

## Motorcycle Safety

Motorcycle operator licensing is another major component to a comprehensive motorcycle safety program. By obtaining a specialized motorcycle license, a motorcyclist demonstrates the minimum ability to safely operate a motorcycle on the roadway. All 50 States require a motorcycle operator to obtain a license or endorsement to operate such a vehicle.

Any person who operates a motorcycle on an Army installation must be licensed to operate a motorcycle on a public highway.

### Motorcycle Safety Course

No person shall operate a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal unless he/she is in complete compliance with the following safety/equipment guidelines:

- A Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) course completion card/certificate must be in the possession of the operator. Failure to produce one of these documents if stopped by law enforcement personnel may result in a citation being issued.
- Motorcycles must have headlights turned on at all times while in operation.
- All motorcycles must have two rear view mirrors (one mirror on each side).



To permanently register a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal, the DOD requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. There are two courses offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space-available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. To enroll in motorcycle training, e-mail MSF Rider Coach, Ralph Harris, at [93hdstc@bellsouth.net](mailto:93hdstc@bellsouth.net). The U.S. Army Garrison Safety contact is Keith Coates at 876-3383 or [keith.coates@us.army.mil](mailto:keith.coates@us.army.mil). To formally register for a course, please go to the following website <https://airs.lmi.org> From the home page click on Courses, Region-South East; Garrison-Redstone; Course- Experienced Rider Course or Basic Rider Course. Please fill in all the required information. If you do not have a Grade...input N/A

NOTE: While waiting to take a motorcycle course, you can get a temporary badge for 30 days at the vehicle Registration (Gate 9) or at Building 3423, Gray Road (876-5770).

### Key Messages:

1. Get trained and licensed
2. Wear protective gear – all the gear, all the time – including a helmet manufactured to the standards set up by the DOT
3. Ride unimpaired by alcohol or other drugs
4. Ride within your own skill limits
5. Be a lifelong learner by taking refresher rider courses



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The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) offers these rules for motorcycle drivers:

- Treat other motorists with courtesy and respect.
- Avoid tailgating.
- Avoid riding between lanes of slow moving or stopped traffic.
- Know and obey traffic laws, including ordinances in your community.
- Avoid excessive noise by leaving the stock muffler in place or using a muffler of equivalent noise reduction.
- Use signals when appropriate.
- Watch out for blind spots. Truck drivers may not be able to see you.
- Watch your speed. Motorcycles accelerate faster than most other vehicles.
- Wear safety clothing to include boots, a jacket and gloves. Always wear a Department of Transportation approved helmet.



The information in this article was provided by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF), The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Army Garrison Safety Office, and the HNC Public Affairs Office.

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