

UNIVERSITY BICYCLE ORDINANCE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

This ordinance applies to all persons who own or operate a Bicycle or E-Scooter on the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus. This ordinance shall be reviewed annually by the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

CHAPTER 1

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. **Bicycle.** Every human-powered device and every low-speed electric bicycle with 2 or more wheels not less than 12 inches in diameter, operable pedals, and designated seats for the transportation of one or more persons, as defined by Illinois Senate Bill 2285. If the vehicle has a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), it is not considered a bicycle. For Use of In-Line Skates, Roller Skates, Skateboards, e-Scooters, and Self-Balancing Personal Transportation Devices, refer to [CAM FO-35](#).
- 1.2. **Bike Share Bicycle.** A bicycle that is both generally available to the public for rent through a smartphone app or other electronic device and is owned by a private company that has permission to operate on campus through a University Concession Agreement with the university. These bicycles are maintained in accordance with University Concession Agreement between the company and the university. For light requirements, see Chapter 3, Section 3. Bike share vendors will refer to the University Concession Agreement for fines and penalties. Bicycles are not allowed inside university buildings.
- 1.3. **Bicycle Lane.** An on-street lane marked for the use of bicycles using symbols or markings.
- 1.4. **Bicycle Path.** An off-street pathway marked for exclusive use by bicycles using symbols or markings.
- 1.5. **Boot.** A lock or other device placed on a bicycle by an authority of a public agency having jurisdiction that must be removed before the bicycle can be operated.
- 1.6. **Campus.** University property within the University District, as defined by the boundaries of University Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Windsor Road, Neil Street, Springfield Avenue and First Street, and also including Orchard Downs Housing within the boundaries of Florida Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Windsor Road, and Race Street.
- 1.7. **Device.** Constitutes a bicycle and/or an e-scooter.

- 1.8. **E-Bike or Electric bicycle.** Low-speed electric bicycle. A bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts that meets one of the class-1, class-2, or class-3 requirements, as defined by the Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/1-140.10.
- Class 1 E-Bike:** A bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of **less than 750 watts** that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of **20 miles per hour**.
- Class 2 E-Bike:** A bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of **less than 750 watts** that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of **20 miles per hour**.
- Class 3 E-Bike:** A bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of **less than 750 watts** that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of **28 miles per hour**.
- 1.9. **E-Motos/ OCEV (Out-of-Class Electric Vehicle).** Any device resembling an electric bicycle that does not follow the definition of an electric bicycle, as defined above, is considered a motor vehicle and is not regulated by this Ordinance. (E.g. a bicycle-like device that is equipped with an electric motor of greater than **750 watts**)
- 1.10. **E-Scooter or Electric Scooter.** A powered stand-up or sit down scooter using a small electric motor. A device weighing less than 100 pounds, with 2 or 3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, that is solely powered by an electric motor and human power, and whose maximum speed, with or without human propulsion, is no more than 10 miles per hour, as is defined by Illinois Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/1-140.11. "Low-speed electric scooter" does not include a moped or motor-driven cycle.
- 1.11. **Motor throttle.** A motor throttle on a bicycle is a control mechanism that allows the rider to power the bike forward without pedaling. It's similar to the throttle on a motorcycle or electric scooter.
- 1.12. **Operator.** Any person who operates or is in actual physical control of a device, whether moving or standing still.
- 1.13. **Ordinance.** When unmodified, this University Bicycle Ordinance.
- 1.14. **Parking or Parked.** Leaving a device unattended.
- 1.15. **Pathway.** Any paved public way on campus, including a bicycle path, shared-use path, and sidewalk, but not including a roadway.

