

NOT ALL MOTORIZED "BIKES" ARE E-BIKES!

Some motorized or modified bikes **do not meet the state's legal definition of an e-bike** — meaning they are subject to additional regulations regarding age, licensure, registration, and where they can ride.

E-BIKE

E-MOTO



VS



ELECTRIC BIKES

Must have pedals; electric power helps you ride

Must not exceed 28 mph

No registration needed

Can be operated by all ages and does not require a license

Does not require a motorcycle endorsement

Can ride anywhere that bicycles are allowed to operate

MOTORIZED BIKES

Mostly or completely electric powered

Exceeds 28 mph

Must be registered with the DMV

Must be operated by someone 16 or older with a valid license

Requires a motorcycle endorsement

Can ride on streets only

Modifying e-bikes to exceed their motor speed or remove pedals is illegal, unsafe, and makes them no longer street-legal. These types of vehicles cannot be operated on public roads without the proper operator licensing and vehicle registration requirements.

HOW CAN I TELL IF AN ELECTRIC BIKE MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS?

By Florida law, manufacturers and distributors of e-bikes must apply a label permanently affixed in a prominent location to an e-bike that displays:

CLASSIFICATION NUMBER

TOP ASSISTED SPEED

MOTOR WATTAGE

Stick to unmodified, legal e-bikes.

Ride safely and follow speed limits.

F.S. 316.20655

MORE E-BIKE SAFETY TIPS



Wear Your Gear: helmets are always recommended (and required for riders under 16)



Stay Visible: wear bright, reflective clothing and use your bike lights



Be Courteous: slow down near pedestrians and yield when needed



Ride Predictably: obey road signs, ride with traffic, and signal turns and stops



Control Your Speed: follow speed limits, stay alert, and don't push past your limits



Ride Solo: don't ride on your e-bike with another rider



Eyes Up, Distractions Down: put the phone away and focus on your surroundings



Maintain Your Ride: check brakes, tires, lights, and battery to keep your ride safe

SHOULD AN E-BIKE RIDER WEAR A STURDIER HELMET?

Since e-bikes can travel at higher average speeds, a helmet with full-coverage or reinforced impact protection can reduce the risk of head injury. Knee and elbow pads add extra protection. Make sure to wear a properly fitted helmet.

THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT FIVE

E-BIKES IN FLORIDA: WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW



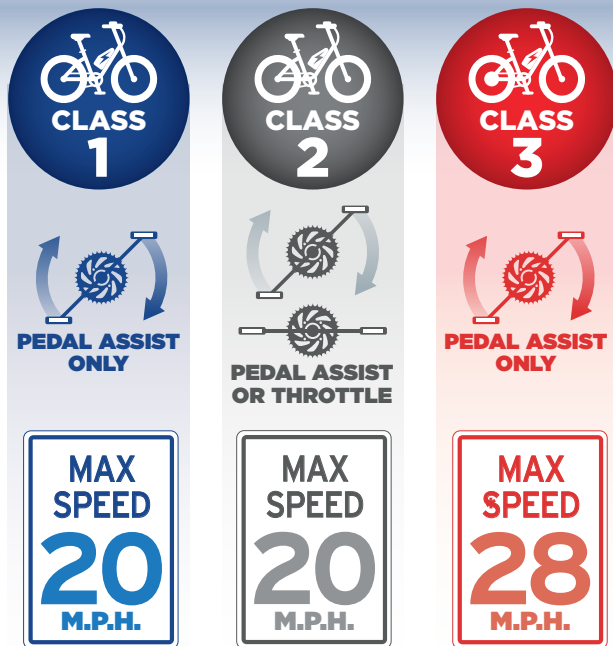
E-bikes are growing in popularity across Florida and allow bicyclists to travel at faster speeds and farther distances. **But not all e-bikes are the same.** Use this guide before buying or riding an e-bike — for yourself or a loved one.



WHAT IS AN E-BIKE?

Electric bicycles ("e-bikes") are defined by Florida law as having 2 or 3 wheels, fully operable pedals, a seat or saddle, and an electric motor of 750 watts or less. E-bikes fall into three classifications.

E-BIKE CLASSIFICATIONS



*Max speeds refer to when the motor will no longer provide assistance. If modified, some e-bikes may exceed 28 mph and can reach 70 mph. Check specifications and safety before purchasing for young riders.

DO E-BIKES REQUIRE LICENSE AND REGISTRATION?

E-bikes do not require a license, registration, or insurance, unlike mopeds, motorcycles, or other motor vehicles under Florida law.

WHY DO E-BIKE CLASSIFICATIONS MATTER?

Local governments can adopt ordinances governing where each class of e-bike can ride. **Before you buy (or ride), make sure you know your local laws.**

F.S. 316.003 (23), F.S. 316.20655 (2)

WHERE CAN YOU RIDE IN FLORIDA?

By Florida law, e-bikes have the same rights and rules of the road as traditional bicycles, meaning **they can ride everywhere bikes ride.**



Roads and Streets: All classes are allowed on public roads where bicycles are permitted.



Multi-Use Trails and Paths: Classes 1 and 2 are allowed. Class 3 may be subject to local regulations.



Sidewalks: Check local regulations as local governments regulate the use of e-bikes on sidewalks.



Parks and Conservation Spaces: E-bike usage is regulated locally; check resource management regulations.



Beaches: Some local governments ban e-bikes on the beach; check local regulations.

Always check local ordinances for restrictions or prohibition of e-bikes. When in doubt, choose roads or designated bike paths to ride your e-bike.

ARE THERE AGE RESTRICTIONS FOR RIDING AND OPERATING E-BIKES IN FLORIDA?

Currently, there is no state law restricting anyone from operating e-bikes. The only law surrounding riding e-bikes, traditional bicycles, and other similar mobility devices requires that all operators and riders under 16 years of age wear a helmet. **Helmets are always recommended for all ages, not just for those under 16.**

FLORIDA LAW UPDATE!

As of July 1, 2025, local governments may require age minimums and/or government-issued photo ID for e-bike riders.

Check local ordinances for updates before you ride.

F.S. 316.20655, <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/462>

E-BIKE SAFETY & SPEEDING

ARE E-BIKES SUBJECT TO SPEED LIMITS?

Yes, **e-bikes are subject to speed limits** on all roadways, sidewalks, and trails — just like other bicycles and vehicles.

WHAT ARE THE ADDED RISKS OF RIDING E-BIKES?

E-bikes go faster and handle differently than traditional bikes, increasing the risk of crashes. Class 1 and 2 e-bikes can travel up to 20 mph and class 3 up to 28 mph with motor-assist. **In comparison, the average bicyclist rides at 12 mph.**

From 2017-2022, e-bikes were linked to



53,000 ER visits and 104 deaths.

In 2022 alone, 24,400 visits were reported.

Source: Micromobility Products-Related Deaths, Injuries, and Hazard Patterns: 2017-2022, United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, September 2023

ARE E-BIKES SAFE FOR KIDS AND TEENAGERS TO RIDE?

*The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends that children age 9-12 years should not operate any product that travels faster than 10 mph.

Kids and teens can safely ride e-bikes with the correct precautions in place. This includes protective gear, knowing the rules and etiquette of the road, and proper supervision.

Riding alongside your child is a great way to ensure they follow the rules of the road and can handle different riding conditions.

*US Consumer Product Safety Commission 2020 Age Determination Guidelines