Background

The risks associated with improper vehicle use on the University of Cincinnati’s ("University" or "UC") pedestrian-first campus are high, both in monetary and human costs, making this Operation of Vehicles on Campus Policy ("Policy") an essential management tool for this exposure. The Ohio Revised Code supports the University's adoption of a policy that includes requirements for motor vehicles used for official university business on its campus. The purpose of this Policy is to promote the safe operation of motorized vehicles by University faculty and staff and to minimize the risks of unsafe, impaired, or distracted driving to the community at large.

Policy

In order to preserve the safety of our pedestrian-first campus, the University requires anyone operating a motor vehicle within its boundaries to be aware of and observe the rules contained herein.

Definitions

Motor Vehicle
Any vehicle, including mobile homes and recreational vehicles, that is propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power, and includes cars, trucks, SUVs, vans, motorcycles, utility vehicles, low speed vehicles, and under speed vehicles. This Policy does not apply to electric scooters, that require no title, registration, or license to operate, bicycles or skateboards (electrically powered or otherwise).

Unaffiliated Personal Vehicles
Motor vehicles on campus for the purpose of transporting unaffiliated private-parties (and their belongings) to and from UC but have no official business in service to the University.

University Affiliated Service Vehicles
Motor vehicles, including privately owned vehicles, on campus for the purpose of maintaining or servicing UC resources, property, or members of the university community in support of the University's mission. (Examples: UC-owned vehicles, parcel carrier trucks, catering vans, food service delivery trucks, privately-owned vehicle with dock pass, or faculty or staff in privately-owned vehicle on University business).
Utility, Low Speed, Under Speed Vehicles
Golf carts, Gators, Kubotas or other smaller vehicles with a gross weight of less than 2500lbs and a lower maximum speed < 35 MPH than road vehicles.

Rules by Motor Vehicle Type

Unaffiliated and Personal Vehicles
- The speed limit on campus streets and roads is 15 mph.
- The speed limit in parking garages and lots is 10 mph.
- Other signage must be observed at all times.
- Prohibited from service vehicle areas.

University Affiliated Service Vehicles
- The speed limit on campus streets and roads is 15 mph.
- The speed limit in parking garages and lots is 10 mph.
- Other signage must be observed at all times.
- May access service vehicle areas.
- University Affiliated Service Vehicle operators may be granted access to non-street/road areas of campus with permission from their business unit or academic office during peak hours (in session weekdays from 7:30am-5:00pm.). Off-street Campus Authorization Placard must be present and visible on vehicle dash during peak hours. Placards may be acquired from Transportation Services for UC-owned service vehicles or from Public Safety for service vehicles not owned by UC. Public Safety may also elect to accompany service vehicles to off-street areas of campus.
- The speed limit when driving on any off-street/road part of campus is 5 mph
- Motorized Vehicle Use Policy must be observed.
- Organizational units are required to report all accidents involving a University provided vehicle to the University’s Department of Transportation Services by the following business day or as soon as possible after the accident. Within two business days after the accident, a Vehicle Accident Report must be completed and returned to the University’s Department of Transportation Services.

Utility, Low Speed, Under Speed Vehicles
- The speed limit in parking garages and lots is 10 mph.
- May travel anywhere else on campus at speeds up to 15 mph or as fast as the pace of nearby pedestrians.
- Other signage must be observed at all times.

Additional Behavioral Expectations

1. Dock parking is limited to the duration necessary for loading/unloading to building locations. Extended parking in docks is prohibited.
2. Dangerous, unsafe, or intimidating behaviors (including verbal assaults or threats) toward pedestrians or other vehicle operators are prohibited.

3. Minimize vehicle idling time. Do not allow vehicles to idle for any length of time unless necessary to accomplish work-related tasks.

Discipline for Non-Compliance

Employees found to have violated this Policy may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, reprimand, counseling, demotion, suspension, or termination. Any persons operating Unaffiliated and Personal Vehicles who fail to observe this Policy may be subject to citation issued by Public Safety.

Organizational units may institute policies more, but not less, restrictive than this policy (6.3.3) if desired.

Related Links:

Uptown West Campus Map-Vehicular Access

Phone Contacts:

Department of Transportation Services 556-4424
Department of Public Safety 556-4900