



Motorcycle Safety

WEEK 14: 24 AUGUST, 2020

TRAINING AND LICENSING

Driving a car and riding a motorcycle require different skills and knowledge. Although motorcycle-licensing regulations vary, all states require a motorcycle license endorsement to supplement your automobile driver's license. To receive the proper endorsement in most states, you'll need to pass written and on-cycle skills tests administered by your State's licensing agency. Some states require you to take a state-sponsored rider education course. Others waive the on-cycle skills test if you've already taken and passed a state-approved course.

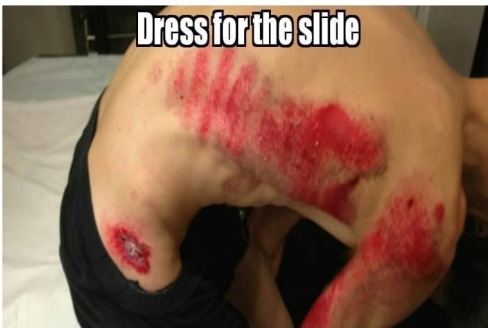
In order to ride in California, you'll need a Class M1 license, also known as a motorcycle endorsement. Option 1: You can obtain your M-1 endorsement by attending and successfully completing the CA license waiver course (MTC). See your Motorcycle Mentorship (MMP) Club President to sign up for a class. Option 2: Take the California Motorcycle Driver Skills Test - If over the age of 21. Schedule an appointment and present required documents at a California DMV. Pass the knowledge tests. Pass the motorcycle skills test.



In order to ride on Camp Pendleton, you must complete a Basic Riders Course (BRC, level I) or have an M1 endorsement. The level I course is intended to teach riders fundamental riding skills such as breaking, turning, and low speed maneuvering. Within 120 days of completing the level I course, all riders must attend a level II training course for the required follow-on training. The MSF Advanced Riders Course (ARC) and the Lee Parks Total Control Intermediate riding course (LPTC-IRC) are the two approved level II courses offered here on Camp Pendleton. In most states the BRC is the only requirement to receive a valid motorcycle

endorsement — often making mostly inexperienced riders street legal. These riders should attend the ARC/IRC as soon as possible after the BRC to further develop their skills on their own bikes before hitting the streets. The level II courses are intended to ensure that a Marine can operate his or her own motorcycle at "real world" speeds.

All riders must have a valid motorcycle endorsement or license to operate any motorcycle on public roads. Motorcycle riders should be active members in an installation/base sponsored motorcycle mentorship program or club. **All riders must complete refresher training every 3 years.**



THE RIGHT GEAR

If you're ever in a serious motorcycle crash, the best hope you have for protecting your brain is a motorcycle helmet. When the weather is warm, it can be tempting to shed some clothing for the ride. When you do so, you also put yourself at risk of severe injuries in case of a crash. Persons operating or riding as passenger on Camp Pendleton are required to use the following Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

HELMET: A helmet meeting the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), SNELL, or ANSI Safety Standard. Look for the DOT symbol on the outside back of the helmet. Snell and ANSI labels located inside the helmet also show that the helmet meets the standards of those private, non-profit organizations.

EYE PROTECTION: Shatter resistant goggles or attached full face shield.

FOOT PROTECTION: Sturdy over-the-ankle shoes (motorcycle riding boots are strongly encouraged).

HAND PROTECTION: full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for use on motorcycle (look for leather, Kevlar, or Cordura). Gloves allow for a better grip and help protect your hands in the event of a crash.

CLOTHING: Long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers. In addition to providing protection in a crash, protective gear also helps prevent dehydration.

If you have any questions regarding PPE requirements for riding on and off base, as well as general guidance on selection, contact your unit MMP President.

MOTORCYCLE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Marine Corps Order 5100.19F DRIVESAFE outlines the process and procedures for maintaining an excellent motorcycle program on and off road.

Per the order, All (battalion/squadron level and above) commands shall establish a Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP) that is structured as a club-type organization. The purpose of the motorcycle mentor program

is to identify and mentor inexperienced riders, foster respectful riding practices, and ensure continuing education opportunities are available for all riders throughout their riding career. It follows the philosophy of no man or woman left behind.

Proper management starts with ensuring every rider gets the proper training at every level from permit to permanent motorcycle

license. The mentorship program assists in accomplishing such tasks.

The MMP is a dedicated training program to preserve lives, increase experience, and avoiding motorcycle mishaps. Get involved in the MMP and participate in riding events, rider courses, and motorcycle safety awareness. Start today by contacting your unit MMP President or the Base Safety Center.



LANE SPLITTING - USE CAUTION

Lane splitting is a privilege enjoyed by California motorcyclists. With this freedom comes a greater responsibility for motorcyclists and drivers to share the road and create a safer highway environment. Although lane splitting is legal in California, motorcyclists are encouraged to exercise extreme caution when traveling between lanes of stopped or slow-moving traffic. Every rider has the ultimate responsibility for their own decision making and safety.

Consider the total environment when you are lane splitting including the width of lanes and the size of surrounding vehicles. Lane splitting is never recommended above 30 MPH and is extremely dangerous at freeway speeds.

Danger increases at greater speed differentials as overall speed increases.

It is typically safer to split between the far left lanes than between the other lanes of traffic.

Try to avoid lane splitting next to large vehicles (big rigs, buses, motorhomes, etc.). Riding on the shoulder is illegal; it is not considered lane splitting.

Be visible – Avoid remaining in the blind spots of other vehicles or lingering between vehicles. Help drivers see you by wearing brightly colored/reflective protective gear and using high beams during daylight hours.

Motorists can also do their part by sharing the road. Check your mirrors and blind spots frequently, especially before changing lanes or making a turn. Be alert and courteous while sharing the road.

NOTE: Lane splitting is not authorized when riding on Camp Pendleton.



DON'T BE A SQUID



USE COMMON SENSE



CAMP PENDLETON SAFETY CENTER

The Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton Safety Center's mission is to promote the combat readiness of operating forces by providing safety support services. Our goals are to train all Marine Corps Base commands and organizations in occupational safety and health; mishap reduction and Federal Employees' Compensation Act costs through an aggressive safety program, and to exceed the reduction goals set by the Secretary of Defense, and Headquarters Marine Corps Safety Division. Our customers are Base personnel, the operating forces, extended Marine Families, tenant commands, and occasional Reserve components.

Have a question? Email us at: Cpen_safety_help@usmc.mil

Commanding General's Safety Hotline: 760.763.7233