

# NOT ALL MOTORIZED "BIKES" ARE E-BIKES!

Florida law defines specific criteria for an electric bicycle. Devices that do not meet the criteria and legal definition might not be street legal and may require registration, licensing, and insurance.

## E-Bike



Operable pedals

2–3 wheels with a seat or saddle

Max assisted speed of 28 mph

Electric motor of less than 750 watts

No license or endorsement required

### Devices that Do Not Meet Legal E-Bike Criteria:

**Modified e-bikes** with removed pedals, higher attainable speeds, or increased motor wattage.

**Converted or custom-built bikes** exceeding legal limits.

**Other motorized or electric vehicles**, such as mopeds, motorized scooters, or dirt bikes.

### 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 on 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. 316.2065](#)

# MORE E-BIKE SAFETY TIPS



**Wear Your Gear:** helmets are required for riders under 16 and recommended for everyone.



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



**Be Courteous:** slow down near others, signal when passing, and always yield to people walking.\*



**Ride Predictably:** obey road signs, ride with the flow of traffic, and signal turns and stops.



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



**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 ensure a safe ride.

\*F.S. 316.2065 (10)

### 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

# 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.

The information in this pamphlet is up to date as of January 2026. Always refer to the most recent local and state regulations when operating any vehicle on any roadway.



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# 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 less than 750 watts. E-bikes fall into three classifications.

## E-BIKE CLASSIFICATIONS



**PEDAL ASSIST ONLY**

**MAX SPEED  
20  
M.P.H.**



**PEDAL ASSIST OR THROTTLE**

**MAX SPEED  
20  
M.P.H.**



**PEDAL ASSIST ONLY**

**MAX SPEED\*  
28  
M.P.H.**

\*Maximum speeds indicate the point at which the motor stops providing assistance. Some e-bike models can operate as both Class 2 and Class 3, allowing riders to switch between the two modes. Check specifications and safety before purchasing.

## 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.

# 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 OPERATING E-BIKES IN FLORIDA?

Currently, Florida has no minimum age to operate an e-bike but local jurisdictions may adopt age restrictions.

## 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.**

## FLORIDA MUNICODE LIBRARY

[library.municode.com/fl](http://library.municode.com/fl)

# 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 speed is 12 mph on bike lanes and 9 mph on sidewalks.**

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.