Know the Difference

DEVICE	E-BIKE	E-MOTO
		
DESCRIPTION	• A bicycle with electrical assistance. • Fully operable pedals.	• A motor-driven cycle. • Lacks operable pedals.
POWER	• Electric motor of 750 watts or less.	• Electric motor 751-8000 watts.
SPEED REGULATIONS	• Class 1: Pedal assist, up to 20 mph. • Class 2: Throttle assist, up to 20 mph. • Class 3: Pedal assist, up to 28 mph.	Regulated like a comparable gas-powered motorcycle or dirt bike.
AGE REQUIREMENTS	Minimum age: • 15 for Class 1 & 2 • 16 for Class 3	Minimum age: • 16 • 15 with permit
CREDENTIALS	• No driver's license, title, registration or insurance required.	• Driver's license, title, registration and insurance required for operating on public roads.
WHERE YOU CAN RIDE	• Allowed on any public road where bikes are allowed. • Prohibited on sidewalks.	• Public roads only when properly licensed, registered and equipped for street use. • Prohibited on sidewalks, bike lanes, bike paths and bike trails.

- Electric motor over 750 watts regulated like e-moto.
- Operating either type of vehicle illegally may result in fines, impoundment and/or arrests, depending on the violation.
- Before buying, check the pedals, motor wattage, maximum speed and legal requirements.
- For more information about Illinois' new e-bike, e-moto and micromobility regulations taking effect January 1, 2027, visit **ILSOS.gov**.

Visit ilsos.gov/oneroad

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ALEXI GIANNOULIAS

Illinois Micromobility Regulations

Device Type	Image	Description	Speed Capability	Current Law	SB 3484
Low-Speed Electric Bicycle*		A bicycle with fully operable pedals and electric motor less than 750 watts. Class 1 Pedal-Assist (Up to 20 mph): Motor only works when you pedal. No throttle. Class 2 Throttle-Assist (Up to 20 mph): Motor can power the bike without pedaling. Class 3 Pedal-Assist (Up to 28 mph): Motor only works when you pedal. Fastest current classification.	**20–28 mph**	• Allowed on streets, bike lanes, bike paths, and shared-use trails. • Prohibited on sidewalks. • Class 3 rider must be at least 16 years old.	• Allowed on streets, bike lanes, bike paths, and shared-use trails. • Prohibited on sidewalks. • Class 1 and 2 operators must be 15; Class 3 operators must be at least 16 years old; must be 18 to have a passenger unless they are a sibling, step sibling, child, or stepchild of the operator.
High-Speed Electric Bicycle		Pedal bicycle with an electric motor of 750+ watts that can travel faster than 28 mph.	**Up to 50+ mph**	**NO REGULATION**	• Regulated as a motor driven cycle. • Valid driver's license, title, registration and insurance required. • Prohibited on sidewalks, bike lanes and bike paths.
E-Moto		Electric motor bike with a 750+ watt motor that can travel faster than 28 mph.	**Up to 50+ mph**	**NO REGULATION**	• Regulated as a motor driven cycle. • Valid drivers license, title, registration and insurance required. • Prohibited on sidewalks, bike lanes and bike paths.
Electric Unicycle*		Self-balancing one-wheeled device with an electric propulsion system.	**Up to 50+ mph**	**NO REGULATION**	• Regulated as an electric micromobility device. • Operators must be 16. • Prohibited from operating over 28 mph and on sidewalks. • Allowed on bike lanes, bike paths, and roads with speed limits up to 35 mph; allowed on roads with speed limits over 35 mph IF there is a bike lane.
Electric Skateboard*		Skateboard powered by an electric motor.	**Up to 40 mph**	**NO REGULATION**	• Regulated as an electric micromobility device. • Operators must be 16. • Prohibited from operating over 28 mph and on sidewalks. • Allowed on bike lanes, bike paths, and roads with speed limits up to 35 mph; allowed on roads with speed limits over 35 mph IF there is a bike lane.
High-Speed Electric Scooter*		A device with 2–3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, powered by an electric motor and human power.	**Up to 50+ mph**	**NO REGULATION**	• Includes scooters over 15 mph, regulated as an electric micromobility device. • Must be 16. • Prohibited from operating over 28 mph and on sidewalks. • Allowed on bike lanes, bike paths, and roads with speed limits up to 35 mph; allowed on roads with speed limits over 35 mph IF there is a bike lane.
Low-Speed Electric Scooter*		A device with 2–3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, powered by an electric motor and human power.	**10–20 mph**	• Regulation limited to scooters capable of traveling up to 10 mph. • Rider must be at least 18 years old. • Use on streets, bike lanes, bike paths, and shared-use trails, regulated locally. • Prohibited on streets with speed limit over 35 mph and state highways.	• Includes scooters up to 15 mph, regulated as an electric micromobility device. • Must be 16. • Prohibited from operating on sidewalks. • Allowed on bike lanes, bike paths, and roads with speed limits up to 35 mph; allowed on roads with speed limits over 35 mph IF there is a bike lane.
Toy Vehicle		Battery-powered toy device operating up to 10 mph, specifically designed for children under 8.	**Up to 10 mph**	**NO REGULATION**	• Allowed on sidewalks and bike paths unless prohibited locally.

*The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), local park, forest preserve, conservation and transit districts, have the authority to regulate their individual paths and trails, allowing them to set speed limits and allow certain devices.

Tips for Everyday Trips

Useful reminders for safe travels

Driving	Riding and Rolling	Walking
• Buckle up	• Wear a helmet	• Avoid distractions
• Put the phone away	• Avoid using earbuds	• Choose safe routes
• Obey signs and signals	• Obey signs and signals	• Obey signs and signals
• Obey the speed limit	• Slow down for others	• Use crosswalks
• Slow down for others	• Use lights at night	• Be alert at intersections





Everyone should reach their destination safely!

Where to Ride & Roll in Illinois

ride ILLINOIS

	Minimum Age	Maximum Speed	License Required	Sidewalks	Bike Lanes	Sidepaths	Shared-use Trails	Roads: ≤ 35 mph Speed Limit	Roads: > 35 mph Speed Limit
Bicycle	N/A	N/A	✗	✓†	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓‡
Electric Toy Vehicle	N/A	10	✗	✓	✗	✓	Regulations vary. Check with local government or agency.	✗	✗
Low-speed e-scooter	16	15	✗	✗	✓	✓		✓	If bike lane is present
High-speed e-scooter	16	>15	✗	✗	Less than 28 mph			✓	
Class 1 and 2 e-bike	15	20	✗	✗	✓	✓		✓	✓‡
Class 3 e-bike	16	28	✗	✗	✓	✓		✓	✓‡
Motor Driven Cycle (e-moto)	16*	>28	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓‡
Moped	16*	30	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓‡

*Age 15 with a learner's permit

† Unless restricted by local government

‡ Prohibited on interstates and limited-access highways