

**Institutional Handbook of Operating Procedures**  
**Policy 08.01.28**

Section: Health, Safety, and Security	Responsible Vice President: Vice President, Business Operations & Facilities
Subject: Environmental Health & Safety	Responsible Entity: Environmental Health & Safety

**I. Title**

*Motorized and Non-Motorized Recreational Transportation*

**II. Policy**

- A. Audience: All employees, faculty, contract workers, volunteers, visitors, and students of University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) hospitals and clinics.
- B. Purpose: To prevent injury that results from the use of [motorized or non-motorized recreational transportation equipment](#), as well as to prevent injury or property damage resulting from fires created from charging, storage and use of hoverboards.
- C. Policy Statement: **The use of any motorized or non-motorized recreational transportation inside buildings owned and operated by UTMB is prohibited. It is prohibited to charge, store, or use** skateboards, roller skates, scooters (both motorized and non-motorized), self-balancing scooters, and hoverboards inside any UTMB building, including UTMB owned residential buildings.

Operation of an [electric personal assistive mobility device](#) (EPAMD) is restricted to sidewalks only and must use crosswalks to cross roads. **Riding EPAMDs inside buildings is prohibited except by UTMB Police and individuals with disabilities who have been approved a reasonable accommodation for a documented need for use of the device.** EPAMDs shall be stored in areas that do not block egress or Accessibility paths. They are not permitted to be stored in building public spaces, such as lobbies, stairwells, stair towers, corridors, and ramps inside or outside of buildings

Individuals with disabilities who have been approved a reasonable accommodation for a documented need are permitted to use EPAMDs inside buildings. UTMB considers requests of any faculty, student, or staff member wanting to use an EPAMD inside of buildings as a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As such, the person is required to provide appropriate documentation that he/she has a disability that requires the use of an EPAMD for mobility inside of buildings. For students, faculty, and staff, this request is placed with the [Institutional ADA Office](#). As part of this approval process, EH&S will perform a review of the proposed equipment to ensure it meets safety requirements. Approved devices will be affixed with an inspection sticker.

**Persons so approved shall operate EPAMDs at a speed that is reasonable and prudent under current conditions in building interiors,** having regard for the actual and potential hazards then existing, particularly for pedestrians. During non-daylight hours, EPAMDs shall be equipped with adequate lighting and reflectors. Helmets meeting ANSI/ASTM standards are recommended. Individuals shall not use headphones/earphones or cell phones while operating an EPAMD.

**Hoverboards: Charging, using, and storing** hoverboards and motorized self-balancing scooters anywhere on property owned or operated by UTMB, including inside any UTMB owned residential buildings, is prohibited. Any hoverboard presently stored on property owned or operated by UTMB, including residential buildings, should be removed immediately.

Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination for employees; a termination of employment relationship in the case of contractors or consultants; or suspension or expulsion in the case of a student. Additionally, individuals may be subject to loss of access privileges and civil and/or criminal prosecution.

**III. Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of all UTMB faculty, staff, students, contract workers, volunteers, and visitors to adhere to this policy. All individuals on UTMB’s campus are responsible for ensuring that motorized or non-motorized vehicles are not used inside UTMB buildings, and that hoverboards, and self-balancing scooters are not utilized anywhere on UTMB’s campus.

**IV. Relevant Federal and State Statutes**

[General Duty Clause of the Occupational Safety & Health Act](#)  
[Texas Transportation Code § 551.201](#)  
[Americans with Disabilities Act](#)

**V. Relevant System Policies and Procedures**

[UT System Policy UTS174: Environmental Health and Safety](#)

**VI. Dates Approved or Amended**

<i>Originated:</i> 08/02/2016	
<i>Reviewed with Changes</i>	<i>Reviewed without Changes</i>
07/24/2019	

**VII. Contact Information**

Environmental Health & Safety  
 409-747-0515