



Motorcycle Course FAQ's

Updated October 2, 2019.

General Questions

How much do the motorcycle classes cost?

The Basic Rider Course (BRC) costs \$195, Intermediate Rider Course costs \$55.

Where do I go to take the motorcycle permit test?

Go to the nearest state exam station to take the written permit test.

What is the difference between a motorcycle and a moped?

Riding a motorcycle requires a motorcycle endorsement or a motorcycle permit. A moped can be ridden on the street by any licensed driver, or anyone 15 years of age or older with a moped permit. A scooter is either a moped or a motorcycle depending on its size: A moped is defined as having 50 cc or less, having 2 hp or less, and capable of no more than 30 mph. If it does not meet all three requirements, it is considered a motorcycle.

Does a student need to have a motorcycle?

No. In the basic class, students may bring their own motorcycle provided it is registered as a motorcycle not a moped, is street legal with an engine displacement of 500 cc or less with an unladen weight of 400 pounds or less, passes a T-CLOCS inspection, and is insured. The state does provide training bikes which are between 125 cc and 250 cc.

What types of motorcycles are used in the BRC?

The program uses Suzuki TU 250, Suzuki DR 200, Yamaha TW, and Honda Groms. These motorcycles have engine displacement that range from 125 cc to 250 cc.

What do I do if I am going to miss part of a class?

Participation is 100% mandatory and you cannot miss any part of the class.



What personal safety equipment is required by law to ride a motorcycle in Minnesota?

A DOT approved helmet is required for operators younger than 18 or for all riders with an instruction permit.

Where can I get dirt bike or three-wheeled training?

MMSC does not offer these courses; however, Dirtbike Tech (<http://dirtbiketech.com/> or 763-757-3478) offers dirt bike schools. Bill Rhones (wfrhodes@comcast.net) or Mary Langenfeld (isaiahxl31b@aol.com) offer sidecar/trike training. You can also find dirt bike schools by calling 877-288-7093.

How long is a motorcycle permit valid?

A permit is valid for one year. If it is expired less than one year and has not been tested on previously, one skills test for motorcycle endorsement may be taken.

What do I need to study for the motorcycle permit test?

The permit test is based on the Minnesota Motorcycle/Motorized Bicycle Manual. You can download an electronic copy at www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/DLTraining/DLManual/PDF/MotorcycleManual.pdf

Does anyone else offer motorcycle training in Minnesota?

Yes. Some Harley-Davidson dealerships, Rider Academy and Ride Safe, RideSmart offer motorcycle courses where you can obtain your motorcycle endorsement.

BRC Questions

Who can take the BRC?

Anyone who possesses a valid driver's permit or a driver's license.

My motorcycle permit has expired, can I still take the course?

Yes. You can still get your license if the permit has been expired for less than one year and you have not tested on it since the expiration.



What do I need to bring to the Basic Rider Course?

You will need to bring your valid driver's license or driver's permit, MSF eCourse Certificate, a DOT approved helmet, eye protection, long pants and sleeves, full-fingered gloves, and shoes or boots that cover your ankles. Minnesota residents 19 years of age or older who are planning to obtain their motorcycle license endorsement, will also need to bring a motorcycle permit and the MSF eCourse Certificate.

Do I need to have a motorcycle to take the BRC?

No. The state provides bikes for the Basic Rider Course. All the bikes are between 125 cc and 250 cc.

Do I need my motorcycle permit to take the BRC?

No. You only need a driver's license or driver's permit to take the basic class; however, if you want to earn a motorcycle endorsement through the class, Minnesota drivers must be 18 or older and have a valid motorcycle permit. Wisconsin and North Dakota residents do not need a permit to take the course.

Does a student need to pass the MSF eCourse and skills test to receive a MSF completion card?

Yes.

I lost my course completion card. How do I get another one?

Contact the college where you took the course. The college will verify you took the course and reissue a card provided it has been less than three years since you completed the course.

Can I get my motorcycle endorsement through the BRC?

Yes. Licensed Minnesota drivers 18 years of age or older with a valid motorcycle permit (or one that is expired less than one year) and completed the MSF eCourse can earn their endorsement by passing the basic rider course. The MMSC basic course also fulfills safety course requirements for Wisconsin and North Dakota residents. Only the BRC qualifies for the license endorsement.

What do I need to study for the motorcycle permit test?

The permit test is based on the Minnesota Motorcycle Motorized Bicycle Manual. You can download an electronic copy at www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/DLTraining/DLManual/PDF/MotorcycleManual.pdf



What if I lost my permit?

If an applicant loses their instruction permit with the skills test results stamped on the record of examination, they must return to the same examination station where the instruction permit was issued in order to obtain a duplicate permit. The applicant will mail the duplicate permit and a self-addressed stamped envelop to Ridgewater College, Rider Training Project Mgr., 980 2nd Ave SE, Hutchinson, MN 55350, in order for the duplicate permit to be re-stamped and returned to the applicant.

