



PROSPECTIVE MOPED OR Scooter Operator

Passing the *Road Safety Education Program – Operating a Moped or Motorized Scooter* driving course is mandatory to obtain a Class 6D (moped or scooter) driver's licence.



WHY IS THE DRIVING COURSE MANDATORY?

Using a moped or scooter is often a driver's first experience operating a motor vehicle on the road without adult supervision. Although this means of transportation does grant some degree of independence, these vehicles expose their drivers to accident risks.

Each year, an average of 963 moped and scooter operators are victims of road accidents in Québec.

Young drivers are overrepresented among road accident victims, and moped and scooter drivers are often very young – generally between ages 14 and 16.

At that age, drivers have very little experience on the road. They may tend to feel invincible and take more risks, particularly due to overconfidence in their skills and underestimating the hazards of the road. Speeding, failure to wear a helmet, increasing the power or maximum speed of the moped or scooter and driving stunts are a few examples of risks taken by young moped and scooter drivers.

In addition, moped and scooter drivers do not have bodywork, air bags or bumpers to protect them.

This is why it is especially important that young moped and scooter drivers learn to properly share the road with the other users.



THE ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

To reduce the number of road accident victims, the Québec Government introduced the *Road Safety Education Program – Operating a Moped or Motorized Scooter*. The 6-hour course includes both a theoretical component and a practical component on a closed track.

The course aims to prepare future moped and scooter operators to drive safely and raise their awareness about the risks involved in using a moped or scooter and the importance of sharing the road, particularly with the other vulnerable users.

To obtain a Class 6D driver's licence, you must:

- be at least 14 years old (parental authorization is required for minors);
- have passed the *Road Safety Education Program – Operating a Moped or Motorized Scooter* driving course at an accredited driving school;
- pass the vision test;
- pass the knowledge test.

Holders of a probationary or passenger vehicle driver's licence (Class 5) or motorcycle driver's licence (Classes 6A, 6B or 6C) are also authorized to operate a moped or scooter.



TO KEEP YOUR DRIVER'S LICENCE

Zero alcohol and 4 demerit points

Holders of a Class 6D driver's licence who have fewer than five years of experience must abide by the following rules:

- They are prohibited from driving after drinking alcohol (zero alcohol);
- They must have fewer than four demerit points entered on their record.

Holders of a Class 6D driver's licence who have five years or more of experience are subject to:

- Intermediate demerit point brackets
 - under age 23: 8 points;
 - age 23 and 24: 12 points;
 - age 25 and older: 15 points;
- Zero alcohol rule under age 22.

Prohibition from carrying a passenger

Moped and scooter drivers under age 16 who carry a passenger are subject to a fine of \$100*.

Prohibition from increasing the power or maximum speed of a moped or scooter

It is prohibited for a natural person (a private individual) or legal person (a company) to sell, rent or place at the disposal of a person equipment designed to increase the power or maximum speed of a moped or motorized scooter. Offenders are subject to the following fines:

- \$600 to \$1,000* for a natural person;
- \$600 to \$2,000* for a legal person.

Moreover, holders of a Class 6D driver's licence who operate a moped or scooter which has been modified to increase its power or maximum speed are in violation of the *Highway Safety Code*, since the vehicle no longer meets the definition of a moped or motorized scooter, and since the driver does not hold the appropriate class of licence to operate the vehicle. Offenders are subject to the following penalties:

- A \$300 to \$600* fine;
- Vehicle seizure and impoundment for 30 days.

* To these amounts, subject to change, are added registry fees charged in accordance with Tariff of court costs in penal matters as well as a contribution to the IVAC crime victims compensation program, provided under the Code of Penal Procedure.

FAMILY CONTRACT

A contract between prospective moped or scooter drivers and a parent or legal guardian helps define the rules that each party must obey and specifies their respective expectations and responsibilities. Here is a sample contract.

Prospective drivers need to understand that driving is a privilege that comes with important responsibilities. They and a parent or legal guardian must decide together what the consequences of violating the rules will be. Consequences may vary, depending on which rule is violated.

As a prospective moped or scooter driver,

I, _____
(name)

agree:

- to behave safely, cooperatively and responsibly;
- to obey all traffic rules, road signs and traffic signals;
- never to drive under the influence of alcohol, cannabis or other drug;
- not to increase the power or maximum speed of the moped or scooter;
- to wear protective gear at all times, including a helmet, protective clothing – gloves, long sleeves, pants and boots;
- to wear brightly-coloured clothing or reflective strips while driving.

Date and signature of prospective driver

As a parent or legal guardian,

I, _____
(name)

agree:

- to be available for any conversation that will help you become a safe, cooperative and responsible driver;
- that you can call me at any time to come by to pick you up or make arrangements for your safe transportation home;
- to give you more freedom as your driving skills improve;
- to be open to your needs.

Date and signature of parent or legal guardian



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generation of drivers...
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