

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Traffic and Parking Rules and Regulations

Amended: 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1978, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1992, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2019, 2021, 2024.

Introduction

The control of traffic and parking on campus is a necessary part of the efficient operation of A&M-Commerce. All members of the university community are urged to familiarize themselves with these regulations and cooperate in respecting them.

A&M-Commerce Police Department
Bryan Vaughn
Chief of Police

Article I. Authority

Section A. The Texas Higher Education Code, Subchapter E, Sections 51.201 - 51.211.

Article II. Texas State Law, Texas A&M System Policies and Regulations and University Rules and Procedures

Section A. Texas State law, Texas A&M System policies and regulations, and A&M-Commerce rules and procedures are applicable and may be enforced on university premises and any referral may be made to the appropriate court of jurisdiction.

Article III. Vehicle Registration

Section A. All vehicles, as defined by state law, operated on A&M-Commerce premises shall be registered with the University. Registrants have several choices for their mandatory vehicle registration.

Vehicles will be registered for:

- One (1) day/twenty-four (24) hours; or
- One (1) month/thirty (30) days; or
- One (1) year/twelve (12) months. (September-August).

Vehicles can be registered online through MyLeo or at Student Account windows on the A&M-Commerce campus. Registrants may also scan the QR code located on signs posted in A&M-Commerce parking lots. The QR code will direct to an online portal allowing the registrant to select registration choices.

Section B. A maximum of two (2) vehicles may be registered to any one (1) permit. Only one (1) of the registered vehicles may be parked on the A&M-Commerce campus at a time. Parking both registered vehicles on campus at the same time, or parking a tertiary unregistered vehicle, will require the purchase of a secondary permit or the purchase of a one (1) day (24 hours) permit or one (1) month (30 days) permit.

Section C. The person who owns or registers a vehicle on campus is responsible for that vehicle and all parking violation citations issued thereto.

Section D. The operation of motor vehicles on the premises of A&M-Commerce will be restricted to campus drives and parking lots unless special permission is granted by the A&M-Commerce Police Department for a specific purpose.

Section E. Citations received for any violation stated herein could result in loss of driving privileges on the premises of A&M-Commerce.

Article IV. Types of Permits

The following permits become void on the effective date of any status change of the individual, provided the new status is not eligible for the original type of permit issued.

Section A. Blue permits

Issued to current faculty and staff for their use exclusively. Registrants may not register another person's vehicle. Blue permits may park in any color location except silver. Blue permits may not park in reserved spaces.

Section B. White permits

Issued to contractors, the general public, and retired faculty/staff/emeritus for their use exclusively. White permits may park in any color location except silver. Registrants may not register another person's vehicle. White permits may not park in reserved spaces.

Section C. Purple permits

Issued to the residents of F-Buildings for their use exclusively. Purple permits may park in purple zones and green zones. Purple permits may park in blue zones between 3pm and 7am. Residents may not register another student's vehicle. Purple permits may not park in reserved spaces or silver spaces.

Section D. Brown permits

Issued to residents of New Pride Apartments for their use exclusively. Brown permits may park in brown zones and green zones. Brown permits may park in blue zones between 3pm and 7am. Residents may not register another student's vehicle. Brown permits may not park in reserved spaces or silver spaces.

Section E. Silver Permits

Issued to residents of Prairie Crossing Apartments for their use exclusively. Silver permits may park in silver zones and green zones. Silver permits may park in blue zones between 3pm and 7am. Residents may not register another student's vehicle. Silver permits may not park in reserved spaces.

Section F. Green permits

Issued to registrants not listed in Sections A through E, above. Green permits may park in green zones. Green permits may park in blue zones between 3pm and 7am. Registrants may not register another student's vehicle. Green permits may not park in reserved spaces or silver spaces.

Section G. One (1) day permit (24 hours)

Issued to persons who have no want/need to purchase a one (1) month or annual permit, or for persons who need to register a tertiary vehicle not normally parked on campus, or the general public who wish visit A&M-Commerce. The one (1) day permit is valid for twenty-four (24) hours from the date of purchase.

