

Bike law

A bicycle rider's guide to road rules in Victoria



Do you need this booklet in a different format?

Please go to www.legalaid.vic.gov.au and search *Bike law – A bicycle rider's guide to road rules in Victoria* for an accessible version of this booklet. You can also ring (03) 9269 0234 and ask for Publications. We can talk with you about what you need.

Produced by Victoria Legal Aid

Victoria Legal Aid
570 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

For free information about the law and how we can help you:

- visit our website www.legalaid.vic.gov.au
- use our Legal Help Chat on the website, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm, excluding public holidays
- phone Legal Help on 1300 792 387, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm, excluding public holidays.

For business queries, call (03) 9269 0234

First edition 2015

Fourth edition February 2023

Acknowledgements: Victoria Legal Aid gratefully acknowledge Victoria Law Foundation for establishing and maintaining this publication from 2015 until its second edition. *Bike law* was transferred to Victoria Legal Aid in July 2018.

The Victoria Law Foundation developed *Bike law* in collaboration with the Amy Gillet Foundation, Bicycle Network, Cycling Victoria, City of Melbourne, City of Yarra and VicRoads.

Victoria Legal Aid would like to thank Road Safety Victoria, Department of Transport, Victoria for assistance and additional images for this edition.

© 2023 Victoria Legal Aid. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit Victoria Legal Aid as author, indicate if changes were made and comply with other licence terms. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding including the Victoria Legal Aid logo.

Changes to the law: The law changes all the time. To check for changes you can visit our website, use our Legal Help Chat or phone us.

Disclaimer: The material in this publication is a general guide only. It is not legal advice. If you need to, please get legal advice about your situation.

ISBN 978 1 921949 17 3



CONTENTS

About this booklet	1
Before you ride – what you need	1
Essential road rules	4
Riding in traffic	10
Riding on bike lanes and paths	18
Bikes and children	21
Fines and crashes	24
More information and where to get help	27



Victoria Legal Aid

We serve the Victorian community by providing information, legal advice and education with a focus on the prevention and early resolution of legal problems.

We prioritise more intensive legal services, such as legal advice and representation, to those who need it the most, using evidence to inform what we do. We also recognise the connections between legal and social issues in the way we do our work and advocate for change.

We work to address the barriers that prevent people from accessing the justice system, by participating in systemic reforms and strategic advocacy.

ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

This guide covers the essential road rules you need to know as a bicycle rider.

Whether you are on the road, on a path, riding in a group or heading out at night you need to know the road rules to ride responsibly and safely.

BEFORE YOU RIDE – WHAT YOU NEED

Equipment you need before you ride and how to get bicycle insurance.

Equipment

Before you ride, the law requires you to have certain equipment to help keep you safe.

Working brakes, a bell and lights

All bikes must have at least one working brake and a bell, horn or something similar.

If you ride at night or in bad weather, you must have attached to your bike:

- a white light on the front visible from 200 metres
- a red light on the back visible from 200 metres, and
- a red reflector on the back visible from 50 metres.

Wearing the right helmet

When you are riding a bike, you and any passengers must wear a properly fitting and fastened helmet unless you are riding on private property. Your helmet must meet Australian safety standard AS/NZS2063. In exceptional circumstances, your doctor can authorise you to ride without a helmet for medical reasons.

A person can also be exempt from wearing a helmet for religious reasons, if religious headdress makes wearing a helmet impractical. An exemption certificate is not required in these circumstances.

For more information on exemptions visit the [VicRoads website](#) and search 'exemptions from wearing a bicycle helmet'. See More information and where to get help on page 27.



Insurance

You are not legally required to get insurance, but it is a good idea. Insurance can cover you for some of the cost of:

- injuries you have gotten while riding – known as personal injury insurance
- injuries to someone or damage to their property that you have caused – known as third party insurance
- damage to your bike
- theft of your bike.

Some cycling organisations such as Bicycle Network and Cycling Victoria provide insurance as part of your membership.

You can also get insurance directly through an insurance company. Some companies offer stand-alone bike insurance cover, while others cover your bike as part of home contents insurance.

Remember that your insurance may not apply if you were acting illegally or riding unsafely.



TOP TEN SAFETY TIPS



1

Wear the right helmet.

2

Check that your brakes, lights and bell are working.

3

Be alert.

4

Be predictable.

5

Be visible.

