

Hoverboards / Self-Balancing Scooters

Health & Safety - Public Safety

EWU Policy 603-09

Authority: EWU Board of Trustees

Effective: May 20, 2016

Proponent: Director of Public Safety

Purpose: This policy restricts the possession and use of self-balancing scooters, or hoverboards, on properties owned or controlled by Eastern Washington University.

History: This policy is new. It was adopted as an interim policy by the university president on January 15, 2016 and was adopted by the Board of Trustees on May, 20, 2016.

Applicability: This policy applies to all buildings and facilities owned or controlled by Eastern Washington University.

1. Background

Recently, there have been numerous reports of unexpected and spontaneous fires caused by hoverboard batteries. The chairman of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a statement in December 2015 indicating that some hoverboards caught fire while charging, while others caught fire while in use.

2. Policy

In response to the risk of fire, Eastern Washington University prohibits the storage and possession of hoverboards in residence halls, university apartments, academic buildings, administrative buildings, recreational facilities, and all other structures on property owned or controlled by EWU. This prohibition will remain in effect until such time as the safety and reliability of these devices can be reasonably established.

Hoverboards are permitted outside of buildings. However, because the university has no means for the devices to be stored safely outside, students and employees are encouraged to refrain from bringing hoverboards onto university property.

3. Removal from University Facilities

All hoverboards that are being stored in university facilities must be removed from campus no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

4. Temporary Storage

As a service to our students who live on campus and who already possess a hoverboard, a temporary storage area has been set aside by the university.

Students may bring their hoverboard to the housing office, (Snyamncut 104) during office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.