Section H. One (1) month permit (30 days)

Issued to persons who have no want/need to purchase a one (1) day or annual permit, or for persons who need to register a tertiary vehicle not normally parked on campus, or the general public who wish visit A&M-Commerce. The one (1) month permit is valid for thirty (30) days from the date of purchase.

Section I. Accessible permits

Issued only to those persons who have obtained a either a disabled parking placard or license plates with the International Symbol of Access (ISA) or "DV" for disabled veteran. A disabled parking placard or license plates must accompany the standard motor vehicle registration permit acquired as directed under Article IV of this publication. Those with a disabled parking placard or a license plate displaying the ISA may park in any accessible parking location or any color location. Accessible permits may not park in a reserved location unless approved for said parking space.

Section J. Reserved permits

Issued to students, faculty, or staff who have been approved for a specific parking space on the A&M-Commerce campus. Reserved parking spaces are for a designated person and reserved twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. Reserved permits may park in their designated reserved parking spot and in any color location. Registrants may not register another person's vehicle.

Section K. Special Permits

The A&M-Commerce Police Department reserves the right to issue special permits to individuals/groups who have a need to operate or park a motor vehicle in a given area. Event directors or department heads may request special permits for a specific event from the A&M-Commerce Police Department and dispense the special permits to persons involved in the event. A list should be forwarded to the A&M-Commerce Police Department indicating the name of the event, estimated attendance, and inclusive dates of the event, at least ten (10) days prior to the beginning of the event. Special permits will be issued only on direction of the Chief of the A&M-Commerce Police Department or his/her designee. Special permits may not park in reserved spaces.

Section L. Temporary permits

Issued to temporary visitors, temporary disabled, or for other short-term situations. All temporary permits should display the date side of the permit facing toward the windshield, unimpeded by items hanging from a rearview mirror, sunshade, etc. Temporary disabled permits must accompany the standard motor vehicle registration permit as directed under Article IV of this publication. Temporary disabled permits will be issued by the Student Accounts window only upon presentation of certification from A&M-Commerce Student Health Services or the State of Texas. Temporary permits are to be displayed hanging on the rear-view mirror with the permit number and/or expiration date side facing outward. Temporary permits expire at midnight on the date placed on the permit. Temporary permits may park in any color location. Temporary permits may not park in reserved spaces

Article V. General Public Parking

The “general public” shall be defined as an individual(s) who is not as a student, faculty, staff, or contracted employee with A&M-Commerce.

Section A. The general public is required to register a motor vehicle that is to be operated on the premises of A&M-Commerce. The general public must obey the traffic and parking regulations as a condition to remain on the premises of A&M-Commerce. The general public may not register a vehicle for use by a student, faculty, staff, or contracted employee.

Section B. The general public may register a motor vehicle for a white permit, for one (1) day (24 hours) permit, or one (1) month (30 days) permit.

Section C. The general public may register a vehicle in person at Student Account windows on the A&M-Commerce campus or scan the QR code located on signs posted in A&M-Commerce parking lots.

Article VI. Registration Fees

Section A. A fee of \$300.00 is charged for each RESERVED motor vehicle registration on an annual basis/twelve (12 months, September-August).

Section B. A fee of \$120.00 is charged for each SILVER motor vehicle registration on an annual basis/twelve (12 months, September-August).

Section C. A fee of \$80.00 is charged for each BLUE, WHITE, PURPLE, BROWN, & GREEN motor vehicle registration on an annual basis/twelve (12 months, September-August).

Section D. A fee of \$10.00 is charged for each motor vehicle registration for one (1) month (30 days). The one (1) month permit is valid for thirty (30) days from the date of purchase.

Section E. A fee of \$5.00 is charged for each motor vehicle registration for one (1) day (24 hours). The one (1) day permit is valid for twenty-four (24) hours from the date/time of purchase.

Section F. A fee of \$0.00 is charged for each motor vehicle registration displaying a “DV” license plate. Disabled veterans should obtain a parking permit through any Student Account window to ensure no charge is incurred. (Texas Transportation Code, Title 7, Subtitle H, Chapter 681 “Privileged Parking”, Section 681.008 “Parking Privileges: Certain Veterans and Military Award Recipients”).

