State Vehicle Code: http://www. state.gov

Bicycle section info. contributed by Caryn Giarratano We need more info. to finish rating

Please send new info. or direct questions to Fred Oswald, fredoswald@yahoo.com

Not enough information for a rating.

Rating of Missouri Bicycle Traffic Laws

Missouri Bicycle Traffic Laws earn a TENTATIVE rating of X (y points)

Note: A bicycle IS defined as a vehicle in Missouri.

A: 91 points or above	(89-90 is A-, over 99 is A+)
B: 79 to 86 points	(87-88 is B+, 77-78 is B-)
C: 66 to 74 points	(75-76 is C+, 64-65 is C-)
D: 52 to 61 points	(62-63 is D+, 50-51 is D-)
F: 40 to 47 points	(48-49 is F+, below 40 points is F-)

	Traffic Law Defects	
	Mandates riding wrong way (Automatic failing score)	[-100]
	Mandates riding on sidewalk (creates failing score) Prohibits bicycles from all main streets (a "stealth" sidewalk law) Lower deduction if prohibition applies only where speed limit is above 50 mph Lower deduction if engineering study, alternate route & signs reqd. Mandates riding on sidewalk only for under age 16	[-80] [-80] [-30] [-30] [-30]
	Mandates riding on sidepath, shoulder or bike lane Lower deduction if applies only where sidepath is "usable" and signed Restriction only for under age 16 Lower deduction if includes UVC "far right" type exceptions Lower deduction if also includes CA "right turn authorized" exceptions	[-40] [-25] [-25] [-20] [-15]
	Unlimited local "regulation of the operation of bicycles" (non-uniform laws) Lower deduction if allows only local sidepath ordinance. Allows local bicycle ban only on major highway	[-30] [-20] [-15]
	"Shall ride within 3 feet of right edge of road" (or other dangerous requirement)	[-20]
-20	"Shall ride within 3 feet of right edge of road" (or similar unsafe rule) "Shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb", with no exceptions Lower deduction if includes all UVC exceptions **307.190. Riding to right, required for bicycles and motorized bicycles.** Every person operating a bicycle or motorized bicycle at less than the posted speed or slower than the flow of traffic upon a street or highway shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as safe, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction, except when making a left turn, when avoiding hazardous conditions, when the lane is too narrow to share with another vehicle or when on a one-way street.	[-25] [-20] [-10]
	Mandatory helmet law that includes adult cyclists Lower deduction if applies only to children under 12 Lower still if also includes strong "contributory negligence" exclusion	[-20] [-15] [-5]
	Prohibits normal vehicular left turn	[-10]
	"Shall ride single file" (no exceptions)	[-10]

	Lower deduction depending on exceptions	[-5]
??	**Motor** vehicle restrictions that should not apply to bicycles: (following too closely, racing, etc.)	[up to -5]
	Irresponsible brake requirements (skid braked wheel) **307.183. Brakes required**. Every bicycle and motorized bicycle shall be equipped with a brake or brakes which will enable its driver to stop the bicycle or motorized bicycle within twenty-five feet from a speed of ten miles per hour on dry, level, clean pavement. (Note: Weaker than UVC, which requires 15' from 10 mph)	[-3]
-2	"Nuisance" safety equipment required (bell, front, wheel & pedal reflectors, etc) **307.185 Lights and reflectors, when required - standards to be met.** Every bicycle and motorized bicycle when in use on a street or highway during the period from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise shall be equipped with the following: (3) Reflective material and/or lights visible from the front and the rear on any moving part of the bicyclists, pedals, crank arms, shoes or lower leg, visible from the front and the rear at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway when viewed by a vehicle driver under the lawful lower beams of vehicle headlights at two hundred feet; and (4) Reflective material and/or lights visible on each side of the bicycle or bicyclist visible at night under normal atmospheric conditions on a straight, level, unlighted roadway when viewed by a vehicle driver under the lawful lower beams of vehicle headlights at three hundred feet. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to motorized bicycles which comply with National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration regulations relating to reflectors on motorized bicycles.	[-2]
	Right-arm right turn signal not authorized	[-2]
	Unreasonable turn signal requirement (continuous, or even if not safe)	[-2]
	Authorizes bicycle-specific traffic control devices	[-2]
	Local authorities may mandate registration (rather than voluntary program)	[-1]
	Lacks provision allowing bicycle access to freeway shoulders	[-1]
	Slow vehicle "as close as practicable to the right-hand curb"	[-1]
	Missing language "intent is to facilitate overtaking" in slow veh. rule	[-1]
	Other excessive or unnecessary regulation	[?]
??	**Minor Defects (scored as a group, Y=Yes)**	
	Lacks provision allowing preparing for left turn early	
	Lacks exception to no-passing zone rule for passing of slow vehicles	
	Lacks language prohibiting "points" for bicycle violations	
	"Give way to the right on audible signal"	
	Lacks cycling skills course for violators	
	Police authorized to inspect bicycles	
	Lacks child seat or trailer language or allow child in backpack	

	Lacks language authorizing additional lights or reflectors	
	Lacks language saying riding two abreast does not impede traffic if no conflicting traffic	
	Poor definition of bicycle (not recognizing recumbents or trikes)	
	Positive Factors (points added)	
	Have issued a good state “Bicycle Drivers' Manual” and/or --- Drivers Handbook has vehicular cycling info.	[up to +15]
	Permits <u>and</u> requires motorists to merge into a bike lane before turning.	[+2]
	Expressly permits but does not require cycling on the shoulder.	[+2]
	Local authorities may reduce the fine for bicycling offenses	[+2]
	Share the road license plate (or similar) with proceeds to benefit cycling	[+2]
	Language to discourage unsafe sidewalk riding	[+2]
	Other positive factors	[?]

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