

EM 385-1-1, Interim Change #0014

Effective 25 Jan 08

Utility Vehicle Requirements

**Note: For ease of placement in your EM 385-1-1, add this new Section 18.F in its entirety:**

18.F UTILITY VEHICLES

18.F.01 For the purposes of the section, utility vehicles are defined as specialty Class II ATVs designed to perform off-road utility tasks such as passenger and cargo transportation. Examples are Rangers, Rhino, M-Gators, Gators, and Mules.

18.F.02 Utility vehicle operators shall be trained and familiar with the use of all controls; understand proper moving, stopping, turning and other operating characteristics of the vehicle. Operators must review all training materials provided by the manufacturer for the specific vehicles, and training should be in accordance with appropriate manufacturer recommendations. A copy of the operator's manual shall be kept on the vehicle at all times and protected from the elements. At a minimum, training shall be documented and shall address:

- a. Basic riding tips from the manufacturer's published literature for each vehicle;
- b. Reading terrain;
- c. Climbing hilly terrain;
- d. Descending a hill;
- e. Traversing a slope;
- f. Riding through water;
- g. Cargo carriers and accessories;

h. Loading and unloading;

i. Troubleshooting;

j. Proper preventative maintenance, i.e., oil levels, tire pressure requirements and scheduled maintenance requirements according to the manufacturer's guidelines.

18.F.03 Utility vehicles shall be equipped with:

a. Operable audible warning device (horn);

b. Headlights;

c. Taillights;

d. Brake lights;

e. Seatbelts; and

f. ROPS.

18.F.04 Occupancy in utility vehicles is limited to manufacturer designated seating that has built-in seatbelts. Passengers may not ride in the vehicles back cargo area unless the vehicle is otherwise equipped. Note: When used for emergency response, medical litters may be placed in the back cargo area but must be secured as described in 18.F.06 below.

18.F.05 The manufacturer's recommended load carrying capacity, personnel capacity, or maximum safe vehicle speed shall not be exceeded at any time.

18.F.06 Cargo items will be secured as necessary to prevent movement/tipping. All loads over fifty pounds (to include medical litters) must be securely strapped to cargo tie-downs in the rear and to the cargo shelf in the front.

18.F.07 Seatbelts will be worn by operators and passengers of specialty vehicles where installed by the manufacturer. Operators and passengers shall wear goggles at all times when a utility vehicle, not equipped with a windshield, is in motion.

18.F.08 Utility vehicles will not normally be driven on public roadways except to cross the roadway, and will only be driven on a public roadway at designated crossing points or with a road guard. Utility vehicles that are allowed to operate outside a controlled work area and/or on public roads will meet the minimum vehicle safety standards in accordance with 49 CFR 571.5, to include ROPs, seatbelts and placement of "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblems where required.

18.F.09 Manufacturer-installed safety equipment will be maintained in working order and used in compliance with the requirement of this regulation and in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.