

# E-scooters and e-bikes

## Young people and the law



### E-scooters

It is now legal to ride your own electric scooter (e-scooter) on South Australian roads and paths. You do not need a driver's licence, registration or insurance.

The rules that apply to bicycles generally apply to e-scooters, with some important differences.

### Locations

You may ride your e-scooter on **footpaths, shared paths and beaches**.

You may ride your e-scooter on any **public road** with a maximum speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour. If you ride in a dedicated bike lane, you may ride your e-scooter on a road with a top speed limit of 60 kilometres per hour.

You must not ride your e-scooter on a freeway or highway, or anywhere bicycles, skateboards or scooters are banned.

### Age

You must be at least **16 years old** to ride an e-scooter on a road. It is a crime to:

- ride an e-scooter on a road if you are younger than 16, or
- allow someone younger than 16 to ride or be carried on an e-scooter.

### Speed limits

When riding your e-scooter on a road or bicycle path, you must not go faster than **25 kilometres per hour**.

When riding your e-scooter on a footpath, shared path, beach or when crossing the road, you must not go faster than **10 kilometres per hour**.

You must always ride your e-scooter at a **safe speed** for the conditions. Consider the weather, how well you can see, the traffic, and whether riding or stopping may endanger other road users or pedestrians.

## Safety

You must wear a **helmet** while riding your e-scooter, unless you are of Sikh religion and wearing a turban.

It is illegal to **carry** another person while riding your e-scooter.

If riding at night or in bad weather, you must have **lights** on the **front** and **rear** of your e-scooter as well as a red **rear reflector**.

It is illegal to use a **mobile phone** while riding an e-scooter.

It is an offence to ride an e-scooter while **under the influence** of alcohol or drugs such that you are incapable of exercising effective control of the e-scooter.

You cannot take your e-scooter on to a bus, train or tram.

## E-bikes

Electric bicycles (e-bikes) are bicycles that combine human pedalling with support from an electric motor of up to 250 watts.

The rules that apply to bicycles generally apply to e-bikes. This means:

- you must wear a **helmet** (unless of Sikh religion and wearing a turban)
- the e-bike must have effective **brakes**
- the e-bike must have a **bell** or similar device
- the bike must have **front** and **rear lights** and a red **rear reflector**.

E-bikes that put out too much power or that can be ridden without pedalling cannot legally be ridden on South Australian roads.

You can take your e-bike on to a train but you may need to pay during peak times. Check [www.adelaidemetro.com.au/how-to-use-public-transport/taking-items-on-board](http://www.adelaidemetro.com.au/how-to-use-public-transport/taking-items-on-board) for the latest information.



If you are caught doing the wrong thing, you may be fined hundreds or even thousands of dollars. If you have a driver's licence, you may receive demerit points too.

Call the **Legal Helpline** or access **Legal Chat** for free and confidential information and advice today.

Legal help for all South Australians

1300 366 424 Legal Helpline



**Prefer to text?**

Use our Legal Chat at [lsc.sa.gov.au](http://lsc.sa.gov.au)