

Driving Electric Carts on Campus

USC's Rules of the Road

Safety should be your #1 priority when you are driving on campus, whether in a car, truck or on an electric cart. If you practice defensive driving and follow the guidelines listed below you can reduce your chances of being hurt or hurting someone else in an accident.

- Obey all traffic rules and regulations.
- Be alert when at the wheel of an electric cart. Keep the vehicle under control at all times.
- Stop for all posted stop signs in an electric carts
- Watch out for students on bicycles at intersections
- Drive no more than 15 mph on streets within the campus and at 5 mph on mallways and in parking structures
- Pedestrians have the right-of-way at all times. Don't assume that pedestrians can hear you when you yell to them to get out of the way. It is your responsibility to watch out for pedestrians.
- Do not park where you will obstruct handicap access, driveways, exits from buildings, loading zones, red zones, fire hydrants, or fire lanes.
- Do not drive on sidewalks to get around parking arms
- All passengers must be seated in designated seats at all times. Under no circumstances should passengers be transported in the open beds of trucks/carts or on their tailgates.
- Operators are not to wear headsets or use cell phones while operating vehicles



Electric Cart Operation

Carts may seem harmless, but the unsafe use of electric or gas powered vehicles (e.g. golf carts), can lead to serious injury. Every University department must evaluate their cart operations to ensure the well-being of our students, staff, guests and faculty.

Department supervisors are responsible for ensuring that all vehicles under their control are maintained and operated in a safe manner. This includes ensuring that:

- Users possess a valid driver's license and are instructed on the safe use of carts
- All original safety features are kept in proper working order;
- As soon as you get into your vehicle put on your seatbelt if there is one.
- Carts are not overloaded (carrying more passengers than seating provided) or exceed the carts recommended load capacity.

Operators must observe all traffic rules and the following guidelines:

- Never leave the ignition keys in an unattended vehicle or loan the vehicle to non-authorized personnel
- University owned carts are to be used for University business only
- Operators shall never tow from the vehicle!
- Avoid driving in the center of campus.