6

Ride at a sensible speed.

7

Use your bell.

8

Ride responsibly.

9

Do not listen to music or use mobile phones.

10

Do not respond to road rage.

ESSENTIAL ROAD RULES

As a bike rider you have to follow many of the same rules as motorists. This section covers what they are so you can ride responsibly and safely.

Safe riding

When you are riding your bike you must:

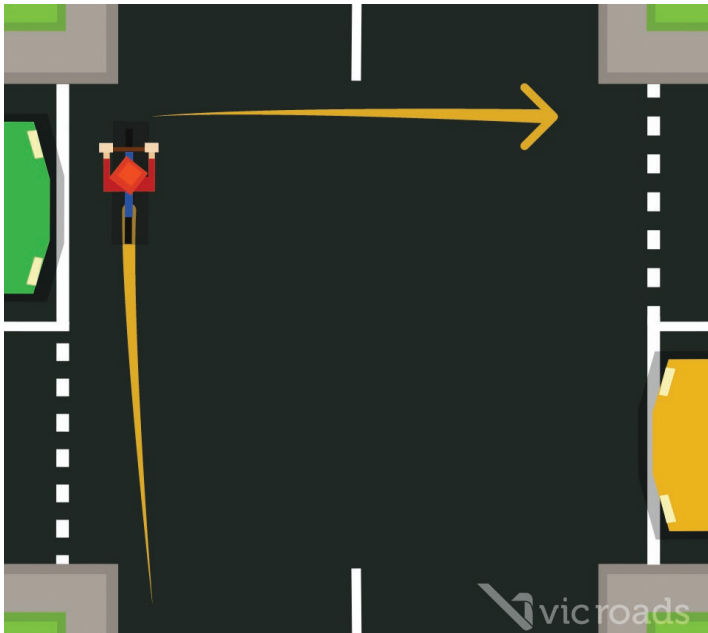
- face forwards and have at least one hand on the handlebars
- keep a safe distance between you and any traffic in front of you.

Make sure you have enough space to stop safely.

Dinking (having someone sit on your crossbar or the carrier rack above your back wheel while you ride) is against the law. Passengers can only sit on your bike if they are in a seat for a passenger.

Turning right safely

If you want to turn right at any intersection, doing a hook turn is often a safer option, unless a sign says you cannot turn right.



Stay safe in heavy traffic

It can be tricky riding in heavy traffic.

Wear bright clothing and switch flashing lights on.

Do not ride in drivers' blind spots – make sure they can see you.

Do not move in and out of traffic – ride in a straight line as much as possible.

Use clear hand signals when changing lanes or turning.



Dooring

Dooring is when someone causes a hazard to a bike rider by opening a car door.

Opening a door into the path of traffic is an offence. Bike riders can be hit by the door and even go into the path of oncoming traffic.

Watch out for car doors opening

Try to stay aware of car doors in case they open suddenly. Before opening car doors, drivers and their passengers should check for bike riders, but accidents can happen. Drivers should use mirrors and do a head check before opening a car door. Passengers should do a head check too. One way to do this is to reach across to open the door with the hand that is furthest away from the door.

Follow these safety tips:

- look out for people getting in and out of parked cars
- stay out of the car door zone and ride at a speed that lets you avoid a collision.

Traffic lights, signals and signs

You must obey traffic lights, signals, signs and road markings, and follow the road rules on stopping and giving way.

If there are no traffic lights, signs or lines at an intersection, you must give way to any vehicle on your right that would cross your path.

Traffic lights

You must obey any traffic lights, including bike traffic lights that use bike symbols. You must also obey traffic arrows if you are about to make a turn.

You must always:

- give way to pedestrians who are crossing on the road you are turning into, even if there are no pedestrian lights or the pedestrian lights are not green
- stop at yellow lights and arrows when it is safe to do so.

Stop signs and lines

You must obey stop signs and lines.

At a stop line, you must come to a complete stop and usually give way to any vehicles already in, entering or approaching an intersection.

A stop line is an unbroken white line across a road lane.



Give way signs and lines

You must obey give way signs and lines.

At a give way line, you must slow down and stop if necessary to avoid a collision.

If you are stationary (stopped), you must remain stationary until it is safe to go.

You must give way to any vehicles already in, entering or approaching an intersection.

A give way line is a broken white line across a road lane.

