



## Florida Department of Transportation

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**For Immediate Release**  
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### **FDOT Urges Riders to “Ride Smart” and Know the Law Before Operating a Scooter** *Ride Smart Florida Campaign*

**MIAMI, Fla.** – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has launched the 2025 Ride Smart Florida safety campaign, running from mid-April through June, with a goal to promote motorcycle and scooter safety across Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. This year, FDOT is bringing attention to a growing issue: many local riders are unknowingly breaking the law by operating scooters without the required license.

#### **Do you know the requirements to legally operate a scooter in Florida?**

Many people don't realize that in Florida, you must have a Class E driver's license to legally operate a scooter. If your scooter has an engine over 50cc, you need a motorcycle endorsement. Additionally:

- Wearing headphones or a headset while riding is prohibited.
- If your engine is over 50cc, you must wear eye protection.
- If you're over 21, a helmet is required if your engine exceeds 50cc.
- Scooters are NOT allowed in bike lanes or pedestrian paths.

FDOT is calling on the community and local media to help spread this important message. Too many riders are unaware of these legal requirements, putting themselves and others at risk.

The Ride Smart Florida campaign will use media ads, social media outreach, and public service announcements to raise awareness. Additionally, FDOT is hosting a virtual partner kick-off meeting on May 13, 2024, at 10 a.m. to discuss collaborative efforts with agencies and community partners. To join the meeting, click [HERE](#).

Throughout the campaign, FDOT will work with local agencies to educate the public on key safety practices, including proper licensing, protective gear, and responsible riding. Outreach events will be held across the district, giving residents the opportunity to learn about scooter and motorcycle safety firsthand.

FDOT encourages the public to join us in advocating for safer roads and working toward the statewide goal of Zero Fatalities and Serious Injuries.

For more campaign details, to stay informed about upcoming events, or to join as a campaign partner, please contact Community Safety Traffic Specialist, Shieda Castillo, at (305) 470-5313 or via email at [Shieda.Castillo@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Shieda.Castillo@dot.state.fl.us) or Community Outreach Specialist, Yaisel Gonzalez, at (305) 640-8122 or via email at [yaisel@iscprgroup.com](mailto:yaisel@iscprgroup.com). You can also visit the campaign's website at: [www.ridesmartflorida.com](http://www.ridesmartflorida.com).

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The Florida Department of Transportation's mission is to provide a safe statewide transportation system that promotes the efficient movement of people and goods, supports the state's economic competitiveness, prioritizes Florida's environment and natural resources, and preserves the quality of life and connectedness of the state's communities.