



# Bicyclists on COLLEGE CAMPUSES



## What do bicyclists involved crashes look like near Texas A&M University?



From 2015 to 2019, there were **197 reported crashes** that involved a bicyclist in Bryan and College Station (B/CS).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pedestrian and bicycle crash data (2015–2019) were obtained from the TxDOT Crash Reporting Information System (CRIS) on November 30, 2020.



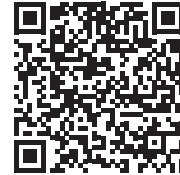
**Approximately half** of bicyclists involved in a crash were between 18 and 24 years old.



**57%** bicyclist involved crashes occurred at an intersection where conflicts are most likely to arise.

## How do I know who has the right-of-way?

The Texas Transportation code outlines when road users must yield right of way under certain circumstances. Find the transportation code here:



## What is right-of-way?

Right-of-way states who has the right to proceed.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Cornell Law School. (2021). Retrieved from: [https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/right\\_of\\_way](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/right_of_way)

## Why is right-of-way important?

- Following the right-of-way laws reduces the probability of conflict between motorists and bicyclists.
- Yielding right-of-way helps reduce confusion which can lead to conflicts and crashes.

## What happens if I do not yield right-of-way?

- You could end up hurting someone else or yourself in a crash.
- A bicyclist has a higher probability of being injured in a crash due to limited to no protection. In addition, you could be fined up to **\$200** (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 524.401).

## As a bicyclist, when am I required to yield right-of-way?

- Vehicles (including bicycles) should yield right-of-way to a pedestrian on a sidewalk when emerging from an alley, driveway, or building (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 545.256).
- Bicyclists must yield right-of-way to a pedestrian in a crosswalk if there is no traffic-control signal and if a pedestrian is crossing on the same half of the roadway as the vehicle or approaching from the other side close enough to be in danger (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 552.003).

## DID YOU KNOW?

A bicyclist has the same rights and duties as a motor vehicle driver unless an exception is provided or the said right or duty cannot be practically applied to a bicyclist.

## What else does the Texas Transportation Code say about bicyclists?

- Bicyclists must pass a vehicle to the left at a safe distance (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 545.053).
- When being passed, a bicycle should move or remain to the right and should not accelerate until passed (unless passing to the right is permitted) (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 545.053).
- Use arm signals to signal intent (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 545.107).
- Vehicles (including bicycles) cannot stop, stand, or park on the roadway side of a stopped or parked vehicle; on a sidewalk; in an intersection; on a crosswalk; in front of an official sign that prohibits stopping (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 545.302).
- You may stop, stand, or park a bicycle on a sidewalk if does not stop the movement of other traffic on the sidewalk (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 545.302).



- A bicyclist must have a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle and may not carry more persons than the bicycle is equipped to carry (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 551.102).
- You may not carry any object that prevents safe operation of the bicycle with at least one hand on the handlebars (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 551.102).
- You are not allowed to operate a bicycle at night unless you have a white lamp on the front and a red reflector or light on the rear of your bike (Texas Transportation Code Sec. 551.104).