



Bicycle Friendly University Program

Award Levels and General Scoring Guidelines

This document is designed to help Bicycle Friendly University applicants and reviewers understand what campuses look like at each level of the designation program. The measures in each of the categories below should not be limited to the examples provided here. Instead, these general award guidelines should be used together with the BFU Application and [technical resources available online](#) as a roadmap to improve conditions for bicycling in communities. For more information, please visit <http://bikeleague.org/university>.

Applications are scored across the **Five E categories** by a review team that includes League staff, local cyclists and outside 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 described in the award levels outlined below. A college/ university must demonstrate significant achievements in each of the five E categories in order to be considered for an award.

Honorable Mention

College/ Universities that do not yet exhibit the characteristics of a 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 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 university community.
- c) The institution is active in some of the 5 E categories, but not yet in all of them.

Examples of **honorable mention** characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** - Campus has a decent amount of bike parking with some that is covered.
- **Education** - The college/university promotes bicycle safety and maintenance classes in the community. They may help organize a bicycle-safety event.
- **Encouragement** - Promotion of community-wide Bike Month activities.
- **Enforcement** - Officers are familiar with laws relating to cyclists.
- **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

College/ University has just begun the projects, policies, and programs that exhibit a strong commitment to cycling. Bronze BFU campuses certainly have room to grow but notable steps are being made in the right direction and that can be seen in an above-average number of students and faculty riding bikes. Bronze-level universities will have some achievement in each of the E categories below, and tend to be particularly strong in one or two E's.

Examples of **Bronze** characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** - Administration recently implemented a policy to engineer streets with the consideration of bicyclists and/or is beginning to develop a trail network. Facilities conform to the currently recognized safety standards and some training is available for engineers and planners on staff.
- **Education** - The campus holds bicycle safety events and educational opportunities, and offers education on theft prevention.
- **Encouragement** - The campus hosts organized rides each quarter and an annual Bike to Campus Day.
- **Enforcement** - Officers are familiar with laws relating to bicyclists and work with the bicycling community to disseminate safety information to motorists and cyclists.
- **Evaluation** - The college/university is familiar with and responsive to the needs of cyclists. There is a significant percentage of employees and students who bike on campus more than twice a week.



Silver

College/University has implemented projects, policies, and programs that exhibit a strong commitment to cycling. This can be seen in the significant number of people riding. The institution has a part-time to full-time bicycle coordinator, growing bicycling culture, and a bicycle advisory group that meets regularly. Silver-level BFUs are particularly strong in two-to-three of the five E categories of the application.

Examples of **Silver** characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** - Campus has made a significant investment in its bicycle facilities and has invested in making the streets around the campus bicycle friendly. Engineering standards meet the currently recognized safety standards and regular training is provided for staff.
- **Education** - Bicycling educational materials are provided to all students, staff, and faculty. Safety classes are offered on a regular basis and the campus actively promotes safe bicycling.
- **Encouragement** - Campus has an on-campus bike shop and/or a bike-share program.



- **Enforcement** - Officers are familiar with laws relating to bicyclists and work with the bicycling community on campus to disseminate safety information to motorists and cyclists. Some officers are patrolling on bikes and provide safety outreach on-bike.
- **Evaluation** - A significant percentage of students, faculty and staff bike to campus more than twice a week. Goals have been set for campus-wide bike use.



Gold

Implementation of the bicycle projects, policies, and programs connect transportation and recreation throughout the community. Bicycling is a very good choice for most people to get to where they want to go on campus. The strong commitment to cycling is demonstrated in the impressive number of people riding and continued growth. The institution has a full-time bicycle coordinator, ever-growing bicycling culture, involvement of 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 E categories of their application.

Examples of **Gold** characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** - Campus has ample, safe, secure, and well-designed bike parking at most 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 and resurfacing. The campus has well-designed streets and off-street facilities. Engineering standards exceed the currently recognized safety standards and regular training is provided for staff.
- **Education** - Bike-route-mapping assistance is available for students, faculty and staff; bike safety classes are available on a recurring basis. The institution actively promotes safe bicycling to all campus users.
- **Encouragement** - There are a variety of events and incentive programs centered around bicycling. Role-models on campus commute to work by bike and encourage others to do the same.
- **Enforcement** - Officers have received specific training on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and motorists coexisting in the transportation system. Officers work with the bicycling community to disseminate safety information to motorists, safety classes, and targeted enforcement efforts. There are campus-wide policies in place to ensure that cyclists are treated equitably.
- **Evaluation** - Business displays innovative methods in promoting bicycling. There is an appointed bike coordinator and bicycling is a big part of the transportation plan.



Platinum

A platinum-level Bicycle Friendly University is an exemplary campus for bicyclists. At every level, the campus welcomes cycling and has made it a great option for transportation and recreation. The college or university 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 institutional-level bicycling program as well as active campus and local advocacy groups and student clubs supporting cycling. Impressive numbers of people are biking at much higher levels than the national average. Platinum-level BFUs stand out in all five E categories of their application.

Examples of **Platinum** characteristics for the various categories include:

- **Engineering** - Campus has a significant amount of end of trip facilities, including plentiful covered and secure bike parking including bike lockers and/or a bike station. The campus master plan is up to date and fully funded. 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. Campus planners participate in regular trainings on innovative design and engineering.
- **Education