

What You Should Know

Children and young teenagers have likely never driven a vehicle before and are not familiar with traffic laws. They are often unaware of the traffic around them as well as traffic hazards that exist.

We have all seen it; a young child riding a moped or motorized scooter down the street or sidewalk, not paying attention to traffic on the roadways and not obeying stop signs or traffic lights.

DL = Driver's License Reg = Registration

Road = Roadway Side = Sidewalk



**City of Naples
Police Department**



General Guide to State Law Requirements

* Although Go-peds/gas scooters are considered motor vehicles, they can not be registered and therefore can not be ridden on the street.

Type	DL	Reg	Road	Side
Motorized Scooter/ Go-Ped (Gas/Electric)	Yes	Yes *	No	No
Moped (Gas/Electric)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Pedal only
Motorized Bicycle (Electric)	No	No	Yes	Pedal only

For more information contact:

**Naples Police Department
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**A Guide to
Mopeds, Go-peds, &
Motorized Scooters**



Motorized Scooters and Go-Peds

Motorized scooters/go-peds are small two or three-wheel vehicles that a person may stand or sit upon to operate or ride. Some have electric motors and some have gas engines. The steering is

managed by the use of a T-shaped handlebar.

Motorized scooters and go-peds cannot be legally operated on public roadways, sidewalks, or bicycle paths.

Mopeds and Motorized Bicycles

Mopeds have a 50 cc or less engine with two wheels and can travel a maximum speed of 30 miles per hour. Motorized bicycles have electric helper motors and can travel a maximum of 20 miles per hour. Both mopeds and motorized bicycles have pedals and may be operated solely by human power.

A driver must have at least a Class E driver's license and tag registration to legally operate a moped. The operator of a motorized bicycle does not require a driver's license.

Persons 16 years old and older may operate a moped or a motorized bicycle on public roadways. Mopeds and motorized bicycles can be operated on sidewalks and bike paths only if operated solely by human power. Persons under 16 years old may only operate mopeds on private property and must wear protective headgear securely fastened upon their heads.

Where can my child ride a motorized scooter or go-ped?

A juvenile may ride motorized scooters and go-peds on private property with permission from the owner of the property (e.g., driveway, yard). A person may not ride motorized scooters or go-peds on sidewalks, bike paths, or roadways.

If motorized scooters or go-peds are illegal to ride on the roadways and sidewalks, then why are businesses allowed to sell them?

It is not against the law to possess, use, or operate a motorized scooter or go-ped, as long as you are on private property. Therefore, it is not against the law for businesses to sell them.



What are the consequences should my child be stopped by a law enforcement officer while riding his motorized scooter, go-ped, moped, or motorized bicycle?

A person who operates or allows a juvenile to operate any motorized scooter, go-ped, moped, or motorized bicycle in violation of the law may be subject to the following:

- ◆ If caught operating a moped or motorized bicycle using engine power, or a motorized scooter or go-ped on a sidewalk, the operator will be issued a moving traffic citation for operating a motorized vehicle on a sidewalk. Florida Statute 316.1995.
- ◆ The operator is also eligible to receive a criminal citation for operating an unregistered motor vehicle. This is a criminal violation which requires a mandatory court date and the operator is subject to arrest. Florida Statute 320.02.
- ◆ To operate a motor vehicle in the State of Florida, the operator must possess a valid driver's license. If the operator is caught operating a motor vehicle without a valid license, he or she is subject to a criminal citation, mandatory court appearance, and/or arrest. Florida Statute 322.03.
- ◆ Parents who knowingly allow a juvenile who has no driver's license to operate a motor vehicle on public streets may be cited for a violation of Florida Statute 322.35, "Permitting an Unauthorized Minor to Drive." This is an arrestable misdemeanor.

Note: All criminal violations involve issuance of a Uniform Traffic Citation, mandatory court date, and/or arrest.