Turning and signaling

You must give way to pedestrians crossing the road you are turning into whether there are pedestrian lights or not.

Turning right

Whenever you are moving over to the right, including when changing lanes or turning right, you must signal by extending your right arm out to the side.

Turning left

You do not have to signal if you are turning left, but it is a good idea to.



Speed

You must obey the speed limit. It is also a serious offence to ride at a dangerous speed.

Speed limits are the maximum speed you are allowed to ride. You need to ride to the conditions.

To ride safely you might need to ride more slowly than the speed limit.

Speed limits are often shown by speed limit signs – but even without signs speed limits still apply:

- in built-up areas where there are no signs, the speed limit is 50 km per hour
- in country areas where there are no signs, the speed limit is 100 km per hour
- near schools and in shopping strips, the speed limit, marked by a sign, is often 40 km per hour.

In an area shared with pedestrians and marked by a shared zone sign, the speed limit is 10 km per hour.



Car overtaking or passing bikes

When overtaking or passing a bike, car drivers must keep at least one metre clear in zones up to 60 km per hour and at least 1.5 metres if going more than 60 km per hour.

Overtaking a vehicle that is turning left

You must not overtake a vehicle on the left if it is indicating left and already turning left.

Causing a traffic hazard

You must not cause a traffic hazard by putting others at risk. This includes riding into the path of a driver or a pedestrian, riding too fast for the conditions or not looking before pulling out into traffic.

Mobile phones

When riding a bike, you must not hold a mobile phone, use it to send text messages or touch it in any way.

You can use a mobile phone as long as it is hands-free – either fixed to your bike or in your pocket or backpack – and only used for calls, listening to music or GPS navigation.

For your safety, it is better not to use your phone at all while riding.

Taking your bike on public transport

Trains

You can take a regular bike on the train, but you cannot board at the first door of the front carriage. The first door is for people using wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

If you have a folding bike, you can board at any door.

You must not block the doorway of the train or ride your bike on the platform.

For more information search 'bikes and public transport' on the [Public Transport Victoria website](#) and search 'bicycles on trains' on the [V/Line](#) website. See More information and where to get help on page 27.

Buses and trams

You cannot take your bike on a bus or tram unless it is a folding bike, or a bus with a bicycle rack fitted to the front of the bus. For more information, visit the [Public Transport Victoria website](#) and search 'bikes and public transport'.

Parking

You can park your bike on a footpath as long as it is not in the way and you are not breaking any local laws. If you are allowed to park, use a bike rack or rail if there is one available. But you cannot park at all where there is a no parking sign or similar.

Power assisted bicycles

Power assisted bicycles, e-bikes or electrically power-assisted cycles (EPACs) are bicycles with one or more motors attached. To ride one of these:

- you must follow the same road rules as regular bicycles
- a power assisted bicycle must have a power output of 200 watts or less, unless it is an EPAC
- an EPAC must have a power output of 250 watts or less
- you must not change the power output.

You could get a significant penalty if you ride a bicycle with a power output above these limits. Motorised bicycles that go above these power outputs might be categorised as motorcycles even if they look like a bicycle. To ride a motorcycle you must follow motorcycle road rules, hold a motorcycle licence and register the vehicle.

For more information, visit the [VicRoads website](#) and search for 'power assisted bicycles'.



RIDING IN TRAFFIC

Here you can find out about the rules on riding on roads, overtaking, turning, crossings and trams.

Where you can ride

You can ride on the road unless there are signs saying otherwise, for example, a no bicycles sign or similar.



Riding on the road

When riding on the far left side of the road, leave enough space to deal with debris and the effects of wind, and to avoid car doors.

One lane of traffic

If there is only one lane heading where you want to go, you must ride as near as you can to the far left side of the road where this is safe and practical.

Two or more lanes of traffic

When there are two or more lanes heading where you want to go (a multi-lane road), you can ride on the left or down the centre of a lane and use the right-hand lane to do a right turn.

Freeways

You cannot ride on urban freeways, but you can ride on the shoulders of some rural freeways. The shoulder is an area to the left side of the road, which can be sealed or unsealed.

To find out which rural freeways you can ride on, visit the [VicRoads website](#) and search 'places to ride'.

Riding in groups

You cannot have more than two riders next to each other except when overtaking. When you are riding next to someone you must not ride more than 1.5 metres apart from them.

