

Means of Transport	Helmet	Min Age (yrs)	License Req	Sidewalk	Bike Lane
Scooter (self-propelled)	< 18	N/A	No	Yes	Yes
Electric Scooter (Byrd)	< 18	15 ½	Permit or Lic	No	25*
Skateboard (self-propelled)	< 18	N/A	No	Yes	Yes
Motorized Boards**	Yes	16	No	No	Yes
Moped	Yes (bicycle style ok)	16	M2	No	Yes (Class II/III)
Motor-Driven Cycles***	Yes (DOT)	16	M1	No	No

* CVC 21235 - The operator of a motorized scooter shall not do any of the following: (b) Operate a motorized scooter on a highway with a speed limit in excess of 25 miles per hour unless the motorized scooter is operated within a Class II or Class IV bikeway, except that a local authority may, by ordinance or resolution, authorize the operation of a motorized scooter outside of a Class II or Class IV bikeway on a highway with a speed limit of up to 35 miles per hour. The 15 mile per hour maximum speed limit for the operation of a motorized scooter specified in Section 22411 applies to the operation of a motorized scooter on all highways, including bikeways, regardless of a higher speed limit applicable to the highway.

** Electric Skateboards (such as Boosted Boards) must average less than 1,000 watts and travel no more than 20 mph.

*** Motor-Driven Cycles have an engine size of 149cc or lower and may not be used on the freeway.

Common CVCs

CVC 21212 (a) – Bicycle helmet required under 18 years of age.

Applies to bicycles, non-motorized scooters, skateboards, in-line / roller skates and all passengers.

CVC 21650.1 – Bicycle on wrong side of the roadway.

CVC 21205 – No person operating a bicycle shall carry any article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.

CVC 27400 – Headsets and earbuds in both ears.

CVC 21235 – Laws pertaining to motorized scooters (must wear helmet if under 18, must have CDL / permit, no passengers, etc.)

CVC 21228 – Motorized scooter; must drive on right side of roadway and walk scooter across street when turning left.

CALIFORNIA ELECTRIC BICYCLE POLICY

VEHICLE TYPE	VEHICLE		USER			BIKEWAY ACCESS				
	PEDAL OPERATED	MAXIMUM MOTOR-ASSISTED SPEED (MPH)	MINIMUM AGE (YEARS)	DRIVER'S LICENSE	LICENSE PLATE	HELMET	CLASS I BIKE PATH	CLASS II BIKE LANE	CLASS III BIKE ROUTE	CLASS IV PROTECTED LANE
BICYCLE	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
TYPE 1 E-BIKE*	YES	20	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
TYPE 2 E-BIKE*	NO	20	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
TYPE 3 E-BIKE*	YES	28	16	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
MOPED	NO	N/A	16	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO

*PENDING AB-1096



peopleforbikes



Motorcycles, Mopeds and Scooters Defined

Cycles Defined, Registration and Driver Licensing Requirements

Motorcycles



- A motorcycle has more than a 150cc engine size, and no more than 3 wheels.
- A motorcycle **has to be registered** and the driver must have a motorcycle license (M1).
- M1 license holders may operate any motorized bicycle, moped or motor scooter without an M2 endorsement.

Motor-Driven Cycles



- A motor-driven cycle has 149cc or less engine size. **CVC §405**
- A motor-driven cycle **has to be registered** and the driver must have a motorcycle license (M1).

NOTE: Three wheeled motorcycles or a motorcycle with a side car require only a Class C driver license. California Vehicle Code (CVC) §12804.9

Mopeds



A "motorized bicycle" or "moped" is:

- A two or three-wheeled device, capable of no more than 30 mph on level ground, and equipped with:
 - Fully operative pedals for human propulsion.
 - A motor producing less than two gross brake horsepower and an automatic transmission.
 - An electric motor, with or without pedals for human propulsion. (CVC §406(a))

Driver must have a motorcycle license (M1 **or** M2).

If you operate a motorized bicycle which meets the definition of CVC §406(b), you:

- Must be 16 years of age or older.
- Must wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet.
- Are exempt from the motor vehicle financial responsibility, driver license, and moped plate requirements (CVC §12804.9).
 - A motorized bicycle is issued special license plates and identification cards, which requires a **one-time** \$18 fee. No renewal is required.

Scooters



- A motorized scooter is a two-wheeled device that has handlebars, a floorboard designed to be stood upon when riding, and is powered by a motor. Click [here](#) for more information **CVC §407.5**
- Motorized scooter does NOT have to be registered. A motorized scooter may be driven with any class driver license.