Section G. A fee of \$0.00 is charged for each motor vehicle registration displaying a temporary disabled permit. Temporary disabled permits must accompany the standard motor vehicle registration permit as directed under Article IV of this publication.

Section H. A fee of \$0.00 is charged for each motor vehicle registration for retired faculty/staff/emeritus of A&M-Commerce. Faculty/staff/emeritus may register a vehicle in person at Student Account windows on the A&M-Commerce campus.

Article VII. Enforcement

Section A. Officers' directives have priority over any parking regulation.

Section B. Traffic and parking regulations are enforced twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week. The purchase or issuance of a motor vehicle registration permit does not guarantee a parking space on the premises of A&M-Commerce nor does the absence of parking space constitute a valid justification for violation of traffic and parking regulations. The mere fact that citations are not issued for any offense does not indicate that the regulations have been modified excluding that offense.

Section C. Reserved parking spaces are for a designated person and reserved twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. A reserved parking space shall not be delegated, and in the absence of the designated person, the space shall remain open. Vehicles parked in reserved spaces that are not registered to the designated person can be issued a citation and/or towed at the vehicle owner's expense.

Section D. "Accessible Parking" is designated with the "ISA", "Timed Parking" is designated with signage stating the maximum time allowed, "No Parking" is designated as a yellow curb, yellow blocks on a curb, or stripped white or yellow lines on pavement, and "Fire Zones" are designated with a red curb that state "Fire Lane". Article VII, Section D is enforced twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week.

Section E. No vehicle, conveyance, or trailer may be used as a habitation, temporary habitation, residence, or place of permanent or semi-permanent occupation for the purpose of living or camping without the permission/authorization of the A&M-Commerce Police Department. No vehicle, conveyance, or trailer may be stored in operative or inoperative condition on A&M-Commerce property without the permission/authorization of the A&M-Commerce Police Department. "Stored" is defined solely and wholly by the A&M-Commerce Police Department.

Section F. Shaded/colored areas on any university map denote general areas only and are subject to periodic change. Curbs and signs for the area should be observed at the location.

Section G. Speed Limits are indicated by signage. Where no signage is posted, streets on A&M-Commerce campus are 20mph. All parking lots on A&M-Commerce campus are 10mph.

Section H. Vehicles removed from this campus may be towed by a local towing company. Once a local towing company has been contacted for a tow by the A&M-Commerce Police Department, the offending vehicle may not be released to the owner and the owner is responsible for any response charges set by the local towing company. Owners of the towed vehicles are responsible for all towing and storage fees set by a local towing company.

Article VIII. Special Occasions and Emergencies

Section A. On special occasions and in emergencies, parking and traffic limitations and towing may be imposed or rescinded by A&M-Commerce Police Department as required by the conditions which prevail. Every effort will be made to inform the public of any restricted areas and information may be accessed through Lion Safe.

Article IX. Traffic and Parking Violations and Penalties

The following acts constitute a violation of the traffic and parking regulations of A&M-Commerce:

Section A. Regulations which are unique to this institution:

Failure to register vehicle.....	\$30.00
Registering a vehicle for the purpose of receiving an unauthorized permit for another person.....	\$30.00
Falsification of information on application for vehicle registration.....	\$30.00
Failure to comply with a lawful order or direction given by a Police Officer (TRC 542.501).....	\$75.00
Exceeding speed limit (the speed limit is 20 mph on campus and 10 mph in parking lots).....	\$30.00
Parking in fire lanes (vehicle subject to be towed).....	\$75.00
Unauthorized parking in disabled zones.....	\$75.00
Parked disregarding barricades, traffic cones or traffic control devices.....	\$20.00
Parking in areas not specifically designated as a parking space.....	\$20.00
To include, but not limited to: Lawns, grass areas, turf, sidewalks, areas not striped for parking, no parking, crosswalks, blocking accessible ramps, unauthorized parking in service and delivery areas, etc..	
Parked in unauthorized area or restricted area without appropriate permit (parked in improper zone).....	\$20.00
Parked in excess of time limit in timed parking zones.....	\$20.00
Double or multiple parking or across the line.....	\$20.00
Failure to display valid license plates, motor vehicle registration on a parked vehicle.....	\$20.00
Failure to display or properly display a temporary permit.....	\$20.00
Unauthorized parking or storing a vehicle, conveyance, or trailer on campus.....	\$30.00
Using a parked vehicle as a habitation on campus.....	\$30.00
Parked against the flow of traffic.....	\$20.00
Unauthorized use of a vehicle, conveyance, or trailer	\$30.00
Unauthorized camping.....	\$30.00
Other.....	\$20.00
Warning.....	\$0.00
Boot removal fee.....	\$35.00