Overtaking

When you are riding on the road, you can overtake a vehicle on the left or right as long as:

- you can clearly see any approaching traffic, and
- can overtake the vehicle safely.

You must not overtake a vehicle:

- on the left if it is turning left and indicating left
- on the right if it is turning right and indicating right
- on the right if it is doing a U-turn from the centre of the road and indicating right.



Bike boxes

A bike box is a box marked at an intersection with a bike symbol inside it. Only bikes, not cars, can stop in a bike box, when the light is red.

If there is a bike box, and you need to stop, you must stop inside it.

Bike boxes are a safer place to stop and give you a head start over other traffic when the traffic lights turn green.

If there is a bike lane leading into the bike box, you must use the bike lane to enter the bike box unless that is not a practical option.

If the bike box goes across all traffic lanes you must:

- turn left from the left-lane side of the bike box
- turn right from the right-lane side of the bike box.



Hook turns

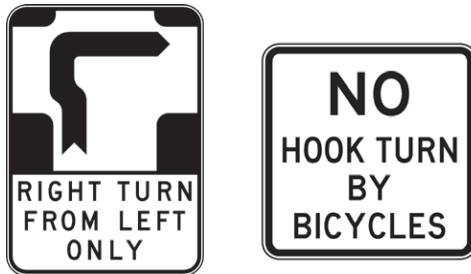
A hook turn is a right-hand turn started from the far left of an intersection.

If there is a hook turn only sign, you must do a hook turn to turn right.

At any other intersections, you can do a hook turn unless a sign prohibits it.

Turning right using a hook turn is often a safer option.

For more information about hook turns, visit the [VicRoads website](#) and search for 'bicycles'.



Roundabouts

If there is a bike lane on a roundabout, you must use it, unless it is not practical to do so. Like all road users, bike riders entering a roundabout must give way to any vehicles already in the roundabout.

On a single-lane roundabout without a bike lane, it is a good idea to ride in the middle of the lane so you can be clearly seen and exit more easily.

When you are on a multi-lane roundabout, you can travel in the left lane to go around it or in the right lane to turn right, but you must give way to anyone leaving the roundabout at any exit on the way round. This might mean stopping to let a car exit the roundabout. This rule applies even if you are riding in a bike lane on a roundabout.

Do I have to give way at roundabouts?

Yes. Before entering a roundabout, you must give way to other vehicles already on it. When on a roundabout, you must give way to other vehicles leaving it.

Crossings

Level crossings

Level crossings are areas where a road crosses train tracks and some tram tracks.

When you ride across a level crossing, you must obey any signs and signals, and:

- do not stop on the train or tram tracks
- do not enter the crossing unless there is enough room for you on the other side of the tracks
- do not stop where there are yellow criss-cross lines on the road
- cross only when the train or tram has passed.

You can always get off your bike and walk it across a level crossing like other pedestrians, but you must obey all signs and signals.



Bike crossings

If there are bike crossing lights (lights with a bike symbol) you can ride your bike across when the green symbol is showing.

Motorists or car drivers must give way to bike riders at bike crossings when the green bike symbol is showing.

Pedestrian crossings

When you are riding on the road and approach a pedestrian crossing you must:

- ride so that you can stop safely at it
- give way to any pedestrian on the crossing and not overtake another vehicle stopped at it.

If you are riding on a bike path or similar and want to cross a road at a pedestrian crossing, you must get off your bike and walk it across unless there are bike crossing lights.

Children's crossings

When you approach a children's crossing, marked by children crossing flags, you must ride so you can safely stop at it. At the crossing you must:

- stop if there is a pedestrian on it, or about to step onto it
- stop if a crossing supervisor is using a hand-held stop sign
- not go until the crossing is clear of pedestrians.

When you want to cross the road using a children's crossing, you must get off your bike and walk it across the road.

Overtaking pedestrians

When overtaking pedestrians:

- slow down
- ring your bell in advance
- leave enough space between you and them.

Trams

You must give way to trams and not ride into their path.

When a tram is stopped at a tram stop on your side of the road you must stop your bike behind the tram unless there is a safety zone. Once the doors have closed and the road is clear of pedestrians, you can ride past the tram at less than 10 km per hour.

Safety zones

Some tram stops have safety zones to protect pedestrians getting on and off trams. They are marked by a yellow safety zone sign and have a barrier separating pedestrians from traffic.