- 1.16. **Project 529.** University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign’s approved national bicycle registration system. This registration system is available to all university students, staff, faculty, departments, and alumni as well as the residents of the City of Urbana, City of Champaign, Village of Savoy, and other residents of Champaign County.
- 1.17. **Quads.** This includes the areas of campus known as Main Quad, South Quad, Bardeen (or Engineering) Quad, Oval Allee, and Ikenberry Commons Quad.
- 1.18. **Registration Fee.** The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign will enforce a one-time \$10 registration fee per bicycle or e-scooters. Bike share bicycles have a different fee system, as documented in the Concession Agreement.
- 1.19. **Registration Tag (Shield).** Official tag affixed on a bicycle after completion of the [bicycle registration process](#). Registration tags have a unique number that must correlate to the bicycle’s registration information.
- 1.20. **Roadway.** Any public road on which motor vehicles are permitted to travel.
- 1.21. **Shared-Use Path.** An off-street pathway for the shared-use of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized transportation.
- 1.22. **Sidewalk.** An off-street unmarked pathway for the primary use of pedestrians.
- 1.23. **State.** The State of Illinois.
- 1.24. **Stop.** Complete cessation from motion.
- 1.25. **Traffic Control Device.** A sign, signal, marking, or device used to regulate, warn, or guide traffic placed on, over or adjacent to a street, roadway, or pathway by authority of a public agency having jurisdiction.
- 1.26. **University.** The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

CHAPTER 2

2. REGISTRATION OF DEVICES

- 2.1. **Registration.** The university provides device registration through Project 529 to aid in the identification of devices and communication with the device owners. Registration is mandatory for all devices parked or operated on campus and owned by students, staff members, faculty members, community members, and bike share vendor(s). Operators must complete registration prior to parking or operating the device on campus. Registration instructions are available at <https://go.illinois.edu/MyBike>. Each device owner must register all of their own device and obtain the registration tag (shield) for each of their registered device.
- 2.2. **Timing.** Operators shall register devices before they are parked or operated on campus. Following a change in ownership of a device, the new owner must re-register the device prior to parking or operation of the device on campus.
- 2.3. **Effective Period.** Registration shall be effective once the operator completes a valid and accurate registration and affixes the registration tag (shield) to the device and shall endure as long as the device is under the same ownership and the registration sticker remains affixed correctly.
- 2.4. **Fee.** There is a one-time \$10 fee for registering a device and obtaining a registration tag (shield). Bike share bicycles require designated registration tag (shield) and a fee in accordance with University Concession Agreement.
- 2.5. **Reporting of Lost or Stolen device.** Each owner of a registered device shall notify the Division of Public Safety if a registered device is lost or stolen, so as to aid in the identification of the device's owner if the device is later located. Each owner shall report the theft on Project 529 Garage application, which will inform the Project 529 volunteers, authorized administrators locally, and bike shops across the country.

CHAPTER 3

3. EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- 3.1. **Unsafe bicycles Prohibited.** No person shall operate a device that is in such an unsafe condition as to endanger any person or property. The owner of the bike share bicycle is responsible for the safety of their bicycles. If a bike share bicycle operator (customer) comes across a damaged or unsafe bicycle, the operator shall inform the bike share vendor using the phone number listed on the bicycle. Operators can also contact Bike at Illinois (bike@illinois.edu), and Bike at Illinois will then contact the bike share vendor.
- 3.2. **Brakes.** Every device shall be equipped with a brake or brakes or other mechanism that will adequately control movement and allow the bicycle to stop.
- 3.3. **Lighting Equipment.** Every device, when operated on campus during the period from dusk to dawn, shall be equipped with at minimum:
 - a. at the front, an operational lamp that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet in front of such device; and
 - b. at the rear, a red reflector of a type approved by the State that is visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used *instead of* the red reflector.

