**2014 Revised Code of Washington
Title 46 - MOTOR VEHICLES
46.04 Definitions.
46.04.169 Electric-assisted bicycle.**

**RCW 46.04.169 Electric-assisted bicycle.**

"Electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle with two or three wheels, a saddle, fully operative pedals for human propulsion, and an electric motor. The electric-assisted bicycle's electric motor must have a power output of no more than one thousand watts, be incapable of propelling the device at a speed of more than twenty miles per hour on level ground, and be incapable of further increasing the speed of the device when human power alone is used to propel the device beyond twenty miles per hour.

[1997 c 328 § 1.]

**2014 Revised Code of Washington
Title 46 - MOTOR VEHICLES
46.61 Rules of the road.
46.61.710 Mopeds, EPAMDs, electric-assisted bicycles, motorized foot scooters -- General requirements and operation.**

**RCW 46.61.710 Mopeds, EPAMDs, electric-assisted bicycles, motorized foot scooters — General requirements and operation.**

(1) No person shall operate a moped upon the highways of this state unless the moped has been assigned a moped registration number and displays a moped permit in accordance with RCW 46.16A.405(2).

     (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a moped may not be operated on a bicycle path or trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail.

     (3) Operation of a moped, electric personal assistive mobility device, motorized foot scooter, or an electric-assisted bicycle on a fully controlled limited access highway is unlawful. Operation of a moped, motorized foot scooter, or an electric-assisted bicycle on a sidewalk is unlawful.

     (4) Removal of any muffling device or pollution control device from a moped is unlawful.

     (5) Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of this section do not apply to electric-assisted bicycles. Electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters may have access to highways, other than limited access highways, of the state to the same extent as bicycles. Subject to subsection (6) of this section, electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters may be operated on a multipurpose trail or bicycle lane, but local jurisdictions may restrict or otherwise limit the access of electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters, and state agencies may regulate the use of motorized foot scooters on facilities and properties under their jurisdiction and control.

     (6) Subsections (1) and (4) of this section do not apply to motorized foot scooters. Subsection (2) of this section applies to motorized foot scooters when the bicycle path, trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail was built or is maintained with federal highway transportation funds. Additionally, any new trail or bicycle path or readily identifiable existing trail or bicycle path not built or maintained with federal highway transportation funds may be used by persons operating motorized foot scooters only when appropriately signed.

     (7) A person operating an electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) shall obey all speed limits and shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and human-powered devices at all times. An operator must also give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. Except for the limitations of this subsection, persons operating an EPAMD have all the rights and duties of a pedestrian.

     (8) The use of an EPAMD may be regulated in the following circumstances:

     (a) A municipality and the department of transportation may prohibit the operation of an EPAMD on public highways within their respective jurisdictions where the speed limit is greater than twenty-five miles per hour;

     (b) A municipality may restrict the speed of an EPAMD in locations with congested pedestrian or nonmotorized traffic and where there is significant speed differential between pedestrians or nonmotorized traffic and EPAMD operators. The areas in this subsection must be designated by the city engineer or designee of the municipality. Municipalities shall not restrict the speed of an EPAMD in the entire community or in areas in which there is infrequent pedestrian traffic;

     (c) A state agency or local government may regulate the operation of an EPAMD within the boundaries of any area used for recreation, open space, habitat, trails, or conservation purposes.

[2011 c 171 § 81; 2009 c 275 § 9; 2003 c 353 § 10; 2002 c 247 § 7; 1997 c 328 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 8.]

Notes:

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|      **Intent -- Effective date -- 2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.     **Effective date -- 2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.     **Legislative review -- 2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695. |

**2014 Revised Code of Washington
Title 46 - MOTOR VEHICLES
46.04 Definitions.
46.04.320 Motor vehicle.**

**RCW 46.04.320 Motor vehicle.**

"Motor vehicle" means every vehicle that is self-propelled and every vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails. "Motor vehicle" includes a neighborhood electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.357. "Motor vehicle" includes a medium-speed electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.295. An electric personal assistive mobility device is not considered a motor vehicle. A power wheelchair is not considered a motor vehicle. A golf cart is not considered a motor vehicle, except for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW.

