SELF-BALANCING ELECTRIC WHEELED DEVICES

Policy Title: Self-Balancing Electric Wheeled Devices
Policy Type: Administrative
Policy Number: Administrative Policy # 47-31 (2018)
Approved: 12/16/2021
Responsible Office: University Police Department
Responsible Executive: Vice President for Finance and Administration
Applies to: University Community

POLICY STATEMENT
The Code of Virginia Section 23 -9.2:3, as amended, grants authority to the Board of Visitors to establish rules and regulations for the institution. Section 6.01(a) (6) of the Board of Visitors Bylaws grants authority to the President to implement these policies and procedures relating to University operations. As a result of continuing reports highlighting the safety and fire risks of self-balancing electric wheeled devices such as Hoverboards or scooters, effective immediately, the use, possession, charging and/or storage of these devices is prohibited on any property owned, leased or controlled by Norfolk State University (NSU or the University) until appropriate safety standards or regulations are issued by the University.

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DEFINITIONS

Self-Balancing Electric Wheeled Device: A type of portable, rechargeable personal mobility device that uses gyroscopic technology to allow an operator to balance on a small-wheeled platform. These devices are commonly referred to as Hoverboards, smart boards, balance boards, or referred to as Swagways, IO Hawks, and Skywalkers.

CONTACT(S)

University Police staff interprets this policy. The Vice President for Finance and Administration is responsible for obtaining approval for any revisions as required by BOV Policy #01 (2014) Creating and Maintaining Policies: https://www.nsu.edu/policy/bov-01.aspx, through the appropriate governance structures. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the University Police Department.

SELF-BALANCING ELECTRIC WHEELED DEVICES

Self-balancing electric wheeled devices, such as Hoverboards and other similar devices, must be removed from campus effective immediately. If such device or any of its accessories or parts are found or used on the NSU campus, they will be subject to confiscation until they can be effectively removed from campus.

The University administration may consider lifting or easing this prohibition once it is determined that sufficient safety standards and/or regulations are in place to regulate the possession, use, charging and storage of these devices by the appropriate authorities. Adequate notice will be issued at such time that the prohibition is lifted and such safety standards are communicated to the University campus.

PUBLICATION

This policy will be published in the NSU Policy Library on the University website as required by BOV Policy #01 (2014) Creating and Maintaining Policies.

REVIEW SCHEDULE

- Next Scheduled Review: 06/15/2024
- Approval by President: 06/15/2018
- Revision History: 12/16/2021
- Supersedes: None - New Policy
RELATED DOCUMENTS

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Hoverboard Safety Warning

Statement from U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Chairman Elliot F. Kaye on the Safety of Hoverboards

Statement from the National Association of State Fire Marshals Regarding Hoverboard Safety

FORMS

There are no forms associated with this policy and procedure.