

Traffic Safety Education

Updated Motorcycle Traffic Regulations and Increased Penalties in Taiwan

Taiwan has recently implemented stricter traffic regulations and heavier penalties for motorcycle violations. The key points are as follows:

1. *Driving Without a License*

- The maximum fine for riding a motorcycle without a valid license has been increased to **NT\$36,000**.
- If a driver is caught driving without a license two or more times within 10 years, the **maximum fine** will be imposed. Additionally, the vehicle may be impounded immediately, and the license plate may be confiscated.
- Vehicle owners who knowingly lend their motorcycles to unlicensed riders may be fined up to **NT\$24,000**, and the vehicle's registration may be suspended for 1 to 6 months.

2. *Excessive Speeding*

- Riders exceeding the speed limit by more than 40 km/h may be fined between **NT\$12,000 and NT\$36,000**.
- The vehicle's license plate may also be suspended.

3. *Excessive Vehicle Noise*

- Motorcycles and other vehicles that exceed legal noise limits may be fined up to **NT\$36,000**, which is ten times higher than previous penalties.
- The vehicle's license plate may also be suspended.

4. *Traffic Violation Demerit Points and Public Reporting*

- Drivers who accumulate 12 demerit points within one year will have their driver's license suspended for 2 months.
- The public may report certain traffic violations, including:
 - Illegal parking on sidewalks
 - Failure to yield to pedestrians

5. *Failure to Yield to Pedestrians*

- Motorcycle riders who fail to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks will receive **3 demerit points**.
- The maximum fine is **NT\$6,000**.
- Offenders must also attend a mandatory traffic safety education course.

Regulations and Penalties for Mini Electric Two-Wheel Vehicles

【Essential Requirements】

- **Vehicle Registration Required:** All mini electric two-wheel vehicles must be registered and display a license plate. Failure to register may result in a fine of **NT\$1,200 to NT\$3,600**, and the vehicle will be prohibited from use.
- **Mandatory Insurance:** Compulsory automobile liability insurance is required before registration. Failure to obtain insurance may result in a fine of up to **NT\$3,000**.
- **Minimum Age Requirement:** Riders must be at least 14 years old. Riders under 14 may be fined **NT\$600 to NT\$1,200**, and the vehicle may be impounded immediately.
- **Helmet Requirement:** Riders must wear an approved safety helmet. Violators may be fined **NT\$300**.

【Major Traffic Violations and Penalties】

- **Illegal Modifications:** Unauthorized modification of the electronic control system may result in a fine of up to **NT\$5,400**.
- **Speed Limit:** The maximum speed limit for mini electric two-wheel vehicles is **25 km/h**. Violators may be fined up to **NT\$1,800**.
- **Carrying Passengers Prohibited:** Carrying passengers is strictly prohibited. Violators may be fined **NT\$300 to NT\$600**.
- **Drunk or Drug-Impaired Riding:** Riders with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) exceeding the legal limit may be fined **NT\$2,400 to NT\$4,800**. Refusing an alcohol test will result in a flat fine of **NT\$4,800**, and the vehicle will be impounded immediately.

【Important Safety Reminders】

Although mini electric two-wheel vehicles do not require a driver's license, they are still classified as 「 vehicles 」 under Taiwanese law.

With a maximum speed of only 25 km/h, they are categorized as "**slow vehicles**," whereas motorcycles are classified as "**motor vehicles**." Due to this significant speed variance, the risk of rear-end collisions is higher. Therefore, riders must adhere to the following rules:

1. Proper Road Use and Right-of-Way

- **Use Designated Lanes:** Ride in slow-vehicle lanes or motorcycle-priority lanes whenever available.
- **Keep Right When No Slow-Vehicle Lane Exists:** If no slow-vehicle lane is provided, riders must stay close to the right side of the road. Riding in fast lanes or inner motorcycle lanes is strictly prohibited.
- **Restricted Areas:** Riding on sidewalks and ordinary bicycle lanes is prohibited unless explicitly permitted by special signs or local regulations.

- **Two-Stage Left Turn:** When a road has a "Two-Stage Left Turn" sign, or when riding on roads with two or more lanes in the same direction, riders must perform a two-stage left turn—even if no sign is present.

2. *Defensive Riding and Safe Behavior*

- **Avoid Sudden Lane Changes:** Signal well in advance before changing lanes or turning. Always yield to motorcycles and cars traveling straight before moving.
- **Yield at Intersections:** When starting from, entering, or crossing an intersection, yield to oncoming vehicles and pedestrians. Do not cut across traffic or force your way through.
- **Maintain a Safe Following Distance:** Avoid following other vehicles too closely. Because mini electric vehicles operate quietly, other motorists may not notice them easily. Always check your mirrors and look over your shoulder before changing positions.
- **Beware of Large Vehicles:** Large vehicles create strong wind pressure and slip stream effects. Hold the handlebars firmly, slow down if necessary, and keep to the far right when being overtaken.

****Legal Reminder:** According to Article 73 of Taiwan's *Road Traffic Management and Penalty Act*, riders of slow vehicles who fail to use designated slow-vehicle lanes, or who do not keep to the right side of the road when no such lane exists, may be fined between **NT\$300 and NT\$600**.