Section B. Regulations enforced and not covered by this publication:

Tex. Rev. Civ, Stat, Ann. Article 6701d and all other laws regulating traffic within the State of Texas.

Section C. Any A&M-Commerce regulations that are also violations of criminal law, may be cited in the Justice of the Peace Court. In any event, persons receiving a citation will comply with the instructions on the citation.

Article X. Procedures for Recipients of Traffic or Parking Violation Notices

Section A. Students, faculty and staff members receiving A&M-Commerce traffic or parking regulation citations will report to the Student Accounts windows or MyLeo to pay fines.

Section B. Students with outstanding and overdue traffic and parking regulation violations are reported to the Registrar's Office of A&M-Commerce and these violations must be paid in full as a condition for re-entry into academic study.

Section C. Faculty and staff members with overdue traffic and parking regulation violations may be reported to the appropriate department heads. Failure to pay fees by the following semester could result in loss of driving and parking privileges on campus until fee is paid.

Section D. The following conditions are enforced for those persons receiving numerous traffic and parking regulation citations during the registration year:

First offense.....	Fee depending on violation (see Article IX);
Second offense.....	Fee depending on violation (see Article IX);
Third offense.....	Fee depending on violation (see Article IX);

Fourth offense.....Fee depending on violation (see Article IX);
Fifth offense.....Fee depending on violation (see Article IX)
AND the vehicle is placed on the boot list, with the possibility of a ‘boot’ being placed on the vehicle and the application of a “boot” fee. After seventy-two (72) hours of “boot” placement, the vehicle can be removed from campus at the owner’s expense.

Payment agreements are possible and should be made at the A&M-Commerce Police Department. The “boot” fee and any remaining citations numbering more than four (4) total, must be paid prior to removal of the “boot”. Failure to comply with the payment agreement can result in the vehicle being removed from campus at the owner’s expense.

Article XI. Extensions and Appeals

Section A. Appeals must be made to the Traffic Appeal Board within five (5) days, beginning with the day of the infraction.

Persons will follow the procedures here indicated:

1. Within five (5) days of the receipt of the citation, appeals can be made through MyLeo if the person is designated as a student, faculty or staff. All other designations (visitor, contractor, etc.) may appear in person at the Student Accounts windows within five (5) days of the receipt of the citation where an appointment will be made and date set for the appeal.
2. Appear at the Traffic Appeal Board at the appointed time where the case will be heard.
3. If the appeal is sustained, no payment is necessary.
4. If the appeal is denied, the citation will stand and the payment will be due. Failure to appear before the appeal board will result in a denied appeal.

Article XII. Removal of Vehicles from Premises of A&M- Commerce

Section A. Vehicles may be removed from A&M-Commerce property, at the owner’s expense, for the following reasons:

1. Five (5) or more traffic rules and regulations violations during the registration year.
2. The vehicle has remained “booted” for a minimum of seventy-two (72) hours.
3. Parking vehicle on campus after driving privileges have been denied.
4. Failure to display current valid license plates.
5. Parking, stopping, or standing in any fire lane.
6. Parked disregarding traffic control devices erected by the A&M-Commerce Police Department.
7. Parking in any location that restricts vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
8. The vehicle is endangering any life or property (e.g., vehicle on fire, leaking gas).
9. The vehicle is an obstruction to any emergency equipment.
10. The vehicle is blocking access to any building loading zone, reserved area, barricades, or maintenance equipment.
11. The vehicle is parked in a no parking area.
12. Parking or storing a non-operating vehicle on A&M-Commerce property.
13. Violation of Article VII, Section C.
14. Violation of Article VII, Section E.
15. Failure to obey the verbal order of an A&M-Commerce Police Department Officer.

