

# Use of Electric Scooters and Other Personal Electric Vehicles on Campus

## ROWAN UNIVERSITY POLICY

**Title: Personal Electric Vehicles**

**Subject: Use of Electric Scooters and Other Personal Electric Vehicles on Campus**

**Policy No: PS:2023:01**

**Applies: University-wide**

**Issuing Authority: President**

**Responsible Officer: Assistant Vice President of Public Safety and Office of Emergency Management**

**Adopted: 08/23/2023**

**Last Revision: 08/23/2023**

**Last Reviewed: 08/23/2023**

### I. PURPOSE

This policy establishes rules and procedures for the safe operation, storage, charging, parking, and other use of electric scooters and other personal electric vehicles (e.g., electric skateboards, electric bicycles, hoverboards, manual skateboards, unicycles, etc.) on the Rowan University ("Rowan") campus. The purpose of this policy is to promote safety on the University campus while permitting students, faculty, staff, and visitors to benefit from the use of these devices. Personal Electric Vehicle users assume all risks associated with their operation of these vehicles on the Rowan Campus.

### II. ACCOUNTABILITY

This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and visitors and to both shared-use and privately-owned personal electric vehicles. *This policy does not apply to personal electric devices designed for and used to accommodate persons with mobility restrictions.*

### III. APPLICABILITY

1. **Personal Electric Vehicles** - Electric or motorized scooters, electric skateboards, hoverboards, and other electric vehicles used for personal transportation recognized under New Jersey law. *This policy does not apply to personal electric devices designed for and used to accommodate persons with mobility restrictions.*
2. **Low-Speed Electric Scooter** - [1] Under New Jersey law, a low-speed electric scooter "means a scooter with a floorboard that can be stood upon by the operator, with handlebars, and an electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion at a maximum speed of less than 19 miles per hour.
3. **Motorized Scooter** - Under New Jersey law, a motorized scooter "means a miniature motor vehicle and includes, but is not limited to, pocket bikes, super pocket bikes, scooters, mini-scooters, sports scooters, mini choppers, mini motorcycles, motorized skateboards, and other vehicles with motors that are not manufactured in compliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, and which have no permanent Federal Safety Certification stickers affixed to the vehicle by the original manufacturer."
4. **Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)** - A U.S. government agency that protects the American public from consumer products that create a potential hazard to safety, through education, safety standards, regulation, and enforcement.
5. **Independent Testing Laboratory** - A third-party, nationally recognized laboratory accredited by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which sets technical standards for product design and

construction. Examples of independent testing laboratories are UL (formerly Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.) and ASTM International (formerly the American Society for Testing and Materials). Sample labels:



6. **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)** - NFPA is a global, nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property, and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. **Rowan University Campus** includes any property owned, leased, or controlled by the University.

#### IV. PROCEDURE/POLICY

##### Requirements and Prohibitions

Use of Personal Electric Vehicles is permitted on the Rowan Campus subject to New Jersey laws and the following rules:

##### 1. Requirements:

- a. Personal Electric Vehicles used by faculty, staff, and students must be registered with the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and must have a registration label affixed to the vehicles. Vehicles that do not bear registration labels may be ticketed or impounded.
- b. Personal Electric Vehicle users must be sixteen (16) years of age or older.
- c. Personal Electric Vehicle users of all ages are encouraged to wear a helmet when riding. New Jersey law requires users to wear helmets if (i) they are under seventeen (17) years of age (regardless of the type of Personal Electric Vehicle they are operating).
- d. Personal Electric Vehicle users must obey traffic and bike rules on campus, including stopping at stop lights and stop signs.
- e. Consistent with New Jersey law, operators must dismount Personal Electric Vehicles at crosswalks to be afforded pedestrian rights.
- f. Personal Electric Vehicle users must stay to the right on all roadways, crosswalks, pathways, and sidewalks. Pedestrians have the right of way.
- g. Personal Electric Vehicle users must yield to pedestrians in walkways and sidewalks and provide audible or hand signals when approaching or passing pedestrians.
- h. A front-facing white light and a rear-facing red light are required for operation in low-light conditions. These lights may be affixed to the vehicle or worn by the rider.
- i. Personal Electric Vehicle users shall be mindful of their safety, the safety of others, and shall be alert to pedestrians and other vehicles.

##### 2. Prohibitions:

- a. Personal Electric Vehicles may not be operated inside any University building.
- b. Personal Electric Vehicles are prohibited inside Rowan academic or administrative buildings or athletics facilities.
- c. Personal Electric Vehicle users shall not operate the vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances.
- d. Tandem riding is prohibited.
- e. Personal Electric Vehicle users may not use cell phones, headphones, or earbuds when operating the vehicle.
- f. Hoverboards shall not be permitted in residential halls under any circumstance.

