



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS 10TH AIR BASE WING

USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO

24 OCT 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL USAFA PERSONNEL

FROM: HQ 10 ABW/CC

SUBJECT: Personal Protective Equipment Requirements for Motorcycle, Motor Scooter and Moped Operations

1. The safety of our people is one of my top priorities, and motorcycle safety is a special concern. The safety of a motorcyclist is everyone's responsibility. Motorcycle riders need to be especially wary of others on the road and road conditions to ensure their own safety. In the same way, other vehicle operators must be aware and careful while around motorcycles as they do not afford the same level of protection as cars and trucks. Even a low-impact accident between a car and a motorcycle has high injury potential for the motorcyclist. To enhance the safety of motorcyclists, it is critical to spell out the requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while operating on, and traveling to and from, the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA).

2. The following PPE requirements expand on the current guidance found in AFI 91-207, *The US Air Force Traffic Safety Program*, to accommodate state law and my policy.

a. These PPE requirements apply to:

(1) Military members (and their passengers) assigned to USAFA, while operating a motorcycle, gas or electric scooter or moped on or off base. Passengers are not authorized on mopeds.

(2) DoD/NAF employees (and their passengers) assigned to USAFA, while operating a motorcycle, gas or electric scooter or moped on base. Additionally, these requirements apply to DoD/NAF employees while operating a motorcycle, gas or electric scooter or moped off base in an on-duty status such as attending a work-related meeting off base.

(3) Any other person operating a motorcycle, gas or electric scooter or moped on USAFA (e.g., visitors to the Academy).

b. PPE wear requirements:

(1) Head Protection. A helmet designed to meet or exceed Department of Transportation (DOT) standards shall be worn and properly fastened under the chin.

(2) **Eye Protection.** Goggles, wraparound glasses or a full-face shield (properly attached to the helmet) designed to meet or exceed ANSI Standard Z87.1 for impact and shatter resistance will be worn. A windshield DOES NOT constitute proper eye protection.

(3) **Foot Protection.** Riders will wear sturdy over-the-ankle footwear that affords protection for the feet and ankles. Durable athletic shoes that cover the ankles may be worn. Sandals, low-quarter sneakers and similar footwear will not be used.

(4) Long-sleeved shirt or jacket.

(5) Long trousers.

(6) Full-fingered gloves or mittens.


(7) **Garment and Motorcycle Visibility.** Riders will wear a brightly colored outer garment during the day and a reflective upper garment during the night and meet the following guidance.

(a) **Daytime Requirements:** Personnel, regardless of their civilian or duty uniform, will wear an upper outer garment that contains high-visibility colors, as defined in Figure 1. Military uniforms do not meet these criteria. If a solid, dark-colored upper garment or BDU is worn, a safety vest of any bright color, as defined in Figure 1, must be worn to make the upper garment visible. Reflective belts will not be worn in lieu of a safety vest. For the purpose of this policy, daytime is defined as 1 hour after official sunrise until 1 hour prior to official sunset.

(b) **Nighttime Requirements:** At night or during periods of reduced visibility, the outer upper garment, regardless of color, must be reflective. This reflective outer upper garment may be a safety vest of any color, a vest with embedded reflective material or a jacket with embedded reflective material. Reflective belts will not be used as the upper outer garment to satisfy the reflective requirement defined above. For the purpose of this policy, nighttime is defined as 1 hour before official sunset until 1 hour after official sunrise.

(c) The outer upper garment shall be visible and not covered. Wearing a backpack is authorized if it has brightly colored/reflective properties as defined in Figure 1. Backpacks will not be substituted for an upper outer garment. If a backpack is worn at night, a reflective belt may be wrapped around the backpack to satisfy the reflective requirement and must be worn in conjunction with a reflective upper outer garment.

3. It is the responsibility of each Team USAFA member to wear proper protective equipment, and I expect each commander and supervisor to enforce this policy. Exceptions to this policy should be directed to the HQ USAFA Safety Office, 333-3205.



JIMMY E. MCMILLIAN, Colonel, USAF
Commander

Attachment:

Figure 1 – Chart Defining Bright Colors For Motorcycle PPE