

Unconventional Vehicles (FAQ's)

What is an unconventional vehicle?

An unconventional vehicle is a motor vehicle designed to travel on at least wheels in contact with the ground, has an unladen weight of at least three hundred pounds (136.08 kilograms) but less than eight thousand pounds (3628.7 kilograms), has a permanent upright seat or saddle for the driver which is mounted at least twenty-four inches (50.8 centimeters) from the ground, has a steering device for front wheel steering control, is capable of speed in excess of sixty-five miles (104.61 kilometers) per hour, complies with equipment requirements listed in either chapter 39-21 or 39-27 as appropriate, and has an identifying number. The term does not include motor vehicles that otherwise may be registered under this chapter.

Where can an unconventional vehicle be operated?

A licensed driver may operate a **registered** unconventional vehicle on any highway except an access-controlled highway.

Are unconventional vehicles subject to tax?

Yes. Unconventional vehicles titled and licensed in North Dakota are subject to the 5% motor vehicle excise tax.

Are unconventional vehicles required to be registered?

Yes. An individual may not operate an unconventional vehicle on public roadways unless the vehicle has been registered with the Motor Vehicle Division.

What is required to title and license a new unconventional vehicle?

[SFN 2872 Application for Certificate of Title and Registration of a Motor Vehicle](#) must be completed in full and signed by the buyer. The Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO) is required and must be completed and signed by the dealership, 5% motor vehicle excise tax will be due on the purchase price, \$5 title fee and \$50 license fee.

If a Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO) was not provided when the vehicle was purchased, the owner must contact the dealership for assistance in obtaining a duplicate Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO). The Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO) or other documentation from the manufacturer must describe the engine size and maximum speed of the vehicle.

What is required to title and license an older used unconventional vehicle that was never titled and there is no Manufacturers Certificate of Origin (MCO) available?

[SFN 2486 Certificate of Vehicle Inspection](#) must be completed by a business registered and in good standing with the secretary of state and that offers vehicle repairs to the public. [SFN 2888 Seller Certificate and Vehicle Bill of Sale](#) must be completed and signed by the seller. A notarized Statement of Fact may be required from the applicant. [SFN 2872 Application for Certificate of Title and Registration of a Motor Vehicle](#) must be completed in full and signed by the buyer, 5% motor vehicle excise tax will be due on the purchase price, \$5 title fee, and \$50 license fee.

Are unconventional vehicles required to be insured?

Yes. Liability insurance is required if the unconventional vehicle is registered.