Rules of the road.

Maintaining safe travel by foot on and off campus is the shared responsibility of walkers, drivers, and bike riders. It is up to pedestrians to be alert, sticking to crosswalks and sidewalks while obeying traffic lights. Drivers and cyclists must be aware of walkers, right of way laws, and traffic patterns.

Individuals outside of moving vehicles are especially vulnerable in the event of a collision. It is the Carolina community’s responsibility to ensure that people traveling on sidewalks and crosswalks remain free from harm.

Pedestrian Safety: Everyone’s Responsibility

The Division of Law Enforcement and Safety
We are professionals in law enforcement, compliance and professional standards, environmental health and safety, and risk management working diligently—24 hours a day, 365 days a year—to protect the people and property of the University of South Carolina. Our values—human life, integrity, excellence and accountability—are your assurance of our commitment to provide a safe and secure environment.

Learn more. Find more crime prevention and safety resources online at les.sc.edu.

Rave Guardian Safety App
Download our free mobile app that turns your cell phone into a personalized protection network, connecting with USC Police during an emergency and giving us important information we need instantly.

les.sc.edu/RaveSafetyApp

Division of Law Enforcement and Safety
1415 Henderson Street
(1600 Hampton Street Annex)
Columbia, SC 29208

24 hour phone number: 803-777-4215
Emergency: 911

les.sc.edu

University of South Carolina
Know the facts

In 2013, 4,735 pedestrians in the US were killed in traffic accidents

Another 150,000 were treated for non-fatal crash related injuries

1.5 Xs

Pedestrians are 1.5 times more likely to be killed in a car crash than vehicle occupants

Alcohol involvement was reported for the driver or pedestrian in 49% of accidents resulting in pedestrian fatality

Driver Responsibility:

• Drivers of vehicles are expected to drive at safe speeds for conditions such as adverse weather, lightning, and traffic conditions. Posted speed limits must always be obeyed.
• Under South Carolina Law, drivers must exercise every caution to avoid colliding with pedestrians.
• Drivers should be especially careful at crosswalks, intersections, stoplights, and during peak class hours when these areas may become congested with foot traffic. Reduced speed is appropriate at these times.
• Turn signals must be activated at least 100 feet before turning. This prevents pedestrians from crossing the street when it may not be safe.
• Be on the lookout for pedestrians traveling with a guide dog, stroller, by wheelchair, or pedestrians raising a white cane or white cane tipped with red (these canes are owned by walkers who are completely or partially blind).
• Walkways, sidewalks and between the gates of Greene St. are pedestrian only areas. Driving mopeds or scooters on these areas is prohibited and violators may be ticketed and fined.

Pedestrian Responsibility:

• Under South Carolina law, pedestrians (including people pushing strollers, traveling on rollerblades and skateboards, and those in wheelchairs or travelling with other assistive devices) must walk on sidewalks whenever they are present. Pedestrians have complete right-of-way on the sidewalk.
• If there are no sidewalks, pedestrians should travel on the shoulder of the road.
• If there is no shoulder or sidewalk, pedestrians must then walk on the far left side of the road.
• When a crosswalk is present, this is the safest place to cross a street or intersection. Push the button, and wait for the crossing signal indicating that it’s safe. Look both ways before crossing the intersection.
• If crossing somewhere other than a crosswalk, pedestrians must always yield to oncoming vehicles.

Pedestrian Precautions:

Many accidents resulting in the serious injury or death of a pedestrian involve alcohol, distracted driving, or distracted pedestrians. Although not all collisions or accidents can be prevented, pedestrians can reduce their risk of harm with a few sound practices.

• Keep one ear free. If listening to music or a Bluetooth device, do not insert headphones into both ears; you need to be able to hear oncoming traffic, car horns, or someone shouting a warning.
• Do not stare down at your mobile device, a tablet, or e-reader while traveling down a sidewalk, the side of a road, or while walking around campus.
• Assume that oncoming cars can’t see you, and gauge your movements accordingly.
• Do not assume that an activated turn signal means that a car is turning at an intersection.
• Walking while drunk or high enough to become a hazard is not only dangerous, but illegal! If you become very intoxicated or impaired by drugs, call a friend, cab, or one of the University’s transportation options.
• Be as alert and mindful of your surroundings as possible.

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Transportation Options:

If you are concerned about safe travel because it is late, or you have become too impaired to drive or walk, there are a few transportation alternatives available. Your personal safety is always a priority - if one of these options is not available, call a taxi or a trusted friend.

• University Transit: Regular campus shuttles operate Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 5:45 pm; the evening shuttle operates 5:30 pm until 12:30 am. Service is available during Fall and Spring semesters when classes are in session.
• Additionally, an on-call Late-Night Shuttle through the University is available between 12:30 am and 6:30 am Monday through Friday when classes are in session and can be reached at 803.777.3351.
• APO Transportation Van: The Iota Mu Chapter of the Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity sponsors a van that picks up and drops off members of the Carolina community during late night hours. This is available Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 pm until 12:00 am when classes are in session and can be reached by calling 803.777.3825 or 803.777.DUCK.
• When classes are in session from 11:30 pm to 3 am on Fridays and Saturdays, there is a Shuttle (on campus housing) and Carolina Cabs (off campus housing) available to transport you to and from the 5 Points area. The drop off/pick up point is across from The Five Points Fountain on Saluda Ave.