



# 2007 GHSA Motorcycle Survey

● **OVERVIEW TABLE**

**STATE EDUCATION AND  
LICENSING REQUIREMENTS**

**HELMET LAWS**

2007 GHSA MOTORCYCLE SURVEY | OVERVIEW TABLE | ALABAMA - MARYLAND

(1) Plans to develop in 2008 (2) Will be updated to include motorcycles.

State	Which State Agency Has Lead Responsibility For Motorcycle Safety?	Does The State Have An Active Motorcycle Advisory Committee?	Has The State Identified Motorcycle Crashes As A Priority Crash Problem?	Does The State Have A Motorcycle Safety Plan?	Is Motorcycle Safety An Element Of The Strategic Highway Safety Plan?	Has The State Had NHTSA Assessment Its Motorcycle Program (Year)
Alabama	The Highway Safety Office	No	No	No	No	No
Alaska	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	No (1)	Yes	No
Arizona	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	No	No	No	Yes (2007)
Arkansas	None	No (1)	Yes	No	Yes	No
California	California Highway Patrol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (scheduled for 2008)
Colorado	The Department of Transportation	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2007)
Connecticut	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Delaware	The Department of Motor Vehicles and the Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (1996)
D.C.	The Department of Motor Vehicles, Metropolitan Police Department and the Highway Safety Office	No	No	No	Yes	No
Florida	The Highway Safety Office	No (1)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2000, 2006)
Georgia	The Department of Driver Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Guam	None	No	No	No	No	No
Hawaii	The Office of Highway Safety	Yes	Yes	No (1)	Yes	Yes (2001)
Idaho	The Department of Education	Yes	No	No (1)	No (1)	No
Illinois	The Department of Transportation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2005)
Indiana	The Department of Education	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (1997, 2008 scheduled)
Iowa	The Department of Transportation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Kansas	The Bureau of Traffic Safety	Yes	No	No	No	No
Kentucky	The Justice Cabinet	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Louisiana	The Department of Education	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Maine	The Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Bureau of Highway Safety	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Maryland	The Motorcycle Safety Program and the Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2006)

2007 GHSA MOTORCYCLE SURVEY | OVERVIEW TABLE | MASSACHUSETTS - TEXAS

(1) Plans to develop in 2008 (2) Will be updated to include motorcycles.

State	Which State Agency Has Lead Responsibility For Motorcycle Safety?	Does The State Have An Active Motorcycle Advisory Committee?	Has The State Identified Motorcycle Crashes As A Priority Crash Problem?	Does The State Have A Motorcycle Safety Plan?	Is Motorcycle Safety An Element Of The Strategic Highway Safety Plan?	Has The State Had NHTSA Assessment Its Motorcycle Program (Year)
Massachusetts	The Registry of Motor Vehicles	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Michigan	The Michigan Department of State	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2005)
Minnesota	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes (2006)
Mississippi	None	No	No	No	No	No
Missouri	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Montana	The Montana Motorcycle Advisory Committee	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Nebraska	The Highway Safety Office	No	No	Yes	No	No
Nevada	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
New Hampshire	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
New Jersey	The Motor Vehicle Commission and Division of Highway Traffic Safety (Highway Safety Office)	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
New Mexico	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
New York	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	No (1)	Yes	Yes (2008)
North Carolina	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
North Dakota	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Ohio	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (1995, 2007)
Oklahoma	The Department of Public Safety	Yes	Yes	Yes	No (2)	Yes (1996)
Oregon	The Office of Highway Safety	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Pennsylvania	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Puerto Rico	The Puerto Rico Traffic Safety Commission	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Rhode Island	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
South Carolina	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2007)
South Dakota	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Tennessee	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Texas	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

2007 GHSA MOTORCYCLE SURVEY | OVERVIEW TABLE | UTAH - WYOMING

(1) Plans to develop in 2008 (2) Will be updated to include motorcycles.

State	Which State Agency Has Lead Responsibility For Motorcycle Safety?	Does The State Have An Active Motorcycle Advisory Committee?	Has The State Identified Motorcycle Crashes As A Priority Crash Problem?	Does The State Have A Motorcycle Safety Plan?	Is Motorcycle Safety An Element Of The Strategic Highway Safety Plan?	Has The State Had NHTSA Assessment Its Motorcycle Program (Year)
Utah	The Driver License Division	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Vermont	The Department of Motor Vehicles	No	Yes	No (1)	No	No
Virginia	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Washington	The State Patrol, the Department of Licensing and the Traffic Safety Commission (The Highway Safety Office)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (2002)
West Virginia	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes (1999)
Wisconsin	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (1999, 2007)
Wyoming	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

(1) Developing one. | (2) 7/1 all riders. | NA = Not Applicable | Blank spaces indicate state didn't provide information.

