Moped Resource Sheet

(RCW 46.04.304) "Moped" means a motorized device designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground and having an electric or a liquid fuel motor with a cylinder displacement not exceeding fifty cubic centimeters which produces no more than two gross brake horsepower (developed by a prime mover, as measured by a brake applied to the driving shaft) that is capable of propelling the device at not more than thirty miles per hour on level ground.

Examples:

Use
- Cannot exceed 30 mph (RCW 46.04.304)
- May not be operated on a bicycle path or trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail (RCW 46.61.710)
- Cannot be ridden on sidewalks (RCW 46.61.710)
- Cannot be operated on fully controlled limited access highway (RCW 46.61.710)
- May park in valid moped (MP) parking (WAC 504-15-240)
- Removal of any muffling device or pollution control devise is unlawful (RCW 46.61.710)

Licensing
- Valid Drivers License needed (RCW 46.20.500)
- Must be registered and display a valid license plate (RCW 46.61.710, RCW 46.16A.200 and 405)
- Insurance not required

Equipment Requirements
- 2-3 wheels (RCW 46.04.304)
- Electric or liquid fuel motor (cylinder displacement of less than 50cc, no more than 2 brake horsepower) (RCW 46.04.304)
- Must meet FMVSS for motor -driven cycle (RCW 46.61.720) which requires:
  - Two mirrors CFR 571.111 (RCW 46.37.530 and 46.37.539)
  - Brakes CFR 571.122 (RCW 46.37.527)
  - Controls CFR 571.123
  - Head light CFR 571.108 (RCW 46.37.523-524)
  - Tail light CFR 571.108 (RCW 46.37.050)
  - Brake light CFR 571.108 (RCW 46.37.525 & 070)
  - License plate light CFR 571.108 (RCW 46.37.050 and RCW 46.16.240)
  - Red reflector to the rear CFR 571.108 (RCW 46.37.525)
  - Tires CFR 571.119 & 120 (RCW 46.37.539)
  - Horn (RCW 46.37.539)
  - Muffler (RCW 46.37.539)
- The operator and any passenger are required to wear a USDOT approved helmet meeting the requirements outlined in 49 CFR 571.218 (RCW 46.37.530).
- Windshield or eye protection (RCW 46.37.539)

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