



SKILLS TESTING

SAFETY COURSES

BASIC RIDER COURSE (BRC)

RETURNING RIDER-BASIC RIDER COURSE (RR-BRC)

THE SKILLS

PROTECTIVE GEAR

Once riders are issued a Temporary Instruction Permit and are comfortable with their skills, they can contact a third-party testing agency to schedule a skills test. The test must be completed on a safe, properly registered, equipped, and maintained motorcycle.

Upon passing, a completion certificate will be issued, allowing the rider to receive their endorsement.

Visit Michigan.gov/motorcycletest for more information.

Successful completion of a Basic Rider Course or Returning Rider-Basic Rider Course allows a rider to waive the skills test requirement. Courses are offered throughout the state for novice and experienced riders.

Some insurers offer discounts on motorcycle insurance premiums for riders who complete these courses.

Visit Michigan.gov/motorcycling to locate a training site.



Operating a motorcycle safely requires a combination of skill, experience, judgment, and control. The BRC teaches the fundamentals of motorcycle riding, including:

- *How to start and stop a motorcycle and operate motorcycle controls.*
- *What to wear to be safe on the road.*
- *Strategies to avoid trouble and stay safe.*
- *How to maneuver in tough situations.*

The RR-BRC is for people with motorcycle riding experience.

Riders will practice:

- *Low speed maneuvers.*
- *How to increase visibility and optimize lane position.*
- *Swerving and maximum braking technique.*
- *Negotiating curves and avoiding obstacles.*



There are three basic but important skills that can help make a ride a safer experience.

Negotiating Curves:

Riders should slow down before a curve, look where they want to go, press the handlebar in the same direction as the curve, and roll on the throttle during the turn.

Turning: Connect the dots—look to the end of the turn and the motorcycle will follow.

Proper Braking: About seventy percent of a motorcycle's stopping power is in the front brake. Squeezing the front brake and pressing down on the rear brake will allow a rider to make smooth, controlled stops.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation recommends riders dress for safety by wearing:

- *A quality helmet and eye protection.*
- *Brightly colored clothing and a light-colored helmet.*
- *Leather or other thick, protective clothing.*
- *Long sleeves, pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves.*

Helmets are 37 percent effective in preventing fatal injuries to riders and 41 percent for passengers (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).



Motorcycle riders are encouraged to take a certified motorcycle safety training course. Motorcyclists under 18 years of age with a Michigan driver's license are required to take a motorcycle safety course as well as anyone who fails the rider skills test twice.

A valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement (CY) is required to legally ride a motorcycle on Michigan roadways. There are two methods for obtaining an endorsement.

METHOD 1

1. **Successfully complete a certified motorcycle safety course.** Visit Michigan.gov/motorcycling to locate a training site.
2. **Present a motorcycle safety course completion certificate** at a Secretary of State office, **apply for the CY endorsement, and pass vision and written knowledge tests.**

METHOD 2

1. **Pass vision and written knowledge tests** at a Secretary of State office and **receive a Temporary Instruction Permit** that allows practice riding while under the supervision of an endorsed rider.
2. **Pass a skills test through a third-party testing agency.**
3. **Present a skills test certificate** at a Secretary of State office and **apply for the CY endorsement.**



For more information on motorcycle safety, including skills testing locations and certified training programs, contact the Department of State at (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424) or visit Michigan.gov/motorcycling



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