

GHSA Conference

Motorcycle Licensing and Safety

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Presentation Topics

1. Overview of Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training
2. Overview of the Guidelines for Motorcycle Operator Licensing Systems

Objective of Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training

- To develop model National Standards for Entry-Level Motorcycle Rider Training on the basis of current research, data and the input of an expert working group of subject-matter experts in the curriculum development, driver licensing, motorcycle rider training and traffic safety research communities.

Purpose of Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training

- Serve as model standards for all novice motorcycle rider training programs conducted in the United States.
- Represent a consensus on minimum standards for entry-level rider training that is based on research, data and the input of national subject matter experts.



Purpose of Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training

- Serve as a resource to States, which can select education and training curricula or develop their own training based on the specific needs of their State.
- Be refined further, based on additional future research relevant to the Standards.



Goals of Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training

- To improve on-road safety of motorcycles.
- To identify standards which will contribute to a reduction in crashes, injuries and fatalities.
- To be realistic yet demanding in our expectations.
- To obtain consensus but not at the cost of reduced quality.

How Motorcycle Standards Will Assist Rider Training and Licensing

- A completed list of standards for motorcycle rider education will assist:
 - Program developers to create a motorcycle safety course designed to reduce fatalities.
 - In evaluating current or future motorcycle rider education.
 - In creating uniformity among all rider education courses.
 - In developing end of course tests and state rider licensing tests.

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Conclusion of Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training

- The development and maintenance of Model National Standards for Entry-Level Motorcycle Rider Training will serve as a national baseline for all entry-level motorcycle training programs, representing the minimum knowledge, attitude and physical skill requirements for on-street riding.

Model National Standards for Motorcycle Entry Level Rider Training

- This project is currently in progress with a projected delivery date of July 2011.
- For more information please contact:

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Guidelines for Motorcycle Operator Licensing Systems

- Driver license agencies must implement improved motorcycle licensing practices and take appropriate countermeasures to reduce motorcyclist fatalities and crashes.
- This can be accomplished by implementing the following recommendations.



Recommendations

- require applicants to successfully pass a motorcycle-specific knowledge test in order to obtain a learner's permit and a motorcycle-specific skills/road test to qualify for a full license,
- require that skills/road tests be based on appropriate and current national and jurisdictional crash data and knowledge and skills/road tests be measured for their validity and reliability,

Recommendations

- require that the learner's permit be valid for a maximum of ninety days and limit the permit to one renewal or a maximum of two learner's permits under a non-GDL system for motorcycle riders,
- apply restrictions to the learner's permit (zero tolerance for alcohol and drugs, passenger restriction, mandatory helmet and eye protection, proper riding gear, no interstate riding, restricted nighttime riding, in-jurisdiction only restriction, supervision and special license plates or markers),

Recommendations

- require operators to complete an approved rider education course, if the applicant fails the licensing test twice,
- expand testing locations and extend testing hours to accommodate the demand,
- collect and maintain traffic records of motorcycle permit and license holders from their entry to and exit from the licensing system,

Recommendations

- check driver and registration records to ensure that the primary operator is properly licensed,
- require a tamper resistant rider education course completion certificate and establish a means of validating it in order to waive testing requirements for an applicant,
- establish partnerships with other government agencies to help and assist in reducing the unlicensed rider problem,

Recommendations

- develop and enhance judicial outreach programs and public information and education (PI&E) programs in coordination with the State's Highway Safety Office,
- coordinate with the State's Highway Safety Office to encourage law enforcement to fully enforce citations and convictions and impound motorcycles when the operator is not properly licensed,

Recommendations

- follow the requirements for third party training/testing and oversight,
- require all license examiners to undergo initial, in-service training and refresher training periodically and become certified through the AAMVA examiner certification program,
- maintain systems for monitoring examiners and the examination process,

Recommendations

- implement a comprehensive graduated rider licensing system, and
- integrate motorcycle rider education and licensing.



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Guidelines for Motorcycle Operator Licensing Systems

- This document can be found at:
 - <http://www.aamva.org>
 - Drivers
 - Driver Licensing
 - Motorcycle Licensing
 - <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

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