

Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives

NO MOTORCYCLE LICENSE

DISMISSAL PACKET

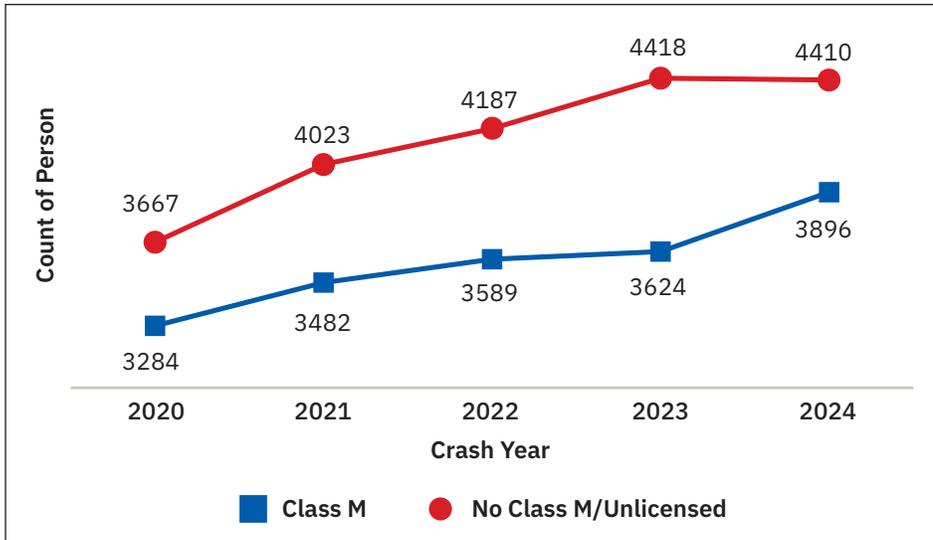


MUNICIPAL TRAFFIC SAFETY INITIATIVES



Texas Has a Big Problem with Unlicensed Motorcyclists!

The majority of motorcycle collisions in Texas from 2020–2024 involved a rider without a Class M license. The graph below shows the number of collisions for unlicensed (red) versus licensed (blue) riders:



Data used was pulled from the TxDOT Crash Records Information System, updated 4/29/2025. All motorcycle rider and passenger injury severities, not including out-of-state or unknown license status.



Since 2020, over half of the motorcycle operators killed on Texas roads did not have a valid motorcycle (Class M) license.

What Can You Do About It?

Order Obtaining a Class M License as a Condition of Deferred Disposition

It has been suggested that a lack of training is a major reason unlicensed riders are more likely to be involved in a collision than licensed ones. Municipal judges are uniquely situated to address the problems above.

If a person is charged with operating a motorcycle without a Class M license or was operating a motorcycle without a license at the time of some other offense, **a municipal judge may grant deferred disposition with a condition that the person obtain a Class M license.**

Obtaining a Class M license requires extensive training on motorcycle operation and safety. Therefore, such a condition would go a long way in making Texas riders safer. Information on how to obtain a Class M license is attached to this packet and may be given to defendants.



Motorcycle riders taking a motorcycle safety course in order to obtain their Class M license.

Applicable Law

Section 521.085(a), Transportation Code

“[A] license holder may operate any vehicle of the type for which that class of license is issued and any lesser type of vehicle other than a motorcycle.”

Article 45A.303(b)(10), Code of Criminal Procedure

During deferred disposition, the judge may require the defendant to “comply with any...reasonable condition.”

For more information or questions, contact Ned Minevitz at ned@tmcec.com or (512) 320-8274.

Obtaining a Class M License

RIDER HANDOUT



Need To Get Your Class M (Motorcycle) License?

Here's what you should know to get started.

To obtain a Texas Class M license, you must first complete an approved entry-level motorcycle safety course. There are beginner, intermediate, and 3-wheel courses available. Choose the one that best fits your experience level.

It's about staying safe and legal on the road.



How to Get Your Motorcycle License

A motorcycle (Class M) license is required to ride a motorcycle in Texas, even if you have a valid Texas driver license.

Follow the steps below to get your Texas motorcycle license!

Scan the QR code to learn more about training and licensing to obtain your Class M license in Texas.



Meet the Qualifications

- Have valid driver license, or
- Have a learner license, or
- Have a provisional driver license.

If you don't meet one of these qualifications, learn more about the [requirements for getting a motorcycle license](#).

Motorcycle Safety Course

- [Find a school](#)
- Successfully complete an approved motorcycle safety course.
- Obtain a certificate of completion (MSB-8).
- MSB-8 is effective for licensing for 24 months.

Gather your documents

- [U.S. Citizenship](#) or, if you are not a U.S. Citizen, [evidence of lawful presence](#)
- [Texas Residency](#)
- [Identity](#)
- [Social Security Number](#)
- Evidence of Texas Vehicle Registration* for each vehicle you own. Registration must be current.
 - » Visit [Texas DMV vehicle registration](#) for more information (New Residents who are surrendering an out-of-state driver license only)
- Proof of Insurance* for each vehicle you own

- Motorcycle Safety Course completion certificate (MSB-8)
- [Driver License Application](#)
 - » Check the Motorcycle: Yes

** If you do not own a vehicle, you will sign a statement affirming this.*

Go to the DPS Licensing Office

- Making an [appointment](#) is encouraged.
- Provide your documents and
 - » Have a picture taken
 - » Pass the vision exam
 - » Pay the application [fee](#).

- [Minors \(15–17 years\)](#) additionally are required to:
 - » Bring a parent/legal guardian
 - » Take a Motorcycle Drive Test or apply for a J restriction.
 - » 15 year-olds may apply for an I restriction (under 250cubic centimeter piston displacement).