[2010 c 217 § 1; 2007 c 510 § 1. Prior: 2003 c 353 § 1; 2003 c 141 § 2; 2002 c 247 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.320; prior: 1959 c 49 § 33; 1955 c 384 § 10; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

Notes:

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|      **Effective date -- 2007 c 510:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2007." [2007 c 510 § 6.]     **Effective date -- 2003 c 353:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2003." [2003 c 353 § 12.]     **Legislative review -- 2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695. |

**2014 Revised Code of Washington
Title 46 - MOTOR VEHICLES
46.37 Vehicle lighting and other equipment.
46.37.530 Motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, mopeds, electric-assisted bicycles -- Helmets, other equipment -- Children -- Rules.**

**RCW 46.37.530 Motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, mopeds, electric-assisted bicycles — Helmets, other equipment — Children — Rules.**

(1) It is unlawful:

     (a) For any person to operate a motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle not equipped with mirrors on the left and right sides which shall be so located as to give the driver a complete view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of the motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle: PROVIDED, That mirrors shall not be required on any motorcycle or motor-driven cycle over twenty-five years old originally manufactured without mirrors and which has been restored to its original condition and which is being ridden to or from or otherwise in conjunction with an antique or classic motorcycle contest, show, or other such assemblage: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no mirror is required on any motorcycle manufactured prior to January 1, 1931;

     (b) For any person to operate a motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle which does not have a windshield unless wearing glasses, goggles, or a face shield of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol;

     (c) For any person to operate or ride upon a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or moped on a state highway, county road, or city street unless wearing upon his or her head a motorcycle helmet except when the vehicle is an antique motor-driven cycle or when the vehicle is equipped with all of the following:

     (i) Steering wheel;

     (ii) Seat belts that conform to standards prescribed under 49 C.F.R. Part 571; and

     (iii) Partially or completely enclosed seating area for the driver and passenger that is certified by the manufacturer as meeting the standards prescribed under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.216.

     The motorcycle helmet neck or chin strap must be fastened securely while the motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle is in motion. Persons operating electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters shall comply with all laws and regulations related to the use of bicycle helmets;

     (d) For any person to transport a child under the age of five on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle;

     (e) For any person to sell or offer for sale a motorcycle helmet that does not meet the requirements established by this section.

     (2) The state patrol may adopt and amend rules concerning standards for glasses, goggles, and face shields.

     (3) For purposes of this section, "motorcycle helmet" means a protective covering for the head consisting of a hard outer shell, padding adjacent to and inside the outer shell, and a neck or chin strap type retention system, with the manufacturer's certification applied in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.218 indicating that the motorcycle helmet meets standards established by the United States department of transportation.

[2009 c 275 § 5; 2003 c 197 § 1; 1997 c 328 § 4; 1990 c 270 § 7. Prior: 1987 c 454 § 1; 1987 c 330 § 732; 1986 c 113 § 8; 1982 c 77 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 55; 1971 ex.s. c 150 § 1; 1969 c 42 § 1; 1967 c 232 § 4.]

Notes:

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| **Rules of court:**  Monetary penalty schedule -- IRLJ 6.2.     **Short title -- 1990 c 270:** See RCW 43.70.440.     **Construction -- Application of rules -- Severability -- 1987 c 330:** See notes following RCW 28B.12.050.     **Severability -- 1982 c 77:** See note following RCW 46.20.500.     **Severability -- 1977 ex.s. c 355:** See note following RCW 46.37.010.Maximum height for handlebars: RCW 46.61.611.Riding on motorcycles: RCW 46.61.610.  |

**2014 Revised Code of Washington
Title 46 - MOTOR VEHICLES
46.16A Registration.
46.16A.080 Registration -- Exemptions.**

**RCW 46.16A.080 Registration — Exemptions.**

The following vehicles are not required to be registered under this chapter:

     (1) Converter gears used to convert a semitrailer into a trailer or a two-axle truck or tractor into a three or more axle truck or tractor or used in any other manner to increase the number of axles of a vehicle;

     (2) Electric-assisted bicycles;

     (3)(a) Farm vehicles operated within a radius of twenty-five miles of the farm where it is principally used or garaged for the purposes of traveling between farms or other locations to engage in activities that support farming operations, (b) farm tractors and farm implements including trailers designed as cook or bunk houses used exclusively for animal herding temporarily operating or drawn upon the public highways, and (c) trailers used exclusively to transport farm implements from one farm to another during daylight hours or at night when the trailer is equipped with lights that comply with applicable law;