##### 3. Fire Safety Requirements:

- a. To minimize the risk of personal injury and property damage, Personal Electric Vehicles shall not be used, possessed, charged, and/or stored anywhere on the Rowan Campus unless they bear the seal of independent testing laboratory accredited by the CPSC.
- b. Personal Electric Vehicles may not be stored or parked in communal areas, stairways, or hallways of any University building.

##### 4. Parking Requirements

- a. Personal Electric Vehicles shall not be parked in the following areas on the Rowan Campus:
  - i. inside any University academic or administrative building or athletics facility
  - ii. in communal areas or hallways of university housing buildings, including dormitories and residential colleges
  - iii. on a sidewalk
  - iv. on turf or flowerbeds or tied to trees

- v. in a street
- vi. at the top or bottom of any stairs or steps
- vii. in any manner that blocks access to entrances or exits to building
- viii. in any manner than would impede access to wheelchair ramps
- ix. adjacent to or affixed to structures, architectural elements, or artwork including, but not limited to, handrails, fences, benches, light poles, sign poles, sculptures, etc.

- b. Personal Electric Vehicles shall be parked upright or folded on hard outdoor surfaces and when possible, attached to bike racks.

#### 5. **Electric Charging Restrictions**

- a. The charging of Personal Electric Vehicles is restricted to residential rooms within university housing buildings.
- b. The charging of Personal Electric Vehicles in any University academic or administrative building or athletics facility is prohibited.
- c. The use of extension cords for charging Personal Electric Vehicles is prohibited.

#### 6. **Safety and Security Recommendations**

- a. Speed of Personal Electric Vehicles should be limited to ten (10) miles per hour or as reasonable for the traffic of both pedestrians and vehicles, whichever is *less*.
- b. Personal Electric Vehicle users should avoid use in areas with heavy pedestrian traffic.
- c. When not in use, Personal Electric Vehicles should be locked to a bike rack when possible, using U-type lock.

#### 7. **Additional Restrictions**

- a. The University reserves the right to further limit or prohibit the use of Personal Electric Vehicles to preserve the safety of the University community.

### **V. POLICY ENFORCEMENT**

Personal Electric Vehicle operation is subject to New Jersey traffic regulations. Most regulations pertaining to bicycles also apply to the operation of these vehicles. **Students** found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to (i) discipline in accordance with [The Student Code of Conduct](#); (ii) penalties imposed by Rowan University Department of Public Safety (DPS), pursuant to its policies; (iii) civil or criminal penalties, and (iv) penalties as outlined in this policy.

1. Students found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to (i) discipline in accordance with [The Student Code of Conduct](#); (ii) penalties imposed by DPS pursuant to its policies; (iii) civil or criminal penalties; and (iv) penalties as outlined in this policy.
2. Employees found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to (i) discipline in accordance with applicable policies; (ii) penalties imposed by DPS pursuant to its policies; (iii) civil or criminal penalties; and (iv) penalties as outlined in this policy.
3. Campus visitors found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to (i) discipline in accordance with applicable policies; (ii) penalties imposed by DPS pursuant to its policies; (iii) civil or criminal penalties; and (iv) penalties as outlined in this policy.
4. **Registration**
  - a. All Personal Electric Vehicles must be registered through DPS and must bear a registration sticker.
  - b. Personal Electric Vehicles without registration stickers may be ticketed or impounded.
5. **Impoundment**
  - a. Any unattended Personal Electric Vehicle that presents a safety hazard or impedes pedestrian traffic will be impounded immediately without notice.
  - b. Any unattended Personal Electric Vehicle that is unregistered may be ticketed or impounded immediately without notice.
  - c. Rowan University is not responsible for damage to a Personal Electric Vehicle that occurs during impoundment and has no responsibility or liability to replace or make compensation for such vehicles.
  - d. Impounded Personal Electric Vehicles must be collected by the owner within 90 days. After 90 days, they will be disposed of by the University.
  - e. Payment of an administrative fee up to \$100.00 will be required to retrieve an impounded vehicle.
6. **Use**

- a. Users of Personal Electric Vehicles bear all risks of use, including risk of injury to the user as well as damage to the Personal Electric Vehicle or other property.

## **VI. REFERENCES/ATTACHMENT**

1. *Student Code of Conduct*
2. *Undergraduate Dorm Life Safety*