State	Education and Training Overview					Sharing the Road Information			Licensing Overview		
	Which Agency is Responsible for Motorcycle Training and Education?	Mandatory Rider Education	Training Capacity Issue	Program	Section in the Driver Manual	Component of the Driver Education Curriculum	Minimum Age for a License	Tests Required	Waivers		
Alabama	The Alabama Traffic Safety Center at University of Montevallo	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	14	Knowledge	No		
Alaska	None	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Knowledge, motorcycle written and skills	Yes		
Arizona	The Department of Motor Vehicles	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes		
Arkansas	None	No	NA	No	Yes	NA	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	NA		
California	The California Highway Patrol	Yes (Riders under 21)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes		
Colorado	The Department of Transportation	Yes (Riders under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	16	Vision and Knowledge	Yes		
Connecticut	The Highway Safety Office	Yes (Riders under 21)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes		
Delaware	The Department of Motor Vehicles	Yes (Riders under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	17	Knowledge and skills	Yes		
D.C.	The Department of Motor Vehicles	Yes	Yes	No <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes					
Florida	The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles	Yes (Riders under 21) <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Knowledge and skills	Yes		
Georgia	The Department of Driver Services	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	16	Vision, knowledge and road signs	Yes		
Guam	None			No	Yes	No					
Hawaii	The Highway Safety Office			Yes	Yes	Yes	15 and 6 months	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes		
Idaho	The Department of Education	Yes (Riders under 21)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes		
Illinois	The Department of Transportation		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					

(3) For hands-on training. | (4) Developing one. | NA = Not Applicable | Blank spaces indicate state didn't provide information.

State	Education and Training Overview						Licensing Overview			
	Which Agency is Responsible for Motorcycle Training and Education?	Mandatory Rider Education	Training Capacity Issue	Program	Section in the Driver Manual	Component of the Driver Education Curriculum	Minimum Age for a License	Tests Required	Waivers	
Indiana	The Department of Education	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes	
Iowa	The Department of Transportation	Yes (Riders under 18)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision and skills	Yes	
Kansas	The Department of Education	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes	
Kentucky	The Traffic Safety Institute at Eastern Kentucky University	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	18	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes	
Louisiana	The Department of Education	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Maine	The Department of Motor Vehicles	Yes (All Riders)	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes	
Maryland	The Motorcycle Safety Program	Yes (Riders under 18)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	15 and 9 months	Vision, road signs, knowledge and skills	Yes	
Massachusetts	The Registry of Motor Vehicles	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16 and 6 months	Vision, skills and road signs	Yes	
Michigan	The Michigan Department of State	Yes (Riders under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes	
Minnesota	The Department of Public Safety	Yes (Riders under 18)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Knowledge and skills	Yes	
Mississippi	None	NA	NA	No <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes				
Missouri	The Department of Transportation	Yes (Riders under 16)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	16			
Montana	Montana State University-Northern at Havre	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Knowledge and skills	Yes	
Nebraska	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	Vision, knowledge and skills		
Nevada	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes	

NA = Not Applicable | Blank spaces indicate state didn't provide information.

State	Education and Training Overview						Licensing Overview		
	Which Agency is Responsible for Motorcycle Training and Education?	Mandatory Rider Education	Training Capacity Issue	Program	Section in the Driver Manual	Component of the Driver Education Curriculum	Minimum Age for a License	Tests Required	Waivers
New Hampshire	The Division of Motor Vehicles	Yes (Riders 16 to 18)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
New Jersey	The Motor Vehicle Commission	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	17	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
New Mexico	The Department of Transportation Highway Safety Bureau	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes			
New York	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Knowledge and skills	Yes
North Carolina	The Highway Safety Office and Community Colleges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	18		
North Dakota	The Highway Safety Office	Yes (Riders 14 to 15)	No	Yes	Yes	No	14 and two months	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
Ohio	The Highway Safety Office	Yes (Riders under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15 and 6 months	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
Oklahoma	The Department of Public Safety	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
Oregon	The Highway Safety Office	Yes (Riders under 21)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16		
Pennsylvania	The Highway Safety Office	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16		
Puerto Rico	The Department of Transportation		Yes	Yes	Yes		18		
Rhode Island	The Community College of Rhode Island	Yes (All Riders)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	No Waivers
South Carolina	The South Carolina Technical College System	No	No	No	No	No	15	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
South Dakota	The Highway Safety Office		Yes	Yes	Yes		14	Vision, knowledge and skills	
Tennessee	The Department of Safety	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes

NA = Not Applicable | Blank spaces indicate state didn't provide information.

