

Motorized Devices Policies

University of New Hampshire

July, 2024

1. Definition

For the purpose of this policy the term ‘motorized devices’ and ‘devices’ shall mean any electric or gas forms of personal transportation not classified as a bicycle, moped or motorcycle. It shall not include mobility devices used by the elderly or those with disabilities.

2. General Provisions

Electric motorized ‘devices’ are not considered ‘vehicles’ per NH motor vehicle laws. This policy shall govern the use of all electric motorized devices such as E-scooters, E-boards, and Hoverboards on the UNH premises. These rules are adopted in coordination with Town of Durham Ordinance, Chapter 055 to establish community expectations for operations of these devices on our campus in a manner which ensures safety for operators, pedestrians, cyclists, visitors, and vehicle operators.

3. Registry Required

No person shall ride or propel a motorized device on any part of the UNH premises unless such motorized device has been properly registered through [Parking Services](#) and with the [Town of Durham](#)

4. Obedience to traffic control ordinances; effect of conflict

Any person operating a motorized device on a public roadway on UNH premises shall do so in accordance with all the provisions contained in the traffic ordinances of the Town of Durham, and with the provisions of the State of New Hampshire, Chapter 265-Rules of the Road. Operation of these devices upon a University sidewalk, defined as a walkway immediately adjacent to a public road, is strictly prohibited. Operation of motorized devices on multi-use trails, and other pathways is subject to regulation by the University of New Hampshire. Our community expectation is that device operators will operate with courtesy on our shared pathways and always yield to pedestrians.

5. Obedience to traffic control ordinances; exceptions

Operators of motorized devices must obey all official traffic signals, signs, and other control devices on the UNH premises used in regulating and directing traffic, unless otherwise directed by a police officer; and on public roadways where authorized signs are erected, no person or persons operating a motorized device shall disobey the regulation contained therein, except that when such person dismounts from the motorized device to make any such maneuver, the operator shall obey all the traffic ordinances provisions applicable to pedestrians.

6. Equipment Required

All batteries and motorized devices must be commercially manufactured, and UL listed. No person shall operate a motorized device unless it is equipped with a brake, front and rear lights, and bell or other audible alert. The University strongly suggests all operators wear safety protection including a helmet. Any motorized devices operated upon any public roadway during the period one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise, and whenever rain, snow or fog shall interfere with the proper view of the road shall be equipped with a lamp emitting a white light visible from a distance of 300 feet in front of the motorized device and with a red reflector on the rear that will be visible from a distance of 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of the headlamps of a vehicle.

7. Battery Charging

Electric powered motorized devices shall not be charged within academic or public buildings. Batteries shall only be charged in locations designated by UNH Housing. Operators must actively monitor their battery while charging and remove or disconnect the battery promptly when charged.

8. Speed; direction

Motorized devices shall not be operated at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under existing conditions and in no event exceeding the posted limit. Devices shall be operated as near the right-hand side of the roadway or path as practicable, exercising due care when passing a parked vehicle or pedestrian. On roadways, devices shall be operated in the direction of vehicular and bicycle travel.

9. Yielding Right-of-Way

Motorized devices emerging from a driveway or building shall upon approaching a sidewalk or roadway yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on the said sidewalk area; and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

10. Parking of Unattended Motorized Devices

All devices are prohibited from the interiors of University of New Hampshire academic and public buildings. Unattended devices must only be parked at racks or indoor residential spaces designated by UNH Housing for that purpose. In the case of indoor storage space, devices are not to be operated within any UNH residential building. Operators must fully dismount from their motorized device prior to entering a building.

Hoverboards and gasoline powered motorized devices are prohibited from the interiors of University of New Hampshire academic, public, and residential buildings.

Motorized devices found unattended in violation of this provision may be issued a violation notice which may include a fine and/or impoundment. If a motorized device is left unattended in a manner which blocks pedestrian passage or otherwise presents a public safety hazard, it will be removed and/or impounded by UNH Police. A citation will be issued. Any device removed from the street, sidewalk, or other public area and not redeemed as allowed within thirty (30) days shall be disposed of without compensation to the owner.

Operators must remove their motorized device on or before their designated move-out date. Motorized devices left after move-out will be considered abandoned and will be removed.

11. Penalties

Any person or persons violating any act or provision of this policy risks loss of privilege to use their device on university property.