

**NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA
REGULATIONS MANUAL**

CHAPTER 3 - Administrative Affairs

3-6006 Bicycles

In the State of Florida, the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle. Bicyclists have the same rights to the roadways as automobiles, and must obey the same traffic laws as the operators of other vehicles. These laws, described below, apply on the NCF campus, and are enforceable by the NCF Police Department. The following Regulation incorporates and supplements Chapter 316, Florida Statutes.

(1) Moving regulations for bicyclists

- (a) A bicyclist must obey all traffic controls and signals.
- (b) A bicyclist must use a fixed, regular seat for riding.
- (c) No bicycle may be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or equipped. An adult bicyclist may carry a child in a backpack while bicycling.
- (d) At least one hand must be kept on the handlebars while riding.
- (e) Parents and guardians must not knowingly allow a child or minor ward to violate any provision of this section.
- (f) Every bicycle must be equipped with brakes that allow the rider to stop within 25 feet from a speed of 10 miles per hour on dry, level, and clean pavement.
- (g) When riding on sidewalks or in crosswalks, a bicyclist has the same rights and duties as a pedestrian.
- (h) A bicyclist riding on sidewalks or in crosswalks must yield the right of way to pedestrians and must give an audible signal before passing.
- (i) A bicycle operated between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a white lamp on the front visible from 500 feet and both a red reflector and a red lamp on the rear visible from 600 feet to the rear. Additional lighting is permitted and recommended.
- (j) A bicyclist must ride at the right hand curb or edge of the roadway except when making a left turn, when reasonably necessary to avoid a hazard, or when a lane is too narrow for a bicycle and a car to share it safely.
- (k) Bicyclists must ride no more than two abreast except on bicycle paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.
- (l) A bicyclist may dismount and walk through an intersection in the crosswalk as a pedestrian.

(2) Signaling

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- (a) A bicyclist intending to make a left turn is entitled to full use of the lane from which the turn is made. After scanning, signaling, and moving to the right portion of that lane, the bicyclist must check the traffic signal, then proceed when it is safe to do so.
 - (b) In addition to the normal left turn, a bicyclist may proceed through the right-most portion of the intersection and turn as close to the curb or edge as possible at the far side. After complying with any official traffic control device the bicyclist may proceed in the new direction of travel.
 - (c) A turn signal must be given during the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning. If a bicyclist needs both hands for control, the signal need not be given continuously.
 - (d) A bicyclist may signal intent or turn right either by extending the left hand and arm upward or by extending the right hand and arm horizontally to the right side of the bicycle.
- (3) **Headsets.** A bicyclist may not wear a headset, headphone, or other listening device other than a hearing aid when riding. Wearing a headset blocks out important audio cues needed to detect the presence of other traffic.
- (4) **Civil Penalties.** Since bicycles are considered motor vehicles, the following actions may result in fines that are the same as those assessed for traffic violations according to Chapter 318.18, Florida Statutes:
- (a) Moving violations, such as disregarding a traffic control device, running a stop sign, riding against traffic, or traveling the wrong way on a one way street;
 - (b) Non-Moving violations, such as riding or driving while wearing a headset;
 - (c) Violation of laws specific to bicycles, such as failure to use required lighting equipment at night, failure to have at least one hand on the handlebars, or failure to have working brakes; and
 - (d) Violation of Florida's Bicycle Helmet Law which requires children 16 years of age or younger to wear a bicycle helmet while riding a bicycle.
- (5) **Local Ordinances.** Local governments may adopt ordinances regulating bicycle riding. Some areas may also have registration and licensing requirements. Sidewalk riding may be prohibited entirely or limited to certain areas. Local law enforcement agencies can provide copies of any such local ordinances.
- (6) **Bicycle Parking**
- (a) Bicycles should only be parked in designated bicycle parking areas on campus. NCF Police have the authority to issue citations and remove illegally parked bikes.
 - (b) Parking in the following areas may result in the impoundment of your bicycle and the assessment of a fine:
 - 1. Parking on the sidewalks;

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2. Parking in service drives or roadways;
 3. Parking obstructing an entrance, exit, ramp, or breezeway;
 4. Parking within an NCF building;
 5. Parking in an area designated for motor vehicles; and
 6. Leaving bicycles on campus over summer break.
- (c) Parking a bicycle on a sidewalk, walking surfaces, chaining to a hand rail, or other unapproved area impedes pedestrian traffic and may be in violation of State Fire Codes or Accessibility Codes under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- (d) Bikes found unsecured in suspicious locations on campus may be impounded for safe keeping by the NCF Police until the owner can be identified. All bikes impounded by the Campus Police for safe keeping will also be required to be registered at no charge before they are returned to the owner.
- (e) Owners of bicycles impounded for violations must pay the appropriate fine and register the impounded bike at no charge before it will be released.
- (f) All bikes left on campus after the end of the school year will be impounded as abandoned property. NCF and its agents are not responsible for cut locks or other damage resulting from the removal of illegally parked bicycles.

Authority: Article IX, Sec. 7, Fla. Constitution; Fla. Stat. Chapter 316; Fla. Board of Governors Regulation 1.001

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