

Low Speed Vehicles

Section 1.1 Definitions

Low speed vehicle means a 4-wheeled motor vehicle whose speed attainable in 1 mile (1.6 km) is more than 20 miles per hour (32 kilometers per hour) and not more than 25 miles per hour (40 kilometers per hour) on a paved level surface and has a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of less than 3,000 pounds (1,134 kilograms).

Section 1.2 Operation of Low Speed Vehicles

Low speed vehicles may not be operated on public highways where the speed limit is more than 35 miles per hour.¹ A state, county or municipal government authority having charge of any public highway may permit, restrict, prohibit or otherwise regulate the use and operation of low speed vehicles upon such public highway. Nothing in this section shall prevent local governments from adopting additional local ordinances governing low speed vehicle operation. All low speed vehicles shall meet the requirements of Part 49 Section 571.500 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Aftermarket conversion of manufactured non-compliant vehicles to low speed vehicle Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) are prohibited.

Section 1.3 Driver's License Required

All persons operating a low speed vehicle shall hold a valid driver's license.

Section 1.4 Safety Inspection

Low speed vehicles shall be exempt from state safety inspection. Upon renewal of a LSV registration the owner shall certify, under penalty for false statement, that all lights, brakes, tires, and seat belts are in good working condition.

Section 1.5 Insurance

Low speed vehicles shall be required to maintain insurance as required by [cite to state's mandatory insurance law].

Section 1.6 Title Required

Low speed vehicles shall be titled as specified in [cite title required law]. The manufacturer's certificate of origin shall clearly identify the vehicle as a low speed vehicle. The state shall not issue vehicle identification numbers to homemade low speed vehicles or retrofitted golf carts and such vehicles shall not qualify as low speed vehicles in this state.

Section 1.7 Registration

Motor vehicle registrations shall be required on low speed vehicles.

[OPTION 1: Low speed vehicles shall display [number] of plates on the [front] and rear of the vehicle at all times.]

[OPTION 2: The fee for registering a low speed vehicle shall be [set fee or cite to already existing applicable fee structure].

Section 1.8 Dealer Requirements

Any person engaged in the retail sale of low speed vehicles shall be required to comply with the motor vehicle dealer licensing, registration, and bonding laws of this state as specified in [cite].

¹Jurisdictions should examine the safety considerations of allowing vehicles with a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour on roads with speed limits of 35 miles per hour.