

UC SANTA BARBARA

Interim Powered Scooters Policy

Contact: Administrative Services

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INTERIM POWERED SCOOTERS POLICY

UC Santa Barbara prioritizes the safety of the campus community while recognizing the potential contribution a powered scooter-share program may offer, including a sustainable form of short distance transportation and an activity that stimulates economic vitality. Communities around the state and country have seen the rapid introduction and implementation of powered scooter share programs necessitating ordinances, programs, and policy to ensure the safe usage, parking, storage, and charging of these devices. In an effort to ensure that UC Santa Barbara is best able to meet the need and demand of the University and neighboring community in regards to these devices, this interim policy is enacted while a long-term policy, and/or program, that best suits the needs of all stakeholders and constituents is devised and implemented.

I. SCOPE

This policy governs all academic and staff employees, students, and visitors of UC Santa Barbara and the use of powered scooters on University property.

II. DEFINITIONS

Campus Bike Paths: Also known as Class I bike paths, the integrated network of bike paths throughout the UC Santa Barbara Campus that establish exclusive right of way for bicycles, away from the roadway, and with minimal cross-flow with motorized traffic.

Powered Scooter: Any two-wheeled device that is equipped with handlebars, a floorboard designed for standing upon when riding, and powered by a motor, electric or otherwise.

Powered Scooter-Share Operator: An individual or public, private, or non-profit entity that manages a Powered Scooter-Share Program.

Powered Scooter-Share Program: A system of self-serve Powered Scooters for hire within the UC Santa Barbara Campus, operated by a Powered Scooter-Share Operator, offering a pool of one or more self-serve Powered Scooters for use in the public right-of-way within the UC Santa Barbara Campus.

Bike Lanes: Also known as Class II or Class IV bike lanes, they are lanes established along streets and defined by pavement striping and signage to delineate a portion of a roadway for bicycle travel. Bike lanes are one-way facilities, striped adjacent to motor traffic travelling in the same direction.

III. POLICY

1. Prohibition of Powered Scooter-Share Operators

Powered Scooter-Share Operators are prohibited from commencing operation of a Powered Scooter-Share Program on the UC Santa Barbara Campus. Any self-service Powered Scooters placed on the UC Santa Barbara Campus by any Powered Scooter-

Share Operator with the intent to operate a Powered Scooter-Share Program on UC Santa Barbara property shall be impounded by the UC Santa Barbara Police Department.

2. Use of Powered Scooters on the UC Santa Barbara Campus

Academic and staff employees, students, and campus visitors may use Powered Scooters on the UC Santa Barbara Campus subject to the following restrictions:

- a. Powered Scooters **are not permitted on Campus Bike Paths or sidewalks/walkways.**
- b. Powered Scooters may not be left unattended on University property.
- c. Powered Scooters may not be parked in bike racks or obstruct access to bike racks.
- d. Powered Scooters may not park in any area that obstructs pedestrian paths of travel or the entry or exit of any campus building.
- e. Powered Scooters may be carried (but not ridden) into campus buildings so long as:
 - i. The Powered Scooter does not create an obstruction or trip hazard or otherwise damage UC Santa Barbara property. Examples of buildings where Powered Scooters should not be carried include, but are not limited to: lecture halls, the library, athletic or performing arts events, and computer labs where there is no reasonable place to park/store them without obstructing pedestrian travel or creating trip hazards; and
 - ii. If electric, the Powered Scooter must be UL Rated.
- f. Powered Scooters may be ridden on city streets and users must obey all traffic laws pertaining to Powered Scooter use, including but not limited to the following: Users must
 - i. Wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet;
 - ii. Have a valid driver's license; and
 - iii. Ride only in Bike Lanes (not to be confused with Campus Bike Paths).

3. Prohibition on Charging Electric Powered Scooters

Electric Powered Scooters personally owned or those in a pool of devices as part of an off-campus Powered Scooter-Share Program may not be charged in or near University buildings, including but not limited to: offices, apartments, residence halls, and dining facilities.

Powered Scooters owned by University departments for use by University staff (academic, administrative, or student) for use in their University employment may be charged in campus buildings.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES/ENFORCEMENT

1. All persons riding Powered Scooters on University property are responsible for complying with this policy.
2. The Campus Police Department may cite Powered Scooter riders and impound Powered Scooters where violations of Vehicle Code Section 21235 are observed on University property.
3. Department heads are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy within their areas and for ensuring that faculty, staff, students, and visitors are informed of the policy.

Violations of the policy by students should be handled in accordance with the Student Conduct Code, in consultation with the Office of Judicial Affairs.

Faculty and academic employee violations of the policy should be handled in accordance with the Academic Personnel Manual, in consultation with Academic Affairs.

Staff employee violations of the policy should be handled in accordance with Personnel Policies for Staff Members or the applicable collective bargaining agreement, in consultation with Employee & Labor Relations.

IV. PROCEDURES

Impounded Powered Scooters are handled in accordance with [UC Santa Barbara's Bicycle Program](#). To retrieve a Powered Scooter impounded by UC Santa Barbara Police Department, Powered Scooter owners must retrieve their impounded Powered Scooters from the UC Police Department. In order for UCPD to release an impounded Powered Scooter, proof of ownership and payment of the release fee is required. Any Powered Scooter not retrieved within ninety (90) days of impound will be considered the property of the Regents of the University of California and will be handled in accordance with the [Found and Unclaimed Property Policy](#).

V. REFERENCES, RELATED POLICIES, AND RESOURCES

[Cal-Trans Guide to Bikeway Classifications](#)
[Police Services and Responsibilities](#)
[Skateboarding and Rollerskating](#)
[CA Vehicle Code Section 21235](#)
[UC Santa Barbara Bicycle Program](#)
[Found and Unclaimed Property Policy](#)

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Please direct questions about this policy to **Administrative Services**. For general policy questions or comments about this website, please contact policy@ucsb.edu.
