**FAQ**

* **What is a quad bike?**

A quad bike or all-terrain vehicle (ATV) is a four-wheel powered vehicle which is generally designed for off-road use e.g., farms, purpose-built tracks etc.

* **Do I need to undertake a training course before driving a quad bike?**

From 20 November 2023 there is a requirement to undertake a registered training course with a registered training provider (that provides LANTRA, QQI or CITY & GUILDS) . Also, it is a requirement to wear a helmet. More information can be found on the HSA’s website.

* **What are classed as typical work spaces?**

Farms, construction sites, road maintenance, forestry and other land-based industries are all examples.

* **Where can I avail of training?**

If unsure as to where you can avail of training, you may contact LANTRA, QQI or City & Guilds for information on approved provider.

* **How long is the training course?**

Typically, training lasts one day for experienced operators and two days for inexperienced operators.

* **Is there an assessment or exam afterwards?**

Once the operator has successfully completed the training, they will be assessed by the coordinator and marked based on the relevant criteria in relation to the objectives outlined. Successful candidates will then receive their certificate.

* **Is the assessment practical or theory based?**

Practical assessment (60%) and formal questioning in written or verbal form (40%).

* **How long is training valid for?**

Five years.

* **Is there a minimum age for training?**

The minimum age in order to operate a quad is 16, so therefore the minimum age for training is 16.

* **I own an ATV (Mule, Gator, side by side) do I require training under the new regulation?**

No, for now it is just ATV operators that need to undergo mandatory training.

* **Where the ATV is operated by numerous people, if one person undergoes the training, will that suffice?**

No, every operator is required to undergo training.

* **I own an old ATV which is operated very occasionally, do the rules still apply?**

Yes, the regulation applies to all makes, models and ages of ATV once used within a workspace.

* **Can I drive a quad on public road?**

If used on a public road, quads are subject to all of the regulatory controls that apply to other mechanically propelled vehicles (MPVs) i.e., must be roadworthy, registered, taxed and comply with all regulations mentioned below.

* **Can I tow a trailer with a quad on a public road?**

Yes, provided that the quad meets with all the regulatory requirements for road use i.e., it is taxed, insured, roadworthy etc. You should hold the appropriate driving licence for that vehicle combination and the loaded weight of the trailer must not exceed the quad’s towing capacity. You should refer to the owner’s manual or contact original manufacturer for its towing capacity.

* **Is a licence required to drive a quad bike on the public road?**

Yes.

* **What licence is required to drive a quad?**

The type of licence will depend on the weight and power of the quad bike.

* **Can minors use quad bikes?**

Quad bikes used in a public place require the driver to have a licence. Therefore, the minimum age is 16 for light quads 350kg or less with a maximum design speed of not more than 45 km/h otherwise it is 17 years. Minors using quad bikes on private property fall under the remit of Health and Safety Authority.

* **Are roll over bars required to be fitted to quad bikes?**

No. Research has shown that roll over bars is more likely to increase the likelihood of injury by obstructing the rider either when thrown off or when jumping off during an overturn. For further information contact HSA at 1890 289 389.

* **Is a seat belt required on a quad?**

No. But if one is fitted it should be worn.

* **How do I register a quad bike?**

Contact Revenue.

* **Is it a requirement to wear a helmet when riding on or driving quads?**

From 20 November 2023 new health and safety regulations come into effect governing the safe use of ATV/Quad Bikes in all workplaces, which requires the use of helmets to a (generally) prescribed standard to be worn. We strongly recommend that you always wear a helmet for your own safety. More information on this can be found on the HAS’s webpage.

* **Can I carry a passenger on a quad?**

No. unless it has been originally manufactured to carry a passenger.

* **Is it illegal to carry children on a public road in a quad towing trailer?**

Yes. As enforcement of road traffic legislation is a matter for the Gardai, we advise that suspected breaches of this legislation should be reported to them. Road traffic-related incidents can also be reported to Traffic Watch on 1890 205 805.

* **My quad is for off-road use only, can I use the public road to get from one field to another?**

If used on a public road, quads are subject to all of the regulatory controls that apply to other mechanically propelled vehicles as mentioned above. However, enforcement of these regulations is a matter for An Garda Síochána so ultimately the discretion lies with them.

* **Can I drive off-road quad tyres on the public road?**

Tyres fitted to a vehicle being used on the road require type approval i.e., e-marked, s-marked and have a minimum 1.6mm tread depth. If off-road tyres meet with these requirements, then they can be used on a public road. Some off-road tyres are marked ‘for off-road use only’ and may not be used on a public road.

* **I only use quad on farm. Does it need tax and insurance etc.?**

No.