



Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Tips For College Students

Pedestrian Safety

As a Pedestrian, it is your responsibility to ensure your safety while commuting on campus. Please take note of the following pedestrian safety tips:

- A significant cause of accidents is the pedestrian's lack of awareness (not paying attention to traffic) when crossing the street.
- Pedestrians should look for vehicles before leaving the curb, and make eye contact with the driver to be sure that they see you and are going to stop.
- Be cautious and alert even while in a marked crosswalk. The painted lines on the crosswalk will not stop a vehicle from hitting you.
- Be especially careful of vehicles turning right or left, as the driver may be looking for other vehicles and/or pedestrians.
- Do not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and run into the path of a vehicle that is too close for the driver to be able to stop in time.
- Being visible to drivers is important. Wear light colored clothing or reflective material if you are walking or exercising during darkness. Be especially careful during sunrise and sunset. Be aware that the sun in the eyes of drivers may affect their ability to see you.

Bicycle Safety

Bicyclists, since they share the road with cars, are even more at hazard when traveling than pedestrians. However, if these simple tips are followed, it will create a safer environment for all those using the road.

- Bicyclists are required to know and obey all traffic laws, such as stopping at stop signs and traffic lights and signaling before turning or changing lanes.
- Bicyclists should always ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Bicyclists should ride within established bike lanes, when available.
- Do not weave in and out of parked cars.
- Periodically looking over your shoulder will help you remain aware of your surroundings and other traffic.
- Communicate the direction you are turning with hand signals at least 100 feet prior to a turn or lane change.
- Be alert to the traffic around you. Watch out for opening car doors and cars pulling away into the roadway.
- Bicyclists should be especially alert at intersections. Most of the accidents involving bicyclists occur at intersections, due to the motorist's failure to see and yield to the cyclist.
- Wearing a helmet can greatly reduce risk of serious head injury.
- Bicyclists must stop before exiting driveways.
- Bicyclists must yield the right of way to emergency vehicles, pedestrians and approaching vehicles.