



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 371
[2013 Senate Bill 270]

**Motorcycle Operator's Licenses
and Rider Courses**

Under **Wisconsin law**, with limited exceptions, an applicant for a motor vehicle operator's license must successfully complete a knowledge test and an on-the-road driving skills test. However, under prior law, the Department of Transportation (DOT) was required to waive the driving skills test for a person applying for authorization to operate motorcycles if the person had successfully completed a basic rider course approved by DOT. Prior law also provided that DOT could not require a person applying for authorization to operate motorcycles to first hold an instruction permit if the person had successfully completed a basic rider course.

Wisconsin Act 371 requires DOT to waive the driving skills test for a person applying for authorization to operate motorcycles who has successfully completed a rider course approved by the Wisconsin DOT Motorcycle Safety Program. The Act also provides that DOT may not require a person who is applying for authorization to operate motorcycles to hold an instruction permit if he or she has successfully completed a rider course approved by the Wisconsin DOT Motorcycle Safety Program.

Effective date: The Act took effect on April 25, 2014.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.