



Administration & Finance

Policy & Procedure

Issuing Office: Vice Chancellor for Administration Policy Number: FY25-A&F-001-01
and Finance

Policy Name: Micromobility Transportation Device Policy

Original Date Issued: December 11, 2025

Purpose of Policy: Safety is a priority at UMass Boston, and one of our goals is to create a safe, enjoyable environment for all. Due to the rapid changes in personal mobility options, a policy on Micromobility Transportation Devices has been created and will be internally reviewed on an as needed basis..

Applicable to: This policy applies to all UMass Boston employees, students, and visitors operating Micromobility Transportation Devices, including both human-powered and

disabilities and/or mobility restrictions in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Definitions:

Micromobility Transportation Device: A small, wheeled transportation device intended for personal transportation. This includes both human-powered (e.g., bicycles, non-electric skateboards, kick scooters) and motorized transportation

interior campus. Internal combustion engine scooters may only be parked at outdoor bike racks or in the West Garage bike shelter. Internal combustion scooters that require registration with the MA RMV, engine cylinder capacity of more than 50 cubic centimeters, must pay to park in campus parking facilities or purchase a parking permit.

Motorized Transportation Device: A type of Micromobility Transportation Device equipped with an electric motor that can propel the device without human input

(e.g., electric scooters, e-bikes, hoverboards, e-skateboards, Segways), or other similar electric personal transportation devices..

Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL): Such as UL, Intertek/ETL, TUV Rheinland, or CsA, which ensures compliance with safety standards related to thermal behavior, electrical safety, and mechanical stability.

Electric Scooter: A device that typically has one (1) front and one (1) rear wheel. with a low footboard between, is steered by a handlebar, and can be propelled by a motor.

Impoundment: The confiscation of a device that was in violation of university policy.

Operator: A person who operates a Micromobility Transportation Device..

Pedestrian: A person who is walking on foot or using a mobility device such as a wheelchair.

Project 529/529 Shield: Registration program for all mobility transportation devices.

Right-of-way: The right of one individual to proceed ahead of another individual approaching the same area. Pedestrians have the right-of-way.

University: UMass Boston.

Policy:

1. Operation Zones

To ensure safety and compliance with university policy, operators of micromobility transportation devices must adhere to designated ride and dismount zones. Refer to the campus map for clearly marked operational areas.

Micromobility Transportation Devices CAN operate:

- o In the designated bike lanes on campus.
 - On the Beacon Walk
 - On the Harborwalk.

Micromobility transportation devices may not operate in other campus areas, including:

- The Quad
 - Inside any campus buildings.
- Inside parking garages.

Micromobility Transportation Devices may only be used in dismount zones if operated solely by human power (i.e., as a kick or push scooter). Operators are encouraged to check the Motorized Transportation Device owner's manual to.

confirm it can be used manually without damaging the motor, which isn't a standard feature.

2. General Operation Rules

When operating a Micromobility Transportation Device, Operators must obey all the following regulations:

A properly fitted and fastened helmet must be worn.

Operators must follow all the traffic rules applicable to a driver of a motor vehicle, including traffic lights, signs, and riding in the direction of traffic..

Individuals must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and give an audible signal before passing a pedestrian.

Riders cannot use earbuds or headphones on/in both ears..

Micromobility Transportation Devices shall not be operated at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the existing conditions.

A Micromobility Transportation Device cannot be operated with more than one person on it except for cargo bikes that are designed to transport passengers..

When riding on a street in the dark or dusk, Micromobility Transportation Devices must have a visible front-facing white light, rear-facing red reflector or red light, and reflective material and/or lights on each side.

Riders traveling together must not ride more than two abreast; on a roadway with more than one lane in the direction of travel, they must ride within a single lane.

Every Micromobility Transportation Device operated must be equipped with a braking system that enables the operator to bring the device to a safe stop.

Operators must not permit the Micromobility Transportation Device to be drawn by any other moving vehicle. They must not tow any other vehicle or person, except for properly attached device trailers that allow for firm control and braking..

