



## **Bicycle Friendly University Program General Scoring Guidelines for Local Reviewers in 2011 Designation Determinations**

This document is designed to aid Bicycle Friendly University local reviewers in understanding what sorts of actions are being taken to accommodate and promote bicycling on campuses at each level of the designation program. The measures in each of the categories should not be limited to the examples provided here but they should serve as general award guidelines used alongside the BFU Application and technical resources on [www.bicyclefriendlyuniversity.org](http://www.bicyclefriendlyuniversity.org).

Applications are scored across [the Five E](#) categories by a review team that includes League staff, local cyclists and national experts. Here are some examples of what our review team GENERALLY expects at each level.

### **No Award**

The college/ university does not yet exhibit the characteristics of a Bicycle Friendly University (BFU) described in the award levels outlined below. An institution must demonstrate more significant actions in one or more of the five categories in order to be considered for an award.

### **Honorable Mention**

College/ Universities that do not yet exhibit the characteristics of a designated BFU may be recognized with an honorable mention designation because:

- a) The institution recently implemented significant improvements for bicycling but sufficient time has not yet passed for these to develop the characteristics of a BFU.
- b) The institution has a remarkable project or program, but the impact or influence of this has yet to extend throughout the campus community.

Examples of honorable mention characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** Campus has a decent amount of bike parking with a percentage being protected from the elements.
- **Education** The University promotes bicycle safety in some way on the campus. Examples include bicycle-safety events, production of safety materials, etc.
- **Encouragement** Promotion of the bicycle for transportation to students, faculty and staff.
- **Enforcement** Officers are familiar with laws relating to cyclists and may have some specific training with regards to cyclists and officers on bikes
- **Evaluation** The institution is familiar with and responsive to the general needs of cyclists. Bicycle mode share is at least the average for a campus of that type.



### **Bronze**

Colleges and universities at this level have begun the projects, policies, and programs that exhibit a commitment to promoting bicycling. These institutions certainly have room to grow but notable steps are being made that can be seen in a good number of students and faculty riding bikes on and off campus. Bronze-level BFUs tend to be strong in one or two of the five categories (Five E's) of the application.

Examples of bronze characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** University has implemented a policy to engineer streets that better accommodate bicyclists and/or is beginning to develop a campus path network. Bicycle facilities conform to the currently recognized safety standards and some training is available for your engineers and planners. Some transit vehicles will have bike racks and there are covered bike racks at many destinations on campus.
- **Education** Campus holds bicycle safety events and educational opportunities such as commuting classes, theft prevention and bike maintenance.
- **Encouragement** University hosts ride(s), event(s) or provides some type of incentive program for students, faculty and staff. The campus has a bike program/hub.
- **Enforcement** Officers are familiar with laws relating to bicyclists and work with the campus community to disseminate safety information to motorists and cyclists.
- **Evaluation** The university is familiar with and responsive to the needs of cyclists. There are a good number of students and staff that bike to work/school. Some crash/safety evaluation is taking place and is integrated into a Bike Plan.

### **Silver**

University has implemented projects, policies, and programs that exhibit a strong commitment to cycling. This can be seen in the growing bike culture and good number of students, faculty and staff riding both on and off campus. The university is likely to have a bike program and dedicated staff, connections with local bicycling advocates off campus and a bicycle advisory group that meets regularly. Silver-level colleges and universities are likely to be particularly strong in two or three of the five parts of the application.

- **Engineering** Institution has made a significant investment in its bicycle facilities and has invested in making the streets on and surrounding campus bicycle friendly. Partnerships with the surrounding community and transit agency (on and off campus) encourage potential bicycling and multi-modal trips. Secure, easily accessible and covered bike parking is available at most destinations on campus.
- **Education** Bicycling educational materials are provided to all students and employees. Safety classes are offered on a regular basis and the university actively promotes safe bicycling. Some planning, engineering, design, public health classes integrate bicycling into curriculum.
- **Encouragement** Campus has an active bike program, on-campus bike shop, and/or a bike-share program. Incentives are provided for faculty, staff and students to commute by bike to work and school.



