

University of New Haven

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy Title: Restriction on Lithium-Ion Battery Motorized Personal Transportation Vehicle (MPTV) Policy

Policy No.:	8117
Rev.:	N/A
Effective Date:	December 21, 2023

Responsible Office:	Department of Public Safety & Administrative Services
Responsible Official:	Associate Vice President for Public Safety & Administrative
	Services

Policy Statement	2
Reason for Policy	
Definitions	3
Procedure	3-4
Supporting Documents	4

Policy Statement

Effective December 21, 2023, Motorized Personal Transportation Vehicles (MPTV) such as hoverboards, e-scooters, self-balancing boards, self-balancing scooters, electric skateboards, or drifting boards will not be allowed to be charged, operated, or stored inside of any building or on a property owned or controlled by the University of New Haven.

Exceptions to this policy will be made for electric bicycles, provided users follow all applicable traffic regulations, do not bring their e-bikes into any University facility, and secure them in outdoor bike racks. Electric mobility aids for individuals with disabilities (approved by ARC -students or Human Resources – faculty staff) and items used in approved and supervised research activities are exempted from this MPTV ban.

Reason for the Policy

University leaders have become increasingly concerned about the use of lithium-ion battery motorized personal transportation vehicles (MPTV), such as e-scooters and other electric-transportation devices on campus, especially in regard to ensuring the health and personal safety of riders, pedestrians, and building occupants.

Recharging lithium batteries in such vehicles has resulted in numerous fires around the United States and MPTV accidents have caused serious injuries on college campuses across the country.

This policy minimizes the risks associated when operating Motorized Personal Transportation Vehicles and known hazards created with lithium-ion batteries overheating, catching fire, or exploding and is applicable to all University students, staff, faculty, and visitors, and University-owned and/or managed buildings across all campuses.

Definitions

Motorized Personal Transport Vehicles (MPTV) – a vehicle or device used for human transport that does not require a license to operate and is powered by Lithium-Ion batteries, which includes, but not limited to hoverboards, e-scooters, self-balancing boards, self-balancing scooters, electric skateboards, or drifting boards.

E-Bike- a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that may be activated in order to assist with or replace pedaling.

ADA Assisted Transportation Device- Any assistive technology, motorized or nonmotorized, that aids the movement of people with physical impairments. Includes, but is not limited to, wheelchairs, self-propelled wheelchairs, and ADA scooter devices

Lithium-Ion (Li-ion) Battery: a type of rechargeable battery composed of cells in which lithium ions move from the negative electrode through an electrolyte to the positive electrode during discharge and back when charging. These cells use an intercalated lithium compound as the material at the positive electrode, and typically graphite at the negative electrode.

PROCEDURES

Any MPTVs found on campus after December 21, 2023 will be impounded and secured until owner can safety remove from university property. Violations of this policy may result in appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with their affiliation to the university below and can be reported through the LiveSafe App.

Students shall be referred to the Dean of Students Office for violation of Student Handbook, Housing Contract and University Policy <u>Student Handbook</u>. **Employees-** shall be referred to Human Resources for violation of University Policy <u>UNH Policies</u>

Campus Visitors- shall be referred to the University of New Haven Police for violation of University Policy.

University building supervisors, managers (e.g., Residential Life, Department Heads, Athletics Staff, etc.), and their designees, will support compliance and enforcement of this policy by notifying occupants and visitors of policy violation.

Any lithium-ion batteries or powered devices that display signs of pending Thermal Runaway (e.g., bulging, off-gassing, high temperature production, etc.) are an immediate danger to life and health, and shall require notification to University on New Haven Police at 203-932-7070 or 911.

Supporting Documents

Student Handbook Student Handbook

University of New Haven Policies UNH Policies

* * *

This Policy's Contact Person:

Associate Vice President for Public Safety & Administrative Services University of New Haven 300 Boston Post Road West Haven, CT 06516 (Office- 203-932-7147) (Email- rquagliani@newhaven.edu)

* * *