No Micromobility Transportation Device shall be operated with handlebars raised so high that the operator's hands are above shoulder level while gripping them. Any alteration that extends the fork of a device from the original design and construction by the manufacturer is prohibited.

Operators must report any accident involving personal injury or property damage exceeding one hundred dollars to the UMass Boston Police Department.

Please be aware of your surroundings; uneven pavement, potholes and unexpected items can cause you to lose control of the device, and it is harder for vehicles to see you.

3. Parking a Micromobility Transportation Device

All Micromobility Transportation Devices must be parked upright at or near a bike rack or in secured storage areas on campus, including the West Garage bike storage area. For current locations of secured storage areas, please refer to the campus map: UMass Boston Campus Map - Biking. It is prohibited to park these devices on sidewalks, pathways, ramps, stairs or anywhere that could obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic or access for those with a disability. It is also prohibited to park in any building lobby, hallway, stairwell or room, including in residence halls or any entrance to or exit from any building. Parking is also not permitted adjacent to or chained, locked, or attached to any handrail, tree, bush, door, signpost, lamp, telephone pole, lamppost, fence, or other object not maintained or designated for the purpose of securing Micromobility Transportation Devices.

All other smaller Micromobility Transportation Devices, including hoverboards and electric skateboards, must be parked in a manner that does not pose a tripping hazard, impede pedestrian traffic or block access for those with a disability.

Impoundment

Any unattended Micromobility Transportation Device that presents a safety hazard or impedes pedestrian traffic will be impounded immediately without notice. Unclaimed impounded devices will be held for 60 days and then disposed of at the University's discretion.

The University is not responsible for damage to the device that occurs during impoundment and has no responsibility or liability to replace or make compensation for such items.

4. Registering a Micromobility Transportation Device

All Micromobility Transportation Devices must be registered through Project 529 to access secured bike parking shelters, including those equipped with charging posts. As part of the registration process, users must indicate whether their Micromobility Transportation Device is a Motorized Transportation Device and, if it contains a lithium-ion battery, certify that the battery has been tested by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).. Motorized Transportation Devices without certification are not permitted to use campus charging infrastructure.

Transportation Services will verify certification for Motorized Transportation Devices during registration. For all registered Micromobility Transportation Devices, Transportation Services will assign a 529 Shield to the user's account and coordinate with Student Affairs Technology Services to activate the user's Beaconcard for access to secured shelters..

Once access is approved, Transportation Services will notify the registrant by email to confirm activation, provide pickup instructions for the 529 Shield, and offer guidance for affixing it to the device frame. While attaching the Shield is optional, it is strongly encouraged as a theft deterrent, a recovery tool in case of loss, and a visible indicator of registration.

5. Charging a Motorized Transportation Device

Charging for Motorized Transportation Devices is only permitted at designated campus infrastructure, and all Motorized Transportation Devices must be registered through Project 529 to use these facilities. Due to fire and electrical safety risks, Motorized Transportation Devices may not be charged inside university buildings, including academic buildings, residence halls, or indoor common areas, unless explicitly approved in writing by Facilities & Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) or the Office of Residential Life.

At present, the only approved charging location is the West Garage bike shelter, which offers free charging posts for Motorized Transportation Devices. Additional charging locations may be added in the future; please see the campus map for current designated charging areas: [UMass Boston Campus Map - Biking..](#)

CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH UNIVERSITY POLICY

Disciplinary actions for violations will be tailored to each constituency within the University and be based on the severity and frequency of the violation(s). Parking & Transportation, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety or UMass Boston Police will refer non-compliant University-affiliated individuals to the appropriate office for follow-up, which can result in disciplinary action.

Faculty and staff who refuse to comply with the policy will have their managers notified.

Students will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. Please refer to the Student Conduct Code for potential offenses and potential disciplinary actions.

Contractors, consultants and vendors will be referred to the appropriate contact.

Visitors who refuse to cooperate will be asked to leave Campus.

Responsible Departments

UMass Boston Transportation Services
UMass Boston Police Department
UMass Boston Office of Environmental Health and Safety