

Utility Cart Operations Guide & Training

UT Tyler Police Department

Parking & Transportation: 903.565.5840



Training Goals

- Pedestrian Safety
- Driver Safety
- Integrity of UT Tyler Property



Know Your Vehicle

- Familiarize yourself with your Utility Cart's Manual
- Know what type of cart (gas or electric) you are using
- Take notice of the size of the cart (2-, 4-, or 6-seater)
- The size and type of cart you have can impact how the cart responds when accelerating, breaking, and turning
- Your first time driving the cart should be in an open area away from pedestrians.



Remember

- The cart is not a toy
- Improper use can damage university property and potentially cause severe injuries or even death.



Limited Use

Utility carts—including golf carts and mules—are to be used exclusively for university-related operations, not for convenience.

Approved uses include:

- Shuttling prospective students, families, and other campus visitors during tours or special events
- Transporting heavy or bulky materials and supplies across campus
- Providing mobility support for individuals with disabilities
- Supporting staff mobility for time-sensitive tasks across long distances



Before you Go, Check:

- Tires: Are the tires inflated to a safe level?
- Leaks: Are there any battery or fuel leaks?
- Signals: If equipped, do the indicators on your cart work?
- Steering: Is the steering loose, too tight?
- Alarms: Are there audible alarms?
- Brakes: Is the brake pedal functioning properly?
- Cargo: All cargo must be secured.
- Seatbelt: The driver and all passengers should wear available safety restraints while the cart is in motion.



Utility Cart Etiquette

- The Pedestrian ALWAYS has the Right-Of-Way.
- Cell phone use while operating a cart is prohibited.
- Proceed at the pace at which people are walking.
- UTT on campus roadways: 20 mph maximum
- Use Campus Drive whenever possible instead of inner-campus routes, even if it takes longer.
- Utility Carts are not registered motor vehicles. Do not drive carts on off campus roads.



Walkways

To maintain safety for pedestrians who may enter and exit offices and rooms, carts **ARE NOT** allowed on walkways next to building entrances and exits.



Parking

Never park at the front entrance of buildings.

Exceptions - Admissions cart while transporting prospective students and Police, EH&S, & Physical Plant during emergencies/drills

Check the map in this presentation for appropriate parking locations when visiting other campus buildings.



Parking continued...

- Never park in handicap access or handicap spaces.
- When parking near another cart, park parallel to each other in a reasonable fashion.
- When the cart is not in use it should be parked in it's designated spot on campus. Please check with your department lead if you are unaware of the location.



Approved Campus Routes

- Review the map on the following slide for approved campus routes.
- Carts are allowed ONLY on the paths marked in green.
- Paths marked in red have been commonly used but are now strictly off limits to cart access except for health emergencies.
- Carts are not allowed on off-campus roadways, not even in the bicycle lane.
- Areas marked in yellow are the allowable locations for temporary cart parking while visiting buildings.





Passengers

- Must be seated and use safety restraints if available
- Not allowed in rear cargo area
- Not allowed to be standing on sides or rear of cart when it is in operation
- Must keep hands, feet, and objects in cart and remain seated while in motion



Loading

- Secure all cargo
- Maximum load not to exceed manufacturer's recommendation
- Center the load; watch for top heavy equipment
- Top-heavy loads are subject to falling



Maneuvering

- Carts are unstable in tight turns
- Carts are subject to tipping on any surface
- Beware of areas of the campus under construction
- No cart should be operated at night without working headlights and taillights
- When approaching a hill, cautiously drive straight up the hill. Never approach a hill at an angle.
- Always sound horn when approaching a blind turn
- NEVER leave keys in unattended utility cart



By following these simple rules, we can create a safer, more appealing campus environment and better serve our exceptional students and community members.



Failure to follow these rules may result in the revocation of your ability to operate Utility Carts on UT Tyler property.



For questions regarding the cart guidelines or training? Please contact the Parking & Transportation Coordinator Melissa Clayton - parking@uttyler.edu

For questions regarding the cart purchasing, maintenance, or repairs?

Please contact UT Tyler Facilities Management

Ragan Hill - RaganHill@uttyler.edu