You can ride past a safety zone at a speed that does not risk the safety of pedestrians crossing the road to or from the safety zone.

Crossing tram tracks

Be careful when crossing tram tracks. Keep your wheel at an angle to the tram tracks when you cross them. Do not approach with your wheel straight alongside as it could get stuck in the track. If it is wet, be careful to make no sudden movements until you have crossed the slippery tracks.

Bus lanes

Bike riders can ride in a bus lane unless a sign prohibits it.



RIDING ON BIKE LANES AND PATHS

It is important to know what bike lanes and paths look like and the different rules that apply to them.

Bike lanes

Bike lanes are on-road lanes reserved for bike riders identified with a bike symbol on the road and a sign which says that it is a bike lane. They will usually be signposted at the beginning and end, but they may also end at an intersection. High-risk sections of bike lanes are sometimes painted green.

You must use a bike lane if there is one, unless that is not a practical option – for example, if the lane is blocked.

Bike paths

Bike paths are separate, usually off-road paths reserved for bike riders. Bike paths are marked by a bicycles only sign on a signpost, which has a bike symbol and the word 'only' underneath it. They end where the path meets a road or footpath or where indicated by a sign.

Shared paths

Shared paths are off-road, public areas that bike riders and pedestrians are allowed to use. They are marked by painted images of a pedestrian and a bike on a signpost or the path itself.



Overtaking on a shared path

On a shared path, you must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians. Pedestrians include people:

- using wheelchairs and mobility scooters
- on rollerblades, roller-skates, skateboards, non-motorised scooters, or something similar.

When overtaking pedestrians, ring your bell in advance, slow down and make sure you leave enough space when overtaking.

Riding at a safe speed

Ride at a safe speed, especially around pedestrians on shared paths and footpaths and slower bike riders.

Riding with a dog on a lead

It is illegal to have your dog on a lead while you ride your bike. You must only walk your dog on foot.

Separated footpaths

A separated footpath is a path divided in two – with one side reserved for bike riders, the other for pedestrians. It is usually marked by a sign on a signpost. This sign has, side by side, a pedestrian symbol with the word ‘only’ underneath it and a bike symbol with the word ‘only’ underneath it.

You must not ride on the side reserved for pedestrians.



Footpaths

You can only ride on a footpath if you:

- are a child 12 years old or under
- are 13 years or over and riding with a child who is 12 years old or under
- are 18 years or over and riding with a young child in a child seat attached to your bicycle or you have a child pedalling on a bike attachment connected to your bicycle
- have a medical certificate that says you have a disability that makes it difficult to ride on the road
- are 13 or over and riding with someone who has a medical certificate that says they have a disability that makes it difficult to ride on the road.

If you have a disability and are riding on a footpath, you must be able to show police or an authorised person a medical certificate if you are asked.

When riding on a footpath, you must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians.

When can cars enter bike lanes?

Bike lanes are reserved for bike riders. But car drivers can enter and drive in a bike lane for up to 50 metres to:

- enter or leave a road
- turn at an intersection
- overtake to the left of a vehicle turning right or doing a U-turn from the centre of the road
- park
- get from one part of the road to another
- enter traffic, having been parked on the side of the road
- pick up or drop off passengers – but only if they are driving a taxi or public bus.

Car drivers can also enter a bike lane if there is a sign saying car drivers can use the lane.

Car drivers must always give way to any bike riders already in the lane.

BIKES AND CHILDREN

Some different rules apply when you are riding with children.

Helmets

All children – whether they are riding a bike or they are a passenger – must wear a properly fitting and fastened helmet that meets Australian safety standard AS/NZS2063.

Where to ride

Children can ride on the road, but it may be safer for them to ride on the footpath. Children 12 years or under can ride on footpaths, bike paths, shared paths and separated footpaths. If you are 13 years or older and you are accompanying a child 12 years or under you can ride with them on a footpath.

Child seats

Your child can be a passenger on your bike if you have fitted a properly designed child seat. Unless the bike is parked, your child must remain in the child seat. Make sure you get a safe child seat. For further information, call the Community Information team at The Royal Children's Hospital on (03) 9345 5085.



Trailers and cargo bikes

Trailers

To take a child in a trailer towed behind a bike you must be at least 16 years old and the child must be under 10 years old, unless they are carrying a medical certificate for a disability or medical condition. The trailer must also be able to safely carry the passenger.

