All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) $^{\!1}$ Canadian Legislation Chart



Province/Territory 2, 3	Mandatory Driver Safety Training	Mandatory Helmet Use	Minimum Operating Age, Location for Use, Supervision
British Columbia Off-Road Vehicle Act (ORV)	Yes (mandatory for children 14 years of age and older if riding unsupervised by a parent)	Yes	(ORV): A person 19 years of age or older must not authorize or permit another person under 16 years of age to operate an ATV. A child may use or operate an off-road vehicle on Crown land or private land without being supervised if the child is of the minimum recommended age, height and weight specified by the manufacturer, is at least 14 or 15 years of age, and a parent or guardian of the child states, in writing, that the child has appropriate training to use or operate the class of ATV, and the parent or guardian consents to the child using or operating the ATV without adult supervision. A child must carry a copy of the form.
Alberta Traffic Safety Act – Off-Highway Vehicle Regulation (TSA-OHVR) Traffic Safety Act – Part 6 (TSA)	No	Yes (required on all public land, unless: ATV has manufacturer installed rollover protective structures and seat belts that are properly worn; and meets standards for a motor vehicle designed for roadway use)	(TSA-OHVR) & (TSA): Children under 14 years cannot operate an ATV on a highway. Children under 14 years cannot operate an ATV on public property unless they are supervised by an adult who is 18 years of age or older and who occupies the passenger seat of the ATV or is following in close proximity to the ATV. If operating on private property, no age restriction applies.
Saskatchewan All Terrain Vehicles Act (ATVA) Traffic Safety Act (TSA)	Yes (Only for children aged 12 to 15)	Yes (Does not apply when operating on land owned by themselves, the passenger or an immediate family member of either)	(ATVA) & (TSA): Children under 16 years can operate an ATV on land owned by an immediate family member. Children ages 12-15 years can operate an ATV on public or private property, on an untravelled portion of the highway or for the purposes of crossing a highway at the shortest route available, only if they have passed an approved ATV training course, or are accompanied on the ATV or are supervised by a person who has held continuously for the immediately preceding 365 days a permit to operate an ATV. Must have permission to operate an ATV on private land or Crown land used or occupied otherwise than by the Crown.

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Manitoba Off-Road Vehicles Act (ORVA)	No	Yes (Does not apply when operating an ATV for the purpose of farming, commercial fishing, hunting or trapping OR if the ATV is equipped with roll-over protection and seat belt assemblies that meet regulations and are properly worn)	(ORVA): Children under 14 years can operate an ATV provided they are supervised and accompanied by a parent or an adult who is at least the age of 18 years (and authorized by the parent) and is in clear view of the ATV during operation.
Ontario Off-Road Vehicle Act (ORV) Highway Traffic Act (HTA).	No	Yes (Does not apply when operating an ATV on land occupied by the owner of the ATV)	(ORV): Children under 12 years cannot operate an ATV unless they are operating the ATV on land occupied by the vehicle owner or are closely supervised by an adult. (HTA): No one is permitted to drive an ATV on a highway except in accordance with the regulations and applicable municipal by-laws.
Quebec An Act respecting Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVA)	Yes (if operator is a minor, must have a certificate from an officer authorized by the Government, attesting they have the competence and knowledge required to operate ATV)	Yes	(OHVA): Minimum driver age of 16 years for adult sized ATVs. Children under 16 years can operate youth sized ATVs as approved by regulation.
New Brunswick Off-Road Vehicle Act (ORVA)	Yes (<16 years old)	Yes	(ORVA): Children that are at least 14 years of age, and under 16 years of age, can operate an ATV appropriate for a person of that age provided they have completed an approved training course and are in clear view of and supervised by an adult who is 19 years of age or older and has completed a safety training course.
Nova Scotia Off-Highway Vehicles Act, Chapter 323 (OHVA)	Yes	Yes	(OHVA): Children that are at least 14 years of age, and under 16 years of age, can operate an ATV with direct parental/guardian supervision in clear sight, and both child and parent/guardian need to complete an approved safety training course. Children under 16 years of age can operate an ATV in a closed course with enforced course rules, provided they are supervised by a parent or guardian, have completed an approved safety training course, are wearing protective equipment, are operating an ATV that is fit for their age, size and capability and a trained official and trained first respondent are present.

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Prince Edward Island Off-Highway Vehicles Act – General Regulations (OHVA)	Yes (mandatory for ages 14-15 and those without a valid driver's license for a minimum of 24 months)	Yes	(OHVA): Children that are at least 14 years of age, and under 16 years of age, can operate an ATV if they have completed an approved safety training course and are directly supervised by an adult who either has held a valid driver's license for at least 24 months prior to supervising or holds a valid driver's license and has completed an approved safety training course. Individuals over the age of 16 years must have held a valid driver's license for at least 24 months or have completed an approved safety training course to operate an ATV.
Newfoundland and Labrador Motorized Snow Vehicles and All- Terrain Vehicles Act – Regulation (MSVATVA)	No	Yes	(MSVATVA): Children that are at least 14 years of age, and under 16 years of age, can only operate an ATV appropriate for their age, size and capabilities (90cc or less) and must be supervised* by an adult who is 19 years of age or older. *Supervision must consist of visual and voice communication with the operator.
Yukon Motor Vehicles Act	No	Yes (those 16 years of age or younger must wear a helmet)	When operating an off-road vehicle on, or crossing over a maintained road, you must have a valid driver's licence. Municipalities and communities may have their own rules for ATV use and should be consulted before riding an ATV.
Northwest Territories All-Terrain Vehicles Act (ATVA)	No	Yes	(ATVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years to drive on highway.
Nunavut All-Terrain Vehicles Act (ATVA)	No	Yes	(ATVA): Minimum driver age of 14 years to drive on highway.

Endnotes

- 1 All Terrain Vehicle can include snowmobiles, dirt bikes, motocross bikes, amphibious vehicles, quad bikes and other similar vehicles. Please refer to each provincial Act for scope of vehicle coverage.
- 2 Municipal Authorities may enact by-laws regulating the use of ATVs within their jurisdictions. Please consult to your local municipality for any related ATV by-laws.
- 3 For information purposes only. Please consult local authorities for further interpretation and current status.

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