



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Personal Transport Devices

Policy Name: Personal Transport Devices

Policy Purpose

This policy specifies guidelines for the safe and responsible use of Personal Transport Devices (PTD) on University property.

Applicability

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, visitors, and third parties.

Accessibility Exception

This policy does not apply to the use of Mobility Assistance Devices by individuals with mobility impairments. ETSU is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable accessibility laws. Any mobility aid used by individuals with disabilities is permitted throughout University property, including inside buildings.

Responsible Official, Office, and Interpretation

The Associate Vice President of Administration is responsible for the review and revision of this policy. For questions about this policy, please contact the ETSU Office of Administration. The Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Office of University Counsel, has the final authority to interpret this policy.

Defined Terms

A defined term has a specific meaning within the context of this policy.

Personal Transport Device (PTD)

A Personal Transport Device (PTD) refers to any small, portable human or electric-powered device designed for individual transportation that does not require a license to operate. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Bicycles (manual and electric)
- Kick scooters (manual and electric)
- Skateboards and longboards (manual and electric)

Policy Effective Date: Insert • **Policy Revised:** Insert
Procedures Effective Date: Insert • **Procedures Revised:** Insert

Policy Name: Personal Transport Devices

- Inline- skates and roller-skates
- One-wheels and unicycles (manual and electric), hoverboards and similar small transport devices.

Mobility Assistance Devices

Includes wheelchairs, mobility scooters, and any other mobility used by individuals with disabilities or impairments for personal mobility. Mobility Assistance Devices should be registered with the [ETSU Office of Disability Services](#)

Campus Site Furnishings

Site furnishings refer to the outdoor furniture and amenities designed to enhance the functionality and aesthetics of campus public spaces, like benches, tables, trash receptacles, bike racks, and planters.

Policy Name: Personal Transport Devices

Policy

1. General Use Guidelines – All Personal Transport Devices.

- 1.1. PTDs must be operated safely and responsibly at all times, and follow all posted signage across University property.
- 1.2. PTDs are permitted on open walkways as long as they do not constitute a hazard to pedestrians, disabled persons, disrupt classes, or damage property
- 1.3. Yield to Pedestrians – Pedestrians have the right of way at all times. PTD users must slow down and give space to pedestrians.
- 1.4. Crosswalks – PTD operators must dismount when entering crosswalks.
- 1.5. Speed Limits – PTDs should not exceed 10 mph in pedestrian-heavy areas on campus
- 1.6. PTD operators must comply with all applicable laws, including local traffic regulations.
- 1.7. Use on Campus Site-Furnishings – PTD use is prohibited on all Campus Site-Furnishings, lawns, athletic fields, and courts.
- 1.8. PTDs may not be used inside University buildings unless specifically permitted. PTDs (except skateboards) may not be walked through University buildings or facilities, except for direct access to and from designated storage facilities or approved spaces.
- 1.9. PTDs may not be used on stairways, in parking structures/garages, pedestrian-only zones, loading zones, or ADA accessible ramps (Mobility Assistance Devices excepted).
- 1.10. Reckless behavior, including stunt riding, jumping or grinding on Campus Site-Furnishings or handrails, weaving through pedestrian traffic, or use under the influence of drugs or alcohol, is strictly prohibited.
- 1.11. PTD operators will be responsible for any damage done to University facilities or grounds.
- 1.12. PTDs should not be used in poor weather conditions that impair visibility or control.
- 1.13. PTD operators are strongly encouraged to use protective gear while riding.
- 1.14. Prohibited Parking Areas – PTDs may not be parked in areas that:
 - 1.14.1. Obstruct entry and exit doorways and passages;
 - 1.14.2. Obstruct or are attached to stairwells, stairways, and ramps;
 - 1.14.3. Impede access to handrails;

Policy Effective Date: Insert • **Policy Revised:** Insert
Procedures Effective Date: Insert • **Procedures Revised:** Insert

Policy Name: Personal Transport Devices

- 1.14.4. Are attached to site-furnishings, light poles, signposts, railings, trees, any vegetation, landscaping, and grounds; or
- 1.14.5. Obstruct roadways, pathways, and sidewalks.