     (4) Forklifts operated during daylight hours on public highways adjacent to and within five hundred feet of the warehouses they serve;

     (5) Golf carts, as defined in RCW 46.04.1945, operating within a designated golf cart zone as described in RCW 46.08.175;

     (6) Motor vehicles operated solely within a national recreation area that is not accessible by a state highway, including motorcycles, motor homes, passenger cars, and sport utility vehicles. This exemption applies only after initial registration;

     (7) Motorized foot scooters;

     (8) Nurse rigs or equipment auxiliary for the use of and designed or modified for the fueling, repairing, or loading of spray and fertilizer applicator rigs and not used, designed, or modified primarily for the purpose of transportation;

     (9) Off-road vehicles operated on a street, road, or highway as authorized under RCW 46.09.360, or nonhighway roads under RCW 46.09.450;

     (10) Special highway construction equipment;

     (11) Dump trucks and tractor-dump trailer combinations that are:

     (a) Designed and used primarily for construction work on highways;

     (b) Not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property on a public highway; and

     (c) Only incidentally operated or moved over the highways;

     (12) Spray or fertilizer applicator rigs designed and used exclusively for spraying or fertilization in the conduct of agricultural operations and not primarily for the purpose of transportation;

     (13) Tow dollies;

     (14) Trams used for transporting persons to and from facilities related to the horse racing industry as regulated in chapter 67.16 RCW, as long as the public right-of-way routes over which the trams operate are not more than one mile from end to end, the public rights-of-way over which the tram operates have average daily traffic of not more than fifteen thousand vehicles per day, and the activity is in conformity with federal law. The operator must be a licensed driver and at least eighteen years old. For the purposes of this section, "tram" also means a vehicle, or combination of vehicles linked together with a single mode of propulsion, used to transport persons from one location to another; and

     (15) Vehicles used by the state parks and recreation commission exclusively for park maintenance and operations upon public highways within state parks.

[2013 c 299 § 2; 2011 c 171 § 45; 2010 c 161 § 404.]

Notes:

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|      **Intent -- Effective date -- 2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.     **Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session -- 2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013. |

**2014 Revised Code of Washington
Title 46 - MOTOR VEHICLES
46.20 Drivers' licenses -- Identicards.
46.20.500 Special endorsement -- Exceptions.**

**RCW 46.20.500 Special endorsement — Exceptions.**

(1) No person may drive either a two-wheeled or a three-wheeled motorcycle, or a motor-driven cycle unless such person has a valid driver's license specially endorsed by the director to enable the holder to drive such vehicles.

     (2) However, a person sixteen years of age or older, holding a valid driver's license of any class issued by the state of the person's residence, may operate a moped without taking any special examination for the operation of a moped.

     (3) No driver's license is required for operation of an electric-assisted bicycle if the operator is at least sixteen years of age. Persons under sixteen years of age may not operate an electric-assisted bicycle.

     (4) No driver's license is required to operate an electric personal assistive mobility device or a power wheelchair.

     (5) No driver's license is required to operate a motorized foot scooter. Motorized foot scooters may not be operated at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise without reflectors of a type approved by the state patrol.

     (6) A person holding a valid driver's license may operate a motorcycle as defined under RCW 46.04.330(2) without a motorcycle endorsement.

     (7) A person operating a motorcycle with a stabilizing conversion kit must have a valid driver's license specially endorsed by the director for a three-wheeled motorcycle to enable the holder to operate such a motorcycle.

[2013 c 174 § 2; 2009 c 275 § 4. Prior: 2003 c 353 § 9; 2003 c 141 § 7; 2003 c 41 § 1; 2002 c 247 § 6; 1999 c 274 § 8; 1997 c 328 § 3; 1982 c 77 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 6; 1967 c 232 § 1.]

Notes:

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| **Rules of court:**  Monetary penalty schedule -- IRLJ 6.2.     **Effective date -- 2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.     **Short title -- 2003 c 41:** "This act shall be known as the Monty Lish Memorial Act." [2003 c 41 § 6.]     **Effective date -- 2003 c 41:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2004." [2003 c 41 § 7.]     **Legislative review -- 2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695.     **Severability -- 1982 c 77:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 77 § 10.]Mopeds   operation and safety standards: RCW 46.61.710, 46.61.720.   registration: RCW 46.16A.405(2).  |