CHAPTER 4

4. GENERAL RULES OF OPERATION

- 4.1. **Required Obedience to Traffic Laws.** Any operator on a roadway or pathway shall have all the rights and shall be subject to all regulations governing the movement and operation of bicycles, including the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), relevant local municipal ordinances ([Champaign Municipal Ordinances](#); [Urbana Municipal Ordinances](#)), and this code.
- a. **Where Permitted to Operate.** Refer to the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), 625 ILCS 5/11-1505.
 - b. **Carrying Articles.** Refer to the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), 625 ILCS 5/11-1506.
 - c. **Clinging to Vehicles.** Refer to the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), 625 ILCS 5/11-1504.
 - d. **Riding Abreast.** Refer to the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), 625 ILCS 5/11-1505.1.
 - e. **Right of Way to Pedestrians.** Refer to the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), 625 ILCS 5/11-1502.
 - f. **Hand Signals.** Refer to the [Illinois Vehicle Code](#), 625 ILCS 5/11-1510 and 5/11-1511.
- 4.2. **Operator Riding Requirements.** An operator shall regularly have at least one hand in contact with the handlebars of the device and keep his/her feet in contact with the pedals and shall ride only while either sitting on the permanent and regular seat or while standing on the pedals.
- 4.3. **Number of Passengers.** No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which such bicycle is designed and equipped.
- 4.4. **Speed.** An operator shall not operate a bicycle at a speed faster than what is reasonable and proper with regard to the safety of the operator and others, taking into account all immediate circumstances.
- 4.5. **University Buildings.** An operator shall not take a device inside any university building unless approved through the Facilities & Services' Transportation System Manager or Designee. To apply for approval, please email bike@illinois.edu. Bike share bicycles are not allowed in university buildings at any time.
- 4.6. **No motor throttle use.** The use of the motor throttle is prohibited on sidewalks and/or shared-use paths on campus. These devices are allowed to operate on bicycle lanes and bicycle paths on campus.
- 4.7. **No-ride zones.** E-Bikes and E-scooters are prohibited to operate on the Quads. Refer to the [No-ride Zone map](#).
- 4.8. **Slow-ride zone for Class-1 E-Bikes and E-Scooters.** Class-1 e-bikes and e-scooters are allowed to operate on sidewalks and/or shared-use paths, except for the Quads, on

campus at speeds no greater than 8 mph. These devices are allowed to operate on bicycle lanes and bicycle paths on campus.

Table 1: Allowable operation of devices on campus

	University Sidewalks	Bike Lanes & Bike Paths	Shared-Use Paths	Quads	Roadways
Traditional Bicycles	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (8 mph)	Yes
Class 1 E-Bikes	Yes (8 mph)	Yes	Yes (8 mph)	No	Yes
Class 2 E-bikes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Class 3 E-bikes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Low-Speed E-Scooters & Micromobility Devices	Yes (8 mph)	Yes	Yes (8 mph)	No	Yes
Other E-Scooters & Micromobility Devices	No	No	No	No	Yes

CHAPTER 5

5. OPERATION ON PATHWAYS

- 5.1. **Safe Operation.** An operator may operate a device on a bicycle path, bicycle lane, University sidewalk or shared-use path, but shall walk the device anywhere that operation is expressly prohibited and on any pathway or roadway where device operation would create a safety risk to others or to the operator. When an operator is transitioning between one type of pathway and another, or between roadways and pathways, the operator shall do so at a safe speed and in a manner that will not create a safety risk to the operator or others.
- 5.2. **Traffic Control Devices on bicycle Paths and Shared-Use Paths.** An operator shall obey all Traffic Control Devices on bicycle paths and shared-use paths at all times.
- 5.3. **Traffic Control Devices on Parallel Roadway.** An operator on a pathway shall obey all Traffic Control Devices facing any roadway that runs parallel to such pathway.
- 5.4. **Devices to Operate on the Right.** An operator shall operate a device only to the right of the center line or median strip of a bicycle path, except:
 - a. when safely overtaking and passing another device proceeding in the same direction; or
 - b. when passing an obstruction; or
 - c. when on a bicycle path designated by a sign as a one-way bicycle path.
- 5.5. **Passing Pedestrians or Other Devices.**
 - a. An operator shall pass pedestrians or other devices only where there is a clear view of the bicycle lane or pathway ahead, where there is no traffic approaching, and where there are no obstructions restricting the pathway or bicycle lane ahead.
 - b. The operator shall give a courtesy audible warning of the intention to pass to the pedestrian or other device being passed by bell or verbal warning before passing. When possible, leave three feet of passing distance.
- 5.6. **Yielding to Pedestrians.**
 - a. Whenever the operator uses or crosses a pathway also used by pedestrians, the operator shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian.
 - b. When pedestrians are improperly utilizing the bicycle path where a device is travelling, the operator shall give a courtesy audible warning and reduce speed or

