

THE NEW JERSEY BICYCLE LAW

Article 3 of Chapter 4 in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes as Amended and Supplemented:

39:4-14.5 Definition. “Bicycle” means any two wheeled vehicle having a rear drive which is solely human powered and having a seat height of 25 inches or greater when the seat is in the lowest adjustable position.

39:4-10 Lights on Bicycles. Use of the following equipment for riding in darkness: 1. A front white headlamp that is seen at least 500 feet away; 2. A rear lamp with a red light seen 500 feet away; 3. A red reflector may be mounted on the rear.

39:4-11 Audible Signal Device Required. A bell or other audible device that can be heard at least 100 feet away is required. DO NOT use a siren or whistle.

39:4-11.1 Brakes. Use a brake that can make wheels skid while stopping on dry, level, clean pavement.

39:4-12 Carrying Another Person. Limit passengers to only the number the bicycle is designed and equipped to carry. DO NOT drive the bicycle with feet removed from the pedals, or with both hands removed from the handlebars, nor practice any trick or fancy driving in a street.

39:4-14. Hitching on Vehicle Prohibited. No person riding a bicycle, skateboarding, roller or inline skating shall attach to any street car or vehicle.

39:4-14.1 Rights and Duties of Person on Bicycles. Every person riding a bicycle, skateboarding, roller or inline skating on a roadway is granted all the rights and subject to all of the duties of the motor vehicle driver.

39:4-14.2, 39:4-10.11 Operating Regulations. Every person riding a bicycle, skateboarding, roller or inline skating should keep as near to the right of the roadway as practicable and may move left under any of the following situations: 1. To make a left turn from a left turn lane or pocket; 2. To avoid debris, drains or other hazardous conditions on the right; 3. To pass a slower moving vehicle; 4. To occupy any available lane when traveling at the same speed as other traffic; 5. To travel no more than two abreast when traffic is not impeded, but otherwise ride in single file. Every person riding a bicycle, skateboarding, roller or inline skating should stay in the same direction as vehicular traffic.

In New Jersey, the law states a bicyclist, skateboarder or skater must obey all state and local automobile driving laws. A parent may be held responsible for the child's violation of any traffic law.