You must not use a trailer on a footpath.

It is a good idea to attach a flag to the trailer so it can be seen more easily. If you are riding at night or in bad weather, you must attach lights and a reflector to your bike (see page 1 for details). It is also a good idea to attach:

- red lights and reflectors to the back of the trailer, and
- yellow reflectors to each side of the trailer.

Cargo bikes

Cargo bikes have a box or other carrier which is part of the front of the bike. They can be used to carry a child, preferably in a designated seat, with a harness.

Cargo bikes can only carry as many passengers as they are designed to – usually this will mean one or two children.

If you are riding at night or in bad weather, you must attach lights and a reflector to your bike (see page 1 for details). It is also a good idea to attach:

- white lights to the front of the cargo part of the bike, and
- yellow reflectors to each side of it.



FINES AND CRASHES

This section covers your responsibilities and rights if you break a road rule, are stopped by police or are involved in a crash.

Breaking the rules

When you break a road rule you commit a traffic offence. Minor traffic offences, such as failing to give a hand signal when you have to, are often called traffic infringements. They will usually be dealt with by an on-the-spot fine.

For more serious offences, such as riding dangerously, you could be convicted of a crime and go to prison.

Tip: it is a good idea to carry identification – this will help people know who you are if you are in a crash.

Traffic infringements

If you commit a traffic infringement you will be given an infringement notice by a police officer. The notice lists the road rule you broke, the amount of the on-the-spot fine, the due date for payment and how to pay.

For more information about traffic infringement penalties visit the [Fines Victoria website](#). See More information and where to get help on page 27.

Dealing with fines

When you get an on-the-spot fine for a traffic infringement you can usually pay it and avoid a court hearing and possible criminal conviction. But if you decide not to pay the fine straight away, you can ask for it to be reviewed by the body that issued it or challenge it in court. If you are going to court, get legal advice first.

More serious traffic offences

Just like a car driver, you can be charged with more serious traffic offences. If convicted of these offences you can get a large fine or even a prison term.

Careless riding

You must not ride your bike carelessly on a road. For example, riding too fast for the conditions and not looking where you are going could amount to careless riding. If you are convicted of careless riding you could receive a substantial fine.

Dangerous riding

You must not risk public safety by riding your bike dangerously. For example, riding too fast for the conditions and not looking out for pedestrians could amount to dangerous riding. If you are convicted of dangerous riding, you could receive a large fine or even a prison term.

Do not drink or use drugs and ride

It is dangerous to ride your bike if you are drunk or drug-affected, and it is also against the law.

Being stopped by police

If you are riding your bike and are stopped by police for questioning regarding an offence, you must give the police your correct name and address. It is a criminal offence not to give it, or to give a false name or address. You are not required to say anything else, even if you are arrested.

Tip: keep calm if you are stopped by police. You must give police your name and address if they ask.

You have the right to ask a police officer for their name, rank and the police station they are from. If asked, the police must give you those details.

If the police arrest you, they must tell you why. If you are arrested, you must go with the police, usually to a police station. You do not have to say anything, and you have the right to call a relative or friend (to tell them where you are), as well as a lawyer.



Crashes

If you are involved in a crash with another rider, pedestrian or driver, you have certain responsibilities and rights.

If you are in a crash in which someone is hurt, you must:

- stop and help them
- give your name and address to anyone involved, and to any police present
- report the crash to the police.

It is a serious offence if you do not stop. There are different penalties depending on whether anyone was killed or seriously injured. They may include a large fine or a prison term.

Insurance

Bike insurance can cover you for some of the cost of your injuries, damage to your bike or injury and damage to someone else and their property. See the section on insurance on page 2 for more details.

Transport Accident Commissions compensation for injury or death

What the Transport Accident Commission covers

If you are injured in a crash in Victoria involving a moving motor vehicle, train or tram that is registered in Victoria, you may be eligible for support and services under the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) scheme. It also covers you if you crash into an open or opening car door, or if you collide with a stationary vehicle while you are riding to or from work. To be eligible, you must report the crash to police.

What the TAC does not cover

The TAC scheme does not cover crashes that only involved you and another bike rider or a pedestrian, or you alone. Note, also, that the TAC will not cover you when you can be compensated under another scheme, such as WorkSafe.