stop as necessary to avoid collision or injury.

- c. On a shared-use path or sidewalk where the number of pedestrians or width of such path (due to temporary obstruction or any other reason) prevents reasonable and proper device riding with regard to the safety of the operator or others, the operator shall dismount and walk the device.

- 5.7. **No Pedestrians in Bicycle Paths.** Pedestrians shall not walk in bicycle paths, except to cross a bicycle path where a sidewalk or shared-use path intersects with such bicycle path.

CHAPTER 6

6. PARKING

- 6.1. **Permitted Methods of Parking.** When parking on campus, operators shall only attach devices to a designated bicycle rack. For a current map of bicycle racks on campus, go to <https://bike.illinois.edu/maps/biking-map/>.
- 6.2. **Prohibited Methods of Parking.** Any device Parked in a manner described below is in violation of these parking regulations and subject to the penalties set forth in **CHAPTER 7**. All prohibited methods of parking apply to bike share bicycles as well. Applicable penalties for bike share bicycles are found in the University Concession Agreement:
- a. Parking a bicycle anywhere other than a designated bicycle parking area;
 - b. Using more than one space on a bicycle rack;
 - c. Obstructing any entrance or exit of a bicycle parking area;
 - d. Preventing access to bicycles belonging to others;
 - e. Obstructing any entrance or exit of a building;
 - f. Impeding, obstructing, or blocking use of stairways or access ramps;
 - g. Impeding access to any handrails; and/or
 - h. Preventing others from using or maintaining pathways, roadways, or other campus facilities.
- 6.3. **Authority to Publish Special Parking Regulations.** Facilities & Services is authorized to publish special regulations prohibiting parking in any bicycle parking area and allowing for removal of devices in violation of the special regulations during designated periods for building construction, ground maintenance and improvements, University functions, or for other reasons. The removal of the devices is typically done by the Parking Department. Facilities & Services shall post notice of such special regulations in the regulated parking area at least two weeks before the regulations come into effect. The University will provide alternative bicycle parking areas when parking is prohibited for more than thirty (30) days. Bicycles not removed from such areas or parked after the special regulations are in effect shall be in violation of this chapter and may be impounded as provided in Section 7.6.
- 6.4. **Abandonment.** Operators shall not abandon their devices on campus. This section does not apply to bike share bicycles. A device shall be considered abandoned if:

- a. A registered device is left unattended on campus for more than ninety (90) days at a residential building or for more than ten (10) days at a non-residential building; or
- b. An unregistered device is left unattended on campus for more the thirty (30) days at a residential building or for more than five (5) days at a non-residential building.
- c. A registered or unregistered device is left on campus after the annual Spring graduation during a campus sweep for abandoned bicycles.

