SEC-036

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

Effective Date Friday, January 15, 2016

Status Final

Last Revised Monday, September 28, 2026

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, and 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)

Description

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

Description

Any defined space of the University, including but not limited to a room, lab, series of labs, building, or controlled outdoor area (which includes the Academical Village).

University Grounds

Description

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

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

University Property

Description

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.

Direct questions about this policy to the Emergency Management (UVA) or the University Police Division.

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

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 Friday, September 28, 2029

Revision History
Confirmed 9/28/26; Updated 3/29/23, 11/17/18.

Approved By Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Approved Date Friday, January 15, 2016