2. Device-Specific Rules

- 2.1. One-wheel and Hoverboard Use Prohibited – ETSU must prioritize the safety of all individuals on campus. Due to control and collision issues and the associated fire hazard risks with these devices, the use self-balancing one-wheels, electric unicycles, and hoverboards, including charging and/or storage is prohibited on University property.
- 2.2. Electric and manual bicycles and E-scooters are considered vehicles when on roadways and must follow all local traffic laws and speed regulations.
- 2.3. Only manual or electric bicycles may be locked to bike racks. Bicycles should not take up more than one space or prevent access to other bicycles on a bike rack.
- 2.4. Scooters and electric scooters must only be parked in paved areas adjacent to bike racks. They must not prevent access to bicycles parked at a bike rack. Electric scooters shall not be left attached to or blocking any access ramp, elevator, access railing, egress space, stairwell, or fire escape. Electric scooter batteries may not be charged inside any University building.
- 2.5. Electric power-assisted bicycles and scooters may not be charged in a residential hall room.

3. Lost, Stolen, Relinquished and Abandoned Bicycles, Skateboards and PTDs

- 3.1. If a PTD is suspected of being lost or stolen, the ETSU Police Department should be contacted with identifying information.
- 3.2. If a lost or stolen PTD is found, the ETSU Police Department should be contacted with identifying information.
- 3.3. Abandoned, lost, inoperable and prohibitively parked PTDs may be collected by the University.
- 3.4. PTDs found locked or attached to any ADA ramp, elevator, access railing, egress space, stairwell, fire escape, or otherwise prohibitively parked will be removed immediately. The University will not be responsible for replacing or compensating for locks damaged during the collection process.

Policy Name: Personal Transport Devices

4. Safety & Enforcement

- 4.1. Campus Police Officers may issue warnings or citations for policy violations.
- 4.2. Penalties for Violations
 - 4.2.1. 1st Offense: Verbal or written warning.
 - 4.2.2. 2nd Offense: Fine or device confiscation.
 - 4.2.3. 3rd Offense: Possible referral to the [ETSU Student Conduct Office](#).
- 4.3. Accidents & Reporting – Any incidents involving personal mobility devices must be reported to ETSU Police Department.
- 4.4. PTDs operated by community members affiliated with ETSU may be removed or banned from University property for violating this or other University policies.
- 4.5. Violations and infractions will be reported to the ETSU Police Department.
- 4.6. The ETSU Police Department is responsible for promoting adherence to traffic rules, regularly demonstrating proper security techniques, and promoting safe and responsible bicycle and PTD use on University property through specific events, programs, and campaigns

Policy Name: Personal Transport Devices

Applicable Forms and Related Websites

[ETSU Parking Rules and Traffic Regulations](#)

[ETSU Office of Disability Services](#)

[Sherrod Library: E-Scooters and Micro-Mobility Devices Policy](#)

[ETSU Student Conduct Office](#)

Authority and Revisions

Authority: TCA § 49-8-203, et seq.

Previous Policy: N/A

The ETSU Board of Trustees is charged with policy making pursuant to TCA § 49-8-203, et seq. On March 24, 2017, the Board delegated its authority to ETSU's President to establish certain policies and procedures for educational program and other operations of the University, including this policy. The delegation of authority and required process for revision to this policy can be found on the [Policy Development and Rule Making Policy webpage](#).

To suggest a revision to this policy, please contact the responsible official indicated in this policy. Before a substantive change to the policy section may take effect, the requested changes must be: (1) approved by the responsible office; (2) reviewed by the Office of University Counsel for legal sufficiency; (3) posted for public comment; (4) approved by either Academic Council or University Council; and (5) approved by ETSU's President.

Policy Effective Date: Insert • **Policy Revised:** Insert
Procedures Effective Date: Insert • **Procedures Revised:** Insert