I failed the skills portion of the BRC. What do I need to do to retest?

To retest, you must have taken a BRC within the current year. You must wait one week between testing, register with the college, pay the \$75 fee and take an additional four hours of training.

Can a student ride a trike or sidecar in the BRC?

No. The state program does not offer three-wheeled training regardless of the wheel configuration.

Can a student ride a moped in the BRC?

No. (See moped description above)

Intermediate Rider Course Questions

Who should take the Intermediate Rider Course?

Relatively new motorcyclists, returning riders, and experienced motorcyclists can all benefit from this course. If you are comfortable on your own motorcycle and ready to try something new, this course is for you. It's a five-hour skills course that will build upon your existing skills and knowledge.

Are there any prerequisites for this course?

Participants must be proficient in the basic skills of clutch control, straight-line riding, turning, shifting, and stopping.

Do I need to have a motorcycle to take the Intermediate Rider Course?

Yes, in the Intermediate class, you must ride your own motorcycle. It must be street legal, you must present proof of insurance, and your motorcycle must pass a T-CLOCS inspection.

Do I need a motorcycle license to take the course?

No. However, you must have either a motorcycle endorsement or a valid motorcycle instruction permit.



What do I need to bring to the Intermediate Rider Course?

Your own motorcycle, proof of insurance, a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement or a valid motorcycle instruction permit, helmet, eye protection, long pants and sleeves, full-fingered gloves, and shoes or boots that cover your ankles.

Are passengers allowed in the Intermediate Rider Course?

Yes. Except for Exercise 1, Control at Low Speeds. Passengers should ride the exercises in which they are comfortable and will need to fill out a waiver and release of liability form.

Under 18 Questions

Is everyone under the age of 18 required to take the BRC?

Yes, if they want to obtain a motorcycle permit.

Can a student under 18 take the BRC on a Learner's or Farm Permit?

Yes, however, they cannot obtain their motorcycle permit until they are age 16 and obtain their Minnesota Driver's License (Class D). The yellow and orange cards are issued to all students who are under 18 when they complete the BRC.

Can a student under 18 obtain their motorcycle permit from a DVS Exam Station before they have their Minnesota Class D driver's license?

No. Students under 18 are required to take the course and obtain their Minnesota Driver's License (Class D) before they can obtain their motorcycle permit.

How do I obtain my motorcycle endorsement?

1. You must have a valid MN driver's license or instruction permit.
2. You must have 100% attendance in the course.
3. Upon completion of the course, you will receive two cards to take to the Driver and Vehicle Services Exam Station along with your driver's license. One card (yellow) will allow you to take the state knowledge written test. The second card (orange) will allow you to take the state skills test for the motorcycle endorsement. (You must have a MN driver's license and you will need to furnish your own bike).
4. Complete the MSF eCourse.



Over 18 Questions

If you have a valid Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license and you are 18 years old, there are two ways to earn your motorcycle endorsement.

Option 1(DVS)

1. Have a MN driver's license.
2. Pass the state knowledge written test for the motorcycle instruction permit.
3. Pass the state skills test for the motorcycle endorsement using your own bike.
4. Pay the fees.

Option 2 (BRC Course)

1. Have a valid driver's license and motorcycle permit.
2. Take the Basic Rider Course with 100% attendance.
3. Complete the MSF eCourse and pass the BRC skills test.
4. Pay the fees to acquire a duplicate license.

Can I take the skills test again if I fail the BRC?

Yes, provided you have not tested twice previously. You will have to wait at least seven days and then take the four-hour Retest Course.

Is a student, age of 18 or older, required to have a motorcycle permit to take the BRC?

Yes, if they want to take the skills test for their Minnesota motorcycle license endorsement, they also need to have a Minnesota motorcycle operator's permit (current or expired less than one year) and completed the MSF eCourse on the day of the skills test.

Out-of-State Residents

Can I take a basic rider course if I am from another state?

Yes. Anyone from another state who is age 15 or older can take a rider course provided they have either a driver's permit or driver's license. Our neighboring states of North Dakota and Wisconsin (check with your state) offer reciprocity in that they recognize the BRC taught in Minnesota for motorcycle licensure. These states may still require the student to pass a permit test administered by their state's licensing authority but waive the riding skills test for successful passing of the entire course (MSF eCourse and riding skills). Upon successful completion of the BRC, the MSF BRC Course Completion card is issued to students who successfully complete the MSF eCourse and BRC riding skills test.



How long is the BRC completion card valid?

The completion card is valid for three years.

Moped Courses

At this time, the Motorcycle Safety Foundation no longer runs these courses. M State does not run the course as well.