- **Enforcement** Officers are familiar with laws relating to bicyclists and work with the bicycling community on and around campus to disseminate safety information to motorists and cyclists. Some officers are on bikes on campus and provide safety outreach on-bike.
- **Evaluation** A significant percentage of students, faculty and staff bike on and off campus. Goals have likely been set for campus-wide bike use and to keep crashes down. The Bike Plan includes actions to promote cycling in all categories for all potential users

### Gold

Implementation of the bicycle projects, policies, and programs connect transportation and recreation throughout the campus and into the larger community. Bicycling has been accommodated in a way that it is a very good choice for most people to get to where they want to go on campus and off. The strong commitment to cycling is demonstrated in the impressive number of people riding and continuing growth. The university has a dedicated bicycle program staff and volunteers, ever-growing bicycling culture, a supportive administration, strong advocacy groups and bike clubs, and a bicycle advisory group that meets regularly. Gold level BFUs are usually impressive in four out of five categories of their application.

- **Engineering** Campus has ample, convenient, safe, secure, and well-designed bike parking at the majority of destinations. It has an integrated network of on-street and off-street accommodations for cyclists. There are policies and guidance in place to accommodate cyclists on all new construction, resurfacing and during the construction process. The campus has a bike hub. Engineering and design standards exceed the currently recognized safety standards; innovation accommodating cyclists is apparent and regular training is provided for facilities staff.
- **Education** Biking assistance and safety classes are regularly available for students and employees. Institution actively promotes safe bicycling to current and potential students, faculty and staff. Several planning, engineering, design, and public health courses integrate bicycling into curricula.
- **Encouragement** There are a variety of university events and incentive programs centered on bicycling. Top administration, faculty and staff commute to work by bike and/or use bikes for short trips on or off campus. Bicycling is part of the campus identity, is incentivized by the university and promoted to potential students, faculty and staff. Access to a bicycle is ensured for all students and employees through a bike sharing program and/or incentive programs.
- **Enforcement** Officers have received specific training on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and motorists coexisting in the campus transportation system. Officers work with the bike program staff and advocates to disseminate safety information to motorists and cyclists, offer safety classes and implement targeted enforcement on and around campus. There are specific policies in place at the university to ensure that cyclists are treated equitably. There is likely to be a ticket diversion program in place for motorists and cyclists on campus.



- **Evaluation** University actively promotes and evaluates innovative methods in encouraging bicycling. Bicycling is part of the institutions sustainability commitments and bike usage is constantly being monitored and goals met. The Bike Plan has likely been updated in the last few years and includes actions to promote cycling in all categories for all potential users

### Platinum

A platinum-level Bicycle Friendly University is an exemplary campus community for bicyclists. At every level, the institution welcomes, promotes and accommodates cycling. The BFU has made bicycling a priority and a great transportation and recreation option for all at the university. This institution is commonly referred to as an example how to build the best Bicycle Friendly University in virtually all categories. The bicycling culture is unmistakable. There is a strong campus program as well as local advocacy groups and clubs supporting cycling both on and off campus which is measured at impressive numbers.

- **Engineering** Campus has a great amount of end of trip facilities for bikes, including plentiful convenient, covered and secure bike parking at virtually all destinations. The campus master plan is referred to as a model by others across the country. The cycling network is integrated for both transportation and recreational cycling and there are rules and guidance to ensure that Complete Streets are built throughout the campus and surrounding streets. Campus planners participate in regular trainings on innovative design and engineering. Bicyclists are thought of and accommodated for at all levels of the engineering process.
- **Education** There are cycling instructors on campus teach regular classes on commuting, bike safety, maintenance and more. The college or university offers for-credit classes in bicycle-planning, engineering, design and public health. There likely is also a ticket diversion program that reaches motorists and cyclists on campus.
- **Encouragement** The college or university offers strong incentive programs for students, faculty and staff. Bicycling is promoted at cycling specific events and other university public events. The top administration, faculty and student government are supportive of bicycling and ride.
- **Enforcement** Officers are well-versed in laws pertaining to bicyclists, and use targeted enforcement relating to motorists and cyclists. Regular training is available to all officers to continue to improve enforcement and outreach efforts. There are policies and programs in place to ensure that cyclists are treated equitably.
- **Evaluation** Institution has clear targets set for campus-wide bike use. A high percentage of students and employees bike to work and use bikes for short trips on and off campus. There is a bicycle program with dedicated staff to insure programs and facilities perform properly and are successful. The Bike Plan is funded, implemented and regularly updated to ensure the highest level of service to bicyclists and potential bicyclists.