What you can get

Under the TAC scheme, you can get the cost of reasonable medical expenses covered, as well as compensation for lost earnings from your job while you recover. If you were seriously injured in a crash that was the fault of a motorist or train or tram driver, you can also sue for compensation (damages).

Call the TAC on 1300 654 329 or visit the [TAC website](#) for more information on making a claim. See More information and where to get help on page 27.

MORE INFORMATION AND WHERE TO GET HELP

Want to find out more about being a good bike rider or your rights? There are a number of organisations that can help.

Cycling organisations

Amy Gillett Foundation

A national organisation dedicated to bike rider safety. Leads multiple initiatives directly to the public to improve safety, funded through donations, charity rides, corporate sponsorship and assistance. Runs the award-winning Cycle Safe Communities program, which provides the community, councils and organisations access to bike rider safety campaign resources.

www.amygillett.org.au

Bicycle Network

An independent organisation that encourages Australians to make riding a bike part of everyday life. Membership comes with insurance cover and bike rider support. Bicycle Network provides information about choosing and maintaining your bike, riding to work and school, safety tips and parking your bike at train stations and public transport hubs.

Phone: 1800 639 634 (free call) or (03) 8376 8888

www.bicyclenetwork.com.au

AusCycling

The peak body in Australia for racing and recreational cycling. Membership comes with insurance for recreational bike riders. Provides expert information about how to ride safely and responsibly in a group.

Phone: 1300 137 397

www.auscycling.org.au/vic

Melbourne Bicycle User Group (BUG)

An organisation that campaigns for better conditions for bike riders.

There are also BUG groups in many other municipalities across Victoria. You can search online using a search engine to find out if there is a BUG in your area.

The Bike Shed

An organisation that runs a bike shed where you can learn how to repair and maintain your bike.

There are a number of similar organisations across Melbourne.

www.thebikeshed.org.au

Public transport organisations

Public Transport Victoria (PTV)

Provides public transport services in Victoria. The PTV website has information about taking bikes on buses, trams and trains, and leaving your bike at stations.

www.ptv.vic.gov.au

V/Line

Provides public transport services in Victoria. The V/Line website has information about taking bikes on V/Line trains.

www.vline.com.au

Government organisations

Department of Transport, Victoria

Plans and operates transport in Victoria, including roads, and provides information about road rules and safety for bike riders.

Phone: 13 11 71

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

Fines Victoria

Provides information about your rights and responsibilities with traffic, parking, public transport and local council fines.

Phone: (03) 9200 8111 (metro) or 1300 369 819 (regional)

<https://online.fines.vic.gov.au>

TAC

The TAC (Transport Accident Commission) pays for treatment and benefits to eligible people who have been injured in a transport accident, including some bike crashes.

Phone: 1300 654 329 (local call) or 1800 332 556 (toll-free outside Melbourne metro area)

www.tac.vic.gov.au

Legal help

Law Institute of Victoria

The Law Institute of Victoria's Find Your Lawyer Referral service may help find a private lawyer that best suits your needs.

Phone: (03) 9607 9550 (referral service)

www.liv.asn.au/referral

Victoria Legal Aid

Legal Help

For free information about the law and how we can help you:

- visit our website www.legalaid.vic.gov.au
- use our Legal Help Chat on the website, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm, excluding public holidays
- phone Legal Help on 1300 792 387, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm, excluding public holidays.

Do you need help calling us?



Translating and Interpreting Service

Phone: 131 450

www.tisnational.gov.au



National Relay Service

TTY users: call 133 677

Speak and Listen users: call 1300 555 727

Internet Relay users: go to <https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay> and enter 1300 792 387.

Local offices

We have offices all over Victoria. Our offices are open Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm, excluding public holidays.

All offices are accessible to people with a disability.

Bike law

Victoria Legal Aid

For free information about the law and how we can help you, please visit our website www.legalaid.vic.gov.au or call Legal Help on 1300 792 387.

For business queries, call (03) 9269 0234

Offices

Melbourne

Suburban offices

Broadmeadows

Dandenong

Frankston

Ringwood

Sunshine

Regional offices

Bairnsdale

Ballarat

Bendigo

Geelong

Horsham

Mildura

Morwell

Shepparton

Warrnambool



Publication orders

To download or order our publications in English or other languages go to www.legalaid.vic.gov.au

If you need help ordering online please call (03) 9269 0234 and ask for Publications or email cle@vla.vic.gov.au