



CACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

D. CHAD JENSEN, SHERIFF

Doyle Peck, Chief Deputy

Mikelshan Bartschi, Chief Deputy

EMPATHY

FAIRNESS

INTEGRITY

PROFESSIONALISM

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

TRUSTWORTHINESS

E-Bikes Are Vehicles, Not Toys – What Every Parent Should Know

E-bikes and e-scooters are more common than ever, especially for kids and teens. They can be fun and convenient, but they are not toys. The new Utah law, HB 381, effective May 6, 2026, modifies and clarifies the legal framework for the use of electric-assisted mobility devices. This law aims to educate parents, standardize safety, and prevent unsafe modifications and resulting injuries.

Required NOW

- **Helmets:** Mandatory for ANY rider under 21 operating an e-device on public roads.
- **Age & Supervision:** Children ages 8 to 14 must be accompanied by an adult when riding an electric bicycle (e-bike). Ensure you ride with your kids if they are on an e-bike.
- **Class 3 Restrictions:** It is illegal for any Utah child under the age of 16 to ride a Class 3 e-bike, which can travel at speeds exceeding 20 mph.
- **Police Impound Authority:** Officers now have the authority to impound and temporarily hold devices if a minor is violating safety laws. The device will only be released to a parent or guardian.
- **DUI/Open Container Laws:** Riders are strictly subject to DUI and open container laws when riding electric-powered devices.
- **E-Motorcycles:** E-motorcycles driven on public roadways require a driver's license and motorcycle endorsement. Learn about endorsements and motorcycle safety courses at ridetolive.utah.gov, [opens in a new tab](#).

Required in May 2027

- **Safety Certificates:** E-course safety certificates will be required for riders ages 8-15 to ride without direct adult supervision. The e-course will be available online, and upon completion, it will grant a "personal electric vehicle safety certificate" allowing children ages 8-15 to ride any class of electric bicycle or scooter without supervision.
- **Course Availability:** The official state course will be ready in Spring 2027. While outside training or practice is helpful right now to build safe habits, the required "personal electric vehicle safety certificate" is only granted through the official Utah Department of Public Safety course. Third-party classes will not count toward this legal requirement.
- **Ages 16+:** Riders age 16+ may ride any class of e-bike without a certificate or supervision.

Know the Device Classifications Before You Buy

Not all electric devices are considered e-bikes. If it goes over 20 mph without pedaling or has a throttle, it is not meant for kids.

- **Class 1:** The motor helps up to 20 mph with pedaling.
- **Class 2:** The throttle helps up to 20 mph with NO pedaling.
- **Class 3:** The motor helps up to 28 mph with pedaling.
- **E-Motorcycles & High-Powered Devices:** Devices that travel over 20mph without pedaling or exceed 750 watts are considered E-Motorcycles. These are legally not e-bikes or e-scooters, even if they are marketed that way. They require a driver's license and a motorcycle endorsement.

E-Bike Classes

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Pedal Assist	Yes	Yes	Yes
Throttle	No	Yes	No
Speedometer	Not required	Not required	Required
Max assisted speed	20 mph	20 mph	28 mph

Age Requirements and Supervision Rules

HB 381 establishes safety rules based on age and device type to protect youth.

- **Under Age 8:** Prohibited from operating ANY motorized e-mobility device on a public road.
- **Ages 8-15:** Starting on May 5th, 2027, the rider must have direct supervision of a parent or responsible adult OR a DPS Personal Electric Vehicle Safety Certificate to ride on public roads.
- **Under 16:** A person under 16 may not operate e-motorcycles or high-powered electric devices on a public roadway.

Parent Action Plan: How to Keep Your Kids Safe

Parents play a major role in preventing life-changing injuries. The Department of Public Safety asks every parent to do three things before their child rides again: check the class of the device, buy the right helmet, and do not make aftermarket modifications to the device.

- Establish a strict "helmet on every ride, every time" rule at home for all motorized devices.
- Teach your child traffic laws, signs, and predictable riding behavior.
- Ensure riders use visible clothing, lights, and bells.
- Enforce a rule of no earbuds or headphones while riding, as riders need to be aware of their surroundings.
- Teach your child to stop and listen if approached by law enforcement; riding away is dangerous and illegal.