

Vehicle Classifications and User Requirements (Effective January 1, 2027)

Because parks, forest preserves, and conservation districts are places frequented by users of bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc., IAPD created this table to help you and your agency understand how the state is now regulating the various types of micromobility devices.



		NEW ~ (Beginning January 1, 2027)
Low-speed Electric Bicycle: A bicycle with fully-operable pedals and electric motor less than 750 watts.	Class 1 Pedal-assist (Up to 20 mph): <i>Motor only works when you pedal. No throttle.</i>	- Operators must be at least 15 years old. - To transport a <u>passenger</u>, the operator must be at least 18 years old (unless the passenger is a sibling, step-sibling, child, or step-child of the operator). - Prohibited on all sidewalks. - Allowed on highways, streets, roadways, and bicycle lanes. - Allowed on bike paths UNLESS bike paths are otherwise regulated as applicable by park district, forest preserve district, or conservation district.
	Class 2 Throttle-assist (Up to 20 mph): <i>Motor can power the e-bike without pedaling.</i>	
	Class 3 Pedal-assist (Up to 28 mph): <i>Motor only works when you pedal. Fastest current classification of "low-speed e-bikes."</i>	
High-speed Electric Bicycle: Pedal bicycle with an electric motor of 750+ watts that can travel <u>faster</u> than 28 mph.		Regulated as motor driven cycles under the Illinois Vehicle Code. - Will require a valid driver's license, title, registration, and insurance. Universally prohibited on sidewalks, bike lanes, and bike paths throughout Illinois.
Low-speed Gas Bicycle: 2- or 3-wheeled gas-powered bicycles with fully operable pedals and a gasoline motor of less than 1 horsepower that can operate at speeds up to 28 mph.		- Operators must be at least 16 years old. - To transport a <u>passenger</u>, the operator must be at least 18 years old (unless the passenger is a sibling, step-sibling, child, or step-child of the operator). - Prohibited on all sidewalks. - Allowed on highways, streets, roadways, and bicycle lanes. - Allowed on bike paths UNLESS bike paths are otherwise regulated as applicable by park district, forest preserve district, or conservation district.
High-speed Gas Bicycle: 2-or 3-wheeled gas-powered bicycle with more than 1 horsepower and/or that can travel <u>faster</u> than 28 mph is now considered a motor-driven cycle (and will therefore be treated like a motorcycle under the Illinois Vehicle Code).		Regulated as motor driven cycles under the Illinois Vehicle Code. - Will require a valid driver's license, title, registration, and insurance. Universally prohibited on sidewalks, bike lanes, and bike paths throughout Illinois.
Electric Micromobility Devices: A light-weight, low-speed, electric-powered device primarily used for personal transportation and operated at speeds up to 28 mph. INCLUDES: - Electric unicycles - Electric skateboards - Low-speed electric scooters (0-15 mph)		- Allowed on highways, streets, roadways, and bicycle lanes, subject to restrictions below. - Operators must be at least 16 years old. - May not be used to transport/carry a passenger unless the device was originally designed to carry more than 1 person at a time. - Prohibited from operating over 28 mph. - Universally prohibited from operating on sidewalks. - Allowed on highways with a speed limit not in excess of 35 mph; OR on highways with a speed limit in excess of 35 mph IF there is a bike lane. - Allowed on bike paths UNLESS bike paths are otherwise regulated as applicable by park district, forest preserve district, or conservation district.
High-Speed Electric Scooter: A device with 2-3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, powered by an electric motor and human power, that can exceed 15 mph.		Regulated as electric micromobility devices under the Illinois Vehicle Code. - Allowed on highways, streets, roadways, and bicycle lanes, subject to restrictions below. - Operators must be 16 years old. - Prohibited from operating over 28 mph. - Universally prohibited from operating on sidewalks. - Allowed on highways with a speed limit not in excess of 35 mph; OR on highways with a speed limit in excess of 35 mph IF there is a bike lane. - Allowed on bike paths UNLESS bike paths are otherwise regulated as applicable by park district, forest preserve district, or conservation district.
Toy vehicle: Battery-powered toy device operating up to 10 mph, specifically designed for children under 8 years old.		Toy vehicles (e.g. a child riding a Barbie Jeep/Power Wheels) are allowed to operate on sidewalks and bicycle paths UNLESS specifically prohibited by a unit of local government (including park districts, forest preserves, and conservation districts) in an ordinance or regulation.

Nothing in the Act shall be construed to prohibit the use of or reasonable accommodations for personal mobility devices under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.