Section B. Vehicles removed from this campus may be towed by a local towing company. Once a local towing company has been contacted for a tow by the A&M-Commerce Police Department, the offending vehicle may not be released to the owner and the owner is responsible for any response charges set by the local towing company. Owners of the towed vehicles are responsible for all towing and storage fees set by a local towing company.

Article XIII. Conveyance/Pedestrian Sidewalk Traffic

Section A. The following are considered conveyances by the A&M-Commerce Police Department.

1. “Authorized emergency vehicle” is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201.
2. “Bicycle” is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 542.201(2).
3. “Electric bicycle”, “Class 1 electric bicycle”, “Class 2 electric bicycle”, & “Class 3 electric bicycle” is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 664.001.

4. "Electric personal assistive mobility device" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.201.
5. "Golf cart" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.401.
6. "Light truck" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201.
7. "Moped" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201.
8. "Motor-assisted scooter" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.351(1).
9. "Motorcycle" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 521.001 and 541.201.
10. "Neighborhood electric vehicle" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.301.
11. "Off-highway vehicle", "all-terrain vehicle", "recreational off-highway vehicle", "sand rail", & "utility vehicle are defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551A.001.
12. "Package delivery vehicles" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.452.
13. "Passenger car" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201.
14. "Pocket bike or minimotorbike" is defined under Texas Transportation Code, Section 551.351(2).

Section B. The following conveyances are allowed to operate on A&M-Commerce sidewalks:

1. Bicycles;
2. Class 1 electric bicycles;
3. Electric personal assistive mobility devices;
4. Utility vehicles operated by a department on the A&M-Commerce campus or a contractor associated with the A&M-Commerce campus;
5. Off-highway vehicles operated by a department on the A&M-Commerce campus or a contractor associated with the A&M-Commerce campus;
6. Neighborhood electric vehicles operated by a department on the A&M-Commerce campus or a contractor associated with the A&M-Commerce campus;
7. Package delivery vehicles operated by a department on the A&M-Commerce campus or a contractor associated with the A&M-Commerce campus;
8. Authorized emergency vehicles during an articulable need;
9. Light trucks and passenger cars with the authorization of the A&M-Commerce Police Department.

Section C. Pedestrians have the right-of-way while moving on a sidewalk. All cautions, including speed and direction, should be exercised when operating a conveyance on a sidewalk.

Section D. Persons operating conveyances on the premises of A&M-Commerce are subject to all state laws pertaining to said conveyances.

Section E. Conveyances not listed in Article XIII, Section B shall not be operated on sidewalks on A&M-Commerce property without permission from the A&M-Commerce Police Department.

Section F. Conveyances listed in Article XIII, Section B(1), (2), & (3) are to be temporarily stopped, stood, or parked on bicycle racks provided by A&M-Commerce. No other campus location is approved for stopping, standing, or parking. Stopping, standing, or parking said conveyances at an unapproved location may result in the conveyances being removed from campus at the owner's expense. Securing a conveyance to an object that is not a bicycle rack may result in the conveyance being removed from campus at the owner's expense.

Conveyances listed in Article XII, Section B(4), (5), (6), (7), (8), & (9) should be stopped, stood, or parked in locations that do not cause building ingress and egress difficulties, that do not cause pedestrian right-of-way difficulties, and do not cause access difficulties for emergency vehicles.

Section G. Conveyance listed in Article XIII, Section B shall not enter any building or portion of a building on the A&M-Commerce campus. A conveyance located in any building or portion of a building may be removed from campus at the owner's expense.

Section H. Conveyances listed in Article XIII, Section B may be registered with the A&M-Commerce Police Department. Registration is not required, but assists with identification purposes.

Article XIV. Pedestrian Regulations

Section A. Pedestrians on the premises of A&M-Commerce must not endanger their safety or constitute an unreasonable impediment to lawful vehicular traffic by crossing streets at other than authorized lanes, or by willfully walking or congregating in the streets.

Section B. Pedestrians will avoid walking across lawns or across any area not designated for pedestrian traffic.

Section C. Pedestrian laws can be located in the Texas Transportation Code, Title 7, Subtitle C, Chapter 552 “Pedestrians”.