State	Education and Training Overview					Licensing Overview			
	Which Agency is Responsible for Motorcycle Training and Education?	Mandatory Rider Education	Training Capacity Issue	Program	Section in the Driver Manual	Component of the Driver Education Curriculum	Minimum Age for a License	Tests Required	Waivers
Texas	The Department of Public Safety, Motorcycle & ATV Safety Training Unit	Yes (Riders under 18)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
Utah	The Driver License Division	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Knowledge and skills	Yes
Vermont	The Department of Motor Vehicles	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	16		
Virginia	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	16 and 3 months	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes
Washington	The Department of Licensing	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	16		
West Virginia	The Highway Safety Office	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Vision, knowledge and skills	
Wisconsin	The Highway Safety Office	Yes (Riders under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	Knowledge and skills	Yes
Wyoming	The Highway Safety Office	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	Vision, knowledge and skills	Yes

State	Helmet Law	Does The State Have A Special Helmet Education Effort Or Program?	Does The State Provide Training For Law Enforcement Agencies To Help Them Detect Non-Compliant Motorcycle Helmets?
Alabama	Universal Law		No
Alaska	Riders under 18 and their passengers as well as all permit holders are required to wear helmets.	Yes	No
Arizona	Riders 17 and under are required to wear helmets.		
Arkansas	Riders under 21 are required to wear helmets.	No	No
California	Universal Law	Yes	Yes
Colorado	Riders under 18 are required to wear helmets.		No
Connecticut	Riders under 18 are required to wear helmets.	Yes	
Delaware	Riders under 19 are required to wear a helmet. All other riders must have a helmet in their possession.		
D.C.	Universal Law		
Florida	Riders under 21 are required to wear a helmet. Riders 21 and older without an insurance policy that provides a minimum of \$10,000 in medical coverage specifically for motorcycle-related injuries are also required to wear a helmet.		
Georgia	Universal Law	Yes	
Guam	Helmetts are required for riders under 18.		
Hawaii	Riders under 18 are required to wear a helmet.		
Idaho	Riders under 18 are required to wear a helmet.		
Illinois	No Law		
Indiana	Riders under 18 are required to wear a helmet.		
Iowa	No Law		
Kansas	Riders under 18 are required to wear a helmet.		
Kentucky	Riders under 21 and anyone licensed for less than a year are required to wear helmets.		
Louisiana	Universal Law	Yes	
Maine	Riders of all ages are required to wear helmets during the first year of licensure. Passengers under 15 are also required to wear helmets.		
Maryland	Universal Law	No	Yes
Massachusetts	Universal Law	Yes	Yes
Michigan	Universal Law	Yes	Yes

2007 GHSA MOTORCYCLE SURVEY | HELMET LAWS | MINNESOTA - UTAH

(1) The law requiring riders under 18 to wear helmets became ineffective in 1995 per state statute when a federal law tying helmet use to federal highway funding was repealed. (2) Developing a program in 2008. (3) Ibid.

State	Helmet Law	Does The State Have A Special Helmet Education Effort Or Program?	Does The State Provide Training For Law Enforcement Agencies To Help Them Detect Non-Compliant Motorcycle Helmets?
Minnesota	All operators under 18 and those with instruction permits, no matter what age, are required to wear helmets.	Yes	
Mississippi	Universal Law		
Missouri	Universal Law	Yes	
Montana	Riders under 18 are required to wear helmets.	Yes	
Nebraska	Universal Law	Yes	Yes
Nevada	Universal Law		
New Hampshire	No Law <sup>1</sup>		
New Jersey	Universal Law	Yes	
New York	Universal Law	No <sup>2</sup>	No <sup>3</sup>
North Carolina	Universal Law	Yes	Yes
North Dakota	Riders under 18 are required to wear helmets.		
Ohio	Riders under 18, operators who have held a license for less than one year and their passengers are required to wear helmets.		
Oklahoma	Riders under 18, operators who have held a license for less than one year and their passengers are required to wear helmets.	Yes	
Oregon	Universal Law		
Pennsylvania	Helmets are required for all riders under 21. Pennsylvania's motorcycle helmet use law also covers all operators during the first two years of licensure unless the operator has completed the safety course approved by the Pennsylvania DOT or the MSF.		
Puerto Rico	Universal Law		Yes
Rhode Island	Helmets are required for all riders under 21. Helmets are required for all riders during the first year of licensure, regardless of age. All passengers are required to wear helmets.		
South Carolina	Riders under 21 are required to wear a helmet.		
South Dakota	Riders under 18 are required to wear a helmet.	Yes	
Tennessee	Universal Law		Yes
Texas	Riders under 21 are required to wear helmets. Texas exempts riders 21 years or older from wearing a helmet if they can show proof of successfully completing a motorcycle operator training course or a medical insurance policy.		
Utah	Riders under 18 are required to wear a helmet.	Yes	

State	Helmet Law	Does The State Have A Special Helmet Education Effort Or Program?	Does The State Provide Training For Law Enforcement Agencies To Help Them Detect Non-Compliant Motorcycle Helmets?
Vermont	Universal Law		
Virginia	Universal Law		
Washington	Universal Law	Yes	Yes
West Virginia	Universal Law		Yes
Wisconsin	Riders under 18 and all operators with instructional permit are required to wear helmets.	Yes	
Wyoming	Riders under 18 are required to wear helmets.		