

Electric Personal Assisted Mobility Device EPAMD Resource Sheet

(46.04.1695) "Electric personal assistive mobility device" (EPAMD) means a self-balancing device with two wheels not in tandem, designed to transport only one person by an electric propulsion system with an average power of seven hundred fifty watts (one horsepower) having a maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a propulsion system while ridden by an operator weighing one hundred seventy pounds, of less than twenty miles per hour.

Examples



Licensing

No drivers license needed ([RCW 46.16A.030](#))

Not licensable for street use ([RCW 46.20.500](#) and [RCW 46.04.320](#))

Equipment Requirements

2 wheels not in tandem (must be side by side) ([RCW 46.04.1695](#))

Electric powered (average of 750 watts or 1 horsepower)

([RCW 46.04.1695](#))

Use

- Cannot exceed 20 mph ([RCW 46.04.1695](#))
- Cannot be operated on fully controlled limited access highway ([RCW 46.61.710](#))
- Must obey all speed limits and yield to the right-of-way to pedestrians and human-powered devices ([RCW 46.61.710](#))
- A municipality and the Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of an EPAMD on public highways within their respective jurisdictions where the speed limit is greater than 25 miles per hour. ([RCW 46.61.710](#))
- A municipality may restrict the speed of an EPAMD in locations with congested pedestrian or non-motorized traffic and where there is significant speed differential between pedestrians and EPAMD operators. The areas in this subsection must be designated by the city engineer or designee of the municipality. Municipalities shall not restrict the speed of an EPAMD in the entire community or in areas in which there is infrequent pedestrian traffic. ([RCW 46.61.710](#))
- A state agency or local government or municipalities may regulate the operation of an EPAMD within the boundaries under their jurisdiction and control, including any area used for recreation, open space, habitat, trails, or conservation purposes. ([RCW 46.61.710](#))

Note: While we have tried to compile a complete listing of laws regarding this type of mobility device, additional requirements may apply. To read additional law requirements please visit the Washington State legislative Web site at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/>