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Nevada Office of Traffic Safety

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Instructor Licenses and Background Checks

For those states that issue motorcycle instructor licenses (occupational license):

Do you have instructor license applicants finger printed and background checked?

Is it just FBI or do you have a state background check, too?

Who pays the cost of the process, the state or the instructor license applicant?

If you do or don't background check, what are the reasons for doing it or not doing it?

NEW JERSEY

NJ requires a state background check only as per regulation. The instructors pay for this.

~Lori Sannella

MISSOURI

Missouri doesn't provide the instructor with a 'license' however it does require a background check. Basic background check for employment (no fingerprint required). The instructors pay for the background check (and driving record) every certification period (two years).

~Ray Pierce

OHIO

Ohio does not license instructors but certifies.

We do a license check against our administrative rules for violation frequency and type of violation. Recertification is done yearly.

We do not do background checks but have the latitude to require upon request from our office. Most of our two year colleges require background for teaching license.

We are reviewing requiring background checks and will decide in the next several months on how to implement it if we do.

~Chuck Stiteler

HAWAII

For those that wish to be a state certified motorcycle instructor, yes we do finger print, background checks (state and fed) and traffic abstracts among other things.

Thank goodness, too!

Not MC instructor but had a couple of potential driver's ed instructors for teens apply who had been convicted of sexual harassment. We don't need that kind of liability in our motorcycle safety program.

Because the state certified programs are currently run by the university, the university considers them employees so they pay for the process.

~Christy Cowser

VIRGINIA

Pete, in VA all instructors are certified by the State. There is no requirement that a back ground check is done, but most training sites do require it. Our Community colleges that do require, the colleges pays for it.

~Bruce Biondo

VERMONT

Instructors working for the motorcycle training program run by the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles are required to pass an in-house background check as a condition of employment.

For instructors working for independent programs no background check is required.

~Paul Graves

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Instructors working for the motorcycle training program run by the New Hampshire Department of Motor Vehicles are required to pass a MV check and criminal check, including FBI w/fingerprints, as a condition of employment.

For instructors working for independent programs no background check is required.

Follow up to below. The program pays for any background check fees.

~Larry Crowe

MARYLAND

Pete,

In Maryland an Instructor is Certified (a.k.a. licensed) by the Motor Vehicle Administration which by law regulates driver education. All candidates in our RiderCoach Prep courses are required to have a current background check at least two weeks prior to Student Teaching. Our individual training centers conduct background checks on a regular basis.

Each center determines the type of check. It could be a basic court records check (no finger printing) or a full State check which requires finger printing. I advise the full check. Initially the Instructor Candidate pays for it, but after that I am not sure.

Since most of our centers are community colleges they have to conduct checks.

~Phil Sause

MAINE

Pete,

In Maine, all motorcycle instructors work for private companies and are licensed by the state annually. Instructors are responsible for the fees, which include an annual state background check (no fingerprints). We conduct the annual background checks to verify the individual is still eligible to maintain their certification. The annual instructor license fee is \$100.00 plus the \$21.00 background check fee. There are also fees involved for school licensure.

Best Regards

~John Kohler

MICHIGAN

The State of Michigan currently does not run a background check on RiderCoaches/Instructors. Reason being, simply put, it is not in our State Law to do so.

That said though, many of our public and private training sponsors/providers do run back ground checks on their Coaches. We just do not require it at the State level because of current law.

At the State level we do though monitor a Coaches driving record per current state law. A RiderCoach for Michigan can have no more than 6 points on their driver's license

~Chad Teachout