CHAPTER 7

7. PENALTIES

- 7.1. **Schedule of Fines.** Facilities & Services shall make available a schedule of fines associated with the penalties provided for in this chapter. Such fines are subject to change. Facilities & Services shall make this schedule available at [Traffic Citations for Cyclists](#).
- 7.2. **Bicycle Education Fine Waiver.** Upon *first violation ONLY* of any part of this Code, except for failure to register a bicycle as required in Section 2.2, impounding of a bicycle due to prohibited methods of parking in Section 6.2 and abandonment of bicycle in Section 6.4, which results in a fine, a violator may seek a waiver of the fine by completing a bicycle education requirement within 72 business hours of receiving the violation. Instructions for acquiring a waiver shall be provided at the time of the issuance of the citation, and these instructions are also available on the Bike at Illinois website's [Safe Riding Tips](#) page under the Diversion Program heading. The violator must provide the certificate of completion to the Parking Department or Bike at Illinois team within five (5) business days of the violation date.
- 7.3. **Registration Violations.** Any faculty member, staff member, or student of the University who receives a citation for another violation, and whose device is not registered as required in Section 2.2, shall be assessed an additional \$25.00 fine for failure to register under Chapter 2.
- 7.4. **Appeals.** Any person who desires to appeal the citation may submit an appeal to the Parking Department. Appeals must be made within five (5) business days of the citation issuance and citations must be paid in full before an appeal can be filed. All Bicycle Appeals Board decisions are final and binding. Appeals for violations of any part of this Code may be made by visiting the Parking Department website at parking.illinois.edu and follow the citation links or in writing by visiting the Parking Department in person.
- 7.5. **Equipment Violations.** Any operator who fails to maintain the required equipment on a device as described set forth in Chapter 3 shall be assessed a \$35.00 fine.
- 7.6. **Operator and Pathway Violations.** Any operator violates Chapter 4 or Chapter 5 shall be assessed a minimum \$35.00 fine for each violation.
- 7.7. **Parking Violations.** Any operator that violates Chapter 6 shall be assessed a minimum \$25.00 fine for each violation. This section does not refer to bike share bicycles. Applicable penalties for bike share bicycles are found in the University Concession Agreement
- a. **Booting.** Boots affixed to bicycles will include instructions on the procedures to have the boot removed. Any operator who has had a boot placed on his/her bicycle

shall be assessed a minimum \$40.00 fine, in addition to any other fines assessed at the time the designated authority removes the boot. A boot may be placed on a bicycle if:

- (1) a designated authority deems that sufficient bicycle racks are available and such bicycle is parked in violation of Chapter 6; or
- (2) such device has accumulated three (3) unpaid citations.

b. Impounding.

- (1) Any device may be impounded without prior notice if:
 - (a) such device is parked in violation of Sections 6.2 or 6.3;
or
 - (b) such device poses a safety hazard.
- (2) Except as specified in Section 7.6(b)(1), any device may be impounded only after an effort has been made to contact the registered owner, if any, using contact information as provided during registration, and/or by affixing a message on the device with instructions to prevent impoundment if:
 - (a) such device has been abandoned, as defined in Section 6.4; or
 - (b) such device has had a boot for over two (2) weeks; or
 - (c) such device has accumulated five (5) unpaid citations.
- (3) Any operator whose device has been impounded shall be assessed a minimum \$40.00 fine, in addition to other fines assessed.
- (4) In the case of any registered device so impounded, notice shall be sent within three (3) business days after such impounding to the most recent registered owner using contact information as provided on the latest registration form on file with the university.
- (5) In the case of an unregistered device being impounded, the owner may contact the Parking Department to provide acceptable proof of ownership, including but not limited to: (i) a store receipt for the purchase of the device; (ii) a photograph of owner with unlocked device prior to impoundment; (iii) the serial number for the device; or (iv) proof of registration of the device with another jurisdiction. The owner must complete the registration process set forth in Chapter 2 before the bicycle will be returned.
- (6) The University may dispose of any impounded device that is not claimed within 90 days after attempted notice or date of impoundment if the bicycle is

registered and within 30 days after attempted notice or date of impoundment if the bicycle is not registered.

- 7.8. **Payment of Assessments.** Failure to satisfy the penalties assessed under this Code may result in billing and collection; may result in denial of parking privileges for devices on campus; and/or may be enforced by impounding the device or through other university enforcement options. To resolve a citation, follow instructions on the citation document.
- 7.9. **Responsibility.** An operator in whose name the device is registered with the University is responsible for any parking violation issued to the bicycle, unless the operator reported the device stolen before the violation was issued.