



Office of Public Safety

<b>Policy Area: Public Safety</b>	<b>Subject: Personal Transportation Devices</b>
<b>Title of Policy: Personal Transportation Devices on Campus</b>	<b>Number: 1</b>
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## SCOPE

Queens College is committed to creating a sustainable and safe campus. As part of these efforts, the Office of Public Safety regulates the use of Personal Transportation Devices on College property.

Adherence to this policy is the responsibility of all members of the College community — staff, faculty, students, College affiliates, contractors, and visitors to campus are expected to comply.

This policy supports the college’s ability to effectively respond to fire-related incidents and to maintain the college’s compliance with all federal, state, and city laws and regulations relating to fire safety.

This policy also complies with the Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know Act of the Higher Education Opportunity Act, effective August 14, 2008, which requires colleges and universities that have on-campus housing to compile fire data and issue a fire safety report annually.

It is the responsibility of the Public Safety Department to enforce fire safety laws and regulations while working with other departments to prevent and respond to fire-

related accidents and injuries, to increase fire safety awareness, and to fully comply with all legal and regulatory requirements and fire safety rules.

## **Policy Statement:**

### I. Non-battery powered devices:

This policy establishes protocols that prohibit the operation of non-battery powered devices, such as bicycles, skateboards, scooters, skates (roller/in-line), unicycles, tricycles, wheeled footwear, and the like, within the College buildings.

A non-battery powered device shall not be used within any College building for any reason.

The safekeeping of these devices is the responsibility of the owner. These devices shall not cause an obstruction, safety, or tripping hazard to the College community.

Everyone is encouraged to use the available bike racks to park and secure their transportation devices in following locations throughout the campus:

Northeast side of Kiely  
Northside of School of Music  
Southside of Powdermaker Hall  
Northside of Science building  
Southside of Queens Hall  
South side of Student Union  
Northwest side of the Summit (residents only)

Securing a device in hallways, corridors, stairwells, doorways, or attaching it to any handicap access ramp, is strictly prohibited.

### II. Battery powered & gasoline powered devices:

**All versions of motorized and/or battery-powered personal transportation equipment/devices are not allowed inside any campus buildings for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to, e-bikes, e-scooters, battery-powered skateboards, unicycles, hoverboards, mopeds, etc.**

**Violation of this policy will be documented by Public Safety and the owner may lose parking privileges or be subject to disciplinary action and/or fines.**

This policy does not include any adaptive mobility devices (e.g., manual or electric wheelchairs, walkers) or authorized equipment brought in for administrative and maintenance work.

## **Rationale:**

Due to the specific and immediate response required to safely contain a battery fire or malfunction, Electronic Personal Transportation Devices are hereby prohibited from campus for the safety of the college community. <sup>1</sup>

## **Bike Rack Locations:**

### **Bicycle Parking**

Device charging & parking are available on the North side of Kiely Hall front entrance. The following are general guidelines regarding bicycle parking on and around campus:

1. Signage will indicate proper bike parking locations.
2. Motorized or battery powered bicycles/scooters/devices shall be prohibited from parking outside of designated parking racks.
3. Racks shall not be utilized as long-term bicycle storage.
4. Bicycle related gear (or other items) should not be left at the bicycle racks.
5. Bicycles shall be parked in accordance with federal, state, and local fire and safety regulations.
6. Bicycles/scooters shall be secured with an appropriate locking device to prevent theft. **Bike locks** may be available for purchase from our bookstore

## **Devices shall not be parked or stored:**

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<sup>1</sup> Nationwide, charging batteries for devices like scooters and e-bikes sparked 330 fires in the U.S. from 2015 to 2018, causing more than \$9 million in property damage, says a Consumer Product Safety Commission study released in 2020.

While lithium batteries are normally safe, they may cause injury if they have design defects, are made of low-quality materials, are assembled incorrectly, are used, or recharged improperly, or are damaged. In February 2018, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's Status Report on High Energy Density Batteries Project reported over 25,000 overheating or fire incidents involving more than 400 types of lithium battery powered consumer products that occurred over a five-year period.

1. In any building (e.g., offices, classrooms, etc.)
2. Against or fastened to any tree, plant, bush, or foliage.
3. Against or fastened to any water, steam or gas pipe, fitting, electrical fixture, fence, scaffolding, signpost, railing, public bench, or emergency safety device, or any other immobile object on the campus premises.
4. Upon or attached to any ingress/egress ramp, stairway or stairwell railing or otherwise fastened to or blocking any exit/entrance or handicap access to any College building.
5. In any other area not designated for bicycle parking or where parking is specifically prohibited by these regulations or by signs.
6. Without the motor or battery in place. Batteries are prohibited from campus buildings and any device found parked without the motor or battery shall be reported to Public Safety.

**Communication to the College:**

This policy will be posted at campus entrances, the parking lot, on the college website, and emailed College-wide, in compliance with Communication and Marketing policies.

**Sources:**

[Preventing Fire and/or Explosion Injury from Small and Wearable Lithium Better Powered Devices \(osha.gov\)](https://www.osha.gov)