycle</u>: No</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Yes</p>	<p><u>Motor-assisted bicycle</u>: None</p> <p><u>Motor-driven cycle</u>: Standard driver's license</p>	Must be at least age 16 to operate a motor-assisted bicycle	<p><a href="#">Vt. Stat. tit. 23, §§ 4 (21), 301(e) &amp; 1136</a>;</p> <p><a href="#">Vermont DMV</a></p>



Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Virginia	<p>"Moped" is any vehicle with up to three wheels that (1) has a seat height <math>\geq</math> 24 inches; (2) has a gasoline, electric, or hybrid motor that is <math>\leq</math> 50cc or <math>\leq</math> 1,500 watts; (3) is power-driven, with or without pedals for human propulsion; and (4) is not operated faster than 35 mph. It excludes e-bikes and e-scooters</p> <p><a href="#">(Va. Code § 46.2-100)</a></p>	Yes	None	Must be at least age 16 to operate a moped and carry a government-issued photo ID	<a href="#">Virginia DMV</a>
Washington	<p>"Moped" is any motorized device that has (1) up to three wheels, (2) an electric or a liquid fuel motor that is <math>\leq</math> 50cc and <math>\leq</math> 2 BHP, and (3) a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph</p> <p><a href="#">(Wash. Rev. Code § 46.04.304)</a></p>	Yes	Standard driver's license		<a href="#">Wash. Rev. Code. § 46.16A.110;</a> <a href="#">Washington State Department of Licensing</a>
West Virginia	<p>"Moped" is every two- or three-wheeled motorcycle or motor-driven cycle that has (1) foot pedals for human propulsion; (2) an independent power source providing <math>\leq</math> 2 BHP (if it is ICE, <math>\leq</math> 50cc); (3) a top speed <math>\leq</math> 30 mph; and (4) a power drive system that does not require clutching or shifting</p> <p><a href="#">(W. Va. Code § 17C-1-5a)</a></p>	Yes	Motorcycle license or endorsement		<a href="#">West Virginia DMV: Registration Fees, Motor Vehicle Classifications, &amp; Motorcycle</a>

Table 2 (continued)

State	Applicable Definitions*	Registration Required?	Licensing Requirements	Notes	Citations
Wisconsin	<p>"Moped" is any of the following motor vehicles with a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph, a power source as an integral part of the vehicle, and a seat for the rider: (1) a bicycle-type vehicle, other than an e-bike, with fully operative pedals for human propulsion and an engine <math>\leq 130</math>cc or (2) a motorcycle with an automatic transmission and an engine <math>\leq 50</math>cc or an equivalent power unit</p> <p><a href="#">(Wis. Stat. § 340.01)</a></p>	Yes	Standard driver's license, moped permit, or special restricted license for those who don't qualify for a driver's license due to physical challenges	Those who are at least age 16 can apply for a moped permit if they have completed an approved driver education course	<a href="#">Wisconsin DOT</a>
Wyoming	<p>"Moped" is any two- or three-wheeled vehicle, other than an e-bike, with (1) foot pedals for human propulsion, (2) an automatic transmission, (3) a motor <math>\leq 50</math>cc and producing <math>&lt; 2</math> BHP, and (4) a top speed <math>\leq 30</math> mph</p> <p><a href="#">(Wyo. Stat. § 31-1-101)</a></p>	No	Standard driver's license or any class of license, instruction permit, or restricted license		<p><a href="#">Wyo. Stat. §§ 31-1-101 &amp; 31-7-109;</a></p> <p><a href="#">Wyoming Driver License Manual</a></p>

\*This table includes only definitions for categories of smaller, lower speed motorcycles and scooters. Generally, states consider two- and three-wheeled vehicles that exceed these limits to be motorcycles. Some states have an additional category for motorcycle-type vehicles  $\leq 5$  BHP (matching the federal definition of motor-driven cycle), but we included this definition in the table only if the state treated this category of vehicles differently than motorcycles for either registration or licensing purposes. We also excluded definitions that capture a category of vehicles similar to those defined as e-scooters in Connecticut.

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