

Attachment A – Mobility Device Categories

			Operation Limits***			
Category	Examples*	Device Description**	Max Width	Max Weight	Max Allowable Speed	Decibel Limits
Wheelchair	<i>Manual and hybrid power wheelchairs</i>	A manually- operated or power-driven device designed primarily for use by an individual with a mobility disability for the main purpose of indoor or of both indoor and outdoor locomotion (CFR §35.104).				
OPDMD Category 1	<i>Off road mobility devices</i>	A battery-operated power-driven device designed primarily for use by an individual with a mobility disability for the main purpose of outdoor locomotion.	40 in.	400 lbs.	4 mph	Soft 30 dB
OPDMD Category 2	<i>E-scooters, Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices</i>	A device powered solely by electric motor that can be stood or sat upon by the operator, and has at least two wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard.	30 in.	300 lbs.	20 mph	Soft 40 dB
OPDMD Category 3	<i>Class 1 E-bikes (Pedal assist, not wider than 36 in.)</i>	A Class 1 Bicycle with Electric Assist in which requires that it is “no more than thirty-six inches wide... equipped with operable pedals... having an electric motor that provides assistance only when the person operating such bicycle is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when such bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour.” (see VTL §102-C(a)).	36 in.	n/a	20 mph	Soft 40 dB
OPDMD Category 3A	<i>Class 1 E-bikes (Pedal assist, wider than 36 in.)</i>	A Class 1 Bicycle with Electric Assist, except that the device may be wider than 36 inches.	≥36 in.	n/a	20 mph	Soft 40 dB
OPDMD Category 4	<i>Class 2 E-bikes (Throttled, not wider than 36 in.)</i>	A Class 2 Bicycle with Electric Assist which is “no more than thirty-six inches wide... equipped with operable pedals... having an electric motor that may be used exclusively to propel such bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when such bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour.” (see VTL §102-C(b)).	36 in.	n/a	20 mph	Soft 40 dB
OPDMD Category 4A	<i>Class 2 E-bikes (Throttled, wider than 36 in.)</i>	A Class 2 Bicycle with Electric Assist, except that the device may be wider than 36 inches.	≥36 in.	n/a	20 mph	Soft 40 dB
OPDMD Category 5	<i>Golf carts, Gas mobility devices</i>	A device powered by battery or gas.	52 in.	n/a	20 mph	Moderate 60 dB
OPDMD Category 6	<i>Off road recreational vehicles</i>	A device designed for use off road including an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) as defined in VTL, Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV), Side by Side, Class 3 e-bike and other gas or battery-powered devices which meet the limits as described.	n/a	n/a	20 mph	Loud 70 dB
OPDMD Category 7	<i>Cars and trucks</i>	Motor Vehicle. Every vehicle operated or driven upon a public highway which is propelled by any power other than muscular power as defined by VTL § 125	n/a	n/a	20 mph	Loud 70 dB

Notes

The chart above is intended to provide the broad categories of devices that can most efficiently be reviewed pursuant to the federal regulatory assessment factors. This is not an exhaustive list, and any omission of a device will not preclude future consideration under this policy. Other types of OPDMDs will be considered on an individual basis according to the case-by-case review process. It is possible for a particular device to meet the criteria for more than one category; however, a determination of accommodation will be dependent upon the recreational program and location for which the accommodation is sought. For any device that does not fit clearly within a given category, a full description of the device's relevant characteristics will be required at the time of review.

* Examples do not reflect the complete spectrum of devices within a category. They are solely intended to be illustrative.

** Device categories are defined by the device description including maximum device width. VTL refers to NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law. Pedals referred to in the descriptions can be either foot or hand pedals.

*** The weight, speed, and noise limits are the limits at which a device in the relevant category can be operated on lands managed by DEC unless otherwise specified by an individual accommodation permit issued by DEC. Maximum speed is the maximum speed permitted using motorized power_ unless otherwise limited by a site-specific speed limit. In the case of e-bikes, maximum speed may be exceeded by human power only Speeds presented here are default maximums but may be further limited as appropriate through the procedures described in the policy. Width is measured at the widest point of the device perpendicular from the direction of travel. Weight is the total weight of the device and all cargo except for the rider. Noise limits are based on the Levels of Noise in Decibels (dB), provided below, published by the American Academy of Audiology in 2023.

Levels of Noise in Decibels (dB)	
LOUD	80 • Alarm clocks
	70 • Traffic • Vacuums
MODERATE	60 • Normal Conversation • Dishwashers
	50 • Moderate rainfall
SOFT	40 • Quiet library
	30 • Whisper
FAINT	20 • Leaves rustling