

Prohibition of Self-Balancing Electric Wheeled Boards (Hoverboards) at the University

Effective Date Friday, January 15, 2016

Status Final

Last Revised Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Policy Type [University](#)

Contact Office

[Emergency Management \(UVA\)](#) [Police Division \(University\)](#)

Oversight Executive

[Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer](#)

Applies To

Academic Division The Medical Center The College at Wise

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Reason for Policy

The University, the Medical Center, and the College at Wise endeavor to provide a safe and secure environment for members of its community through the regulation of the possession, use, charging and storage of self-balancing electrical wheeled boards (hoverboards).

Definition of Terms

Self-Balancing Electric Wheeled Board (Hoverboard)

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,” but may also be referred to as *Swagboards* and *self-balancing scooters*.

University Facility

Any defined space of the University, including a room, lab, series of labs, building, or controlled outdoor area.

University Grounds

The areas where administrative functions, teaching, and research facilities, as well as athletic and recreational facilities of the University that are used by members of the University community are located.

University Housing

Residential living areas managed by the University's Housing & Residence Life.

University Property

Land or buildings that the University owns or leases and that is under the control of the Board of Visitors. University property also includes premises the University uses for activities of its offices, departments, personnel, or students.

Policy Statement

Due to associated safety risks (injury to self, others and fire risk) of self-balancing electric wheeled boards (Hoverboards), the use, possession, charging and/or storage of these devices is prohibited on the University Grounds, in University facilities, in University housing, on University or Medical Center property, or on the campus of the College at Wise. These devices' batteries can burst into flame, especially while being charged, resulting in a metal fire that can burn with intense heat. In addition, hoverboards are a safety hazard on walkways for pedestrians and in roadways with vehicles.

Compliance with Policy:

Failure to comply with the requirements of this policy by all may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion in accordance with relevant University policies. All University, Medical Center, and College at Wise faculty, staff, employees, and students as well as patients, volunteers, and visitors (which include vendors and their employees, parents of students, guests, uninvited guests, and all other persons located on property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the University, the Medical Center, or the College at Wise) are expected to comply with this policy.

It is the responsibility of *all members of the University, Medical Center, and College at Wise communities* to observe this policy and to ensure compliance with the policy by all visitors.

Questions about this policy should be directed to the [Emergency Management \(UVA\)](#) or the [University Police Department](#).

Procedures

Hoverboards and all similar devices are to be removed from University Grounds, facilities, housing, on University or Medical Center property, or on the campus of the College at Wise.

Related Information

[National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\) Hoverboard Safety Warning](#)

[U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Hoverboard Alert](#)

[Statement from the National Association of State Fire Marshals Regarding Hoverboard Safety](#)

Major Category [Safety, Security and Environmental Quality](#)

Next Scheduled Review Sunday, March 29, 2026

Revision History Updated 3/29/23, 11/17/18.

Applies To Text

Academic Division, the Medical Center, and the College at Wise.

Last modified February 5, 2024 - 3:11pm

Approved By Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Approved Date January 15, 2016 - 12:00pm