





Motorized Bicycles, Scooters and Motor-Driven Cycles — Laws and Rules

Many members of our campus community are interested in alternative transportation options and have questions about laws and rules that might apply. This chart summarizes the differences between certain popular motorized vehicles and devices.

		Legal Definition	California Vehicle Code	University Regulations
Motor-driven cycle VC 405		A motorcycle with engine size less than 150cc Excluding motorized bicycles (see below)	License Plate and current year registration required M-1 Drivers License required Proof of insurance required Must wear motorcycle helmet	Operation: Restricted to campus roadways Parking: Only in designated motorcycle parking areas (permit required)
Motorized bicycle "Type A" VC 406(a)		Gas or electric motor 2hp/1500w motor or smaller Pedals (optional if electric) Maximum speed of 30 mph	Valid moped plate and DMV paperwork required M-1 or M-2 Drivers License required (except brief rentals) Must wear motorcycle helmet	Operation: Restricted to campus roadways and pathways; subject to "Walk Zone" regulations Parking: In designated motorcycle spaces (permit required) or in authorized bicycle parking areas
Motorized bicycle "Type B" VC 406(b)		Electric motor only 1.33hp/1000w motor or smaller Pedals (required) Maximum speed of 20 mph	No Drivers License required Rider must be age 16 or older Must wear bicycle helmet	Operation: Restricted to campus roadways and pathways; subject to "Walk Zone" regulations Parking: Only in authorized bicycle parking areas
Motorized scooter VC 407.5(a)		Gas or electric motor Handlebars and floorboard Designed to be stood upon while riding (seat optional)	Drivers License required Must wear bicycle helmet No passengers allowed 15 MPH speed limit Additional laws (VC 21223, 21228, 21229, 21235)	Operation: Restricted to campus roadways and pathways; subject to "Walk Zone" regulations Parking: Only in authorized bicycle parking areas

Those who use **skateboards, roller-skates, "Segway" scooters and personal mobility scooters** are considered pedestrians under the California Vehicle Code but must operate with care and in compliance with local laws or rules. However, **bicycles** are treated as vehicles when in use, and are subject to specific laws regarding equipment and operation.

All vehicles and devices, whether motorized or human-powered, should be used with care and are subject to the standard "rules of the road" when operated on public streets or University property. Additional laws or restrictions might apply in certain locations.