"Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" is a "Motorized bicycle"!

• What is "Pedal attached Motorized Bicycle"?

"Pedal attached Motorized Bicycle" is the bicycle that has an e-powered self-propel function, can be driven by only e-power or human power, which doesn't belong to "Specific Small Motorized Bicycle"



By the Road and Traffic Law and the Road Transport Vehicle Law in Japan, "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" belong to a general "Motorized Bicycle".

Thus, in case you ride the bicycle on a public road in Japan, you need to obtain driver's license of a general "Motorized Bicycle".

Obligations for riding "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" on public road

1. You must obtain the driver's license and carry the license.

You need the driver's license that can permit riding general "Motorized Bicycle" (Motorized Bicycle License, Standard Motor Vehicle License and so on).

You must always carry the license when driving.

2. You obey the traffic rules of a general "Motorized Bicycle".

You are required to obey the traffic rules of a general "Motorized Bicycle" such as wearing helmet, prohibition of double riding, proceeding on roadway (going sidewalk and going sidestrip for cyclists are prohibited), keeping left lane left side in principle, two steps right turn at the multilane crossing.

Instead of running the motor, only pedaling the bicycle, it is also the same action of riding the bicycle as well. You must not ride the motorized bicycle on the sidewalk.

3. The "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" must meet safety standards prescribed in the Road Transport Vehicle Law in Japan.

You can't ride the Motorized Bicycle unless it equips brakes (both front and rear wheel),

headlight, brake lamp, taillight, license number lamp, mirror, turn signal, horn, etc. meet safety standards.

4. You must join compulsory automobile liability insurance.

Based on the Act on the Securing Compensation for Automobile Accidents, joining the mandatory automobile liability insurance or mutual aid association is required.

Without the insurance, you can ride the bicycle.

5. License number plate must be attached.

The owner of "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" has the duty to pay a light vehicle tax (local government tax) prescribed in the Local Tax Law, and attach the license number plate issued by the local government at the payment time for the bicycle.

[Warning]

If you ride a "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" that doesn't meet all the requirements written above, you could be charged on the violation of the Road Traffic Law.

* In case the motorized bicycle's rated power output is over 0.6kW(600W), it would be another vehicle category (standard motorcycle etc.) according to its output. You should be careful because the traffic rules applied to the vehicle is different. Before riding, please check the specification by catalog or instruction booklet.

A vehicle that you can move without pedaling, run it by e-power by using acceleration button or handgrip on the handle bar is not a bicycle.

Even if the bicycle meets all the requirements written above, you must follow the traffic rules as same as a riding general motorized bicycle and you need to make effort to keep the safety driving.

For the dealers of "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle"

The dealers of "Pedal Attached Motorized Bicycle" must instruct the users the points written above thoroughly when selling. If the dealers make a false advertisement or explanation like "You can ride it on public road without a driver's license.", they could be charged on the violation of the Unfair Competition Prevention Law or other related laws. Therefore, please be careful.

Inquiry Desk: Traffic Enforcement division of Ibaraki Police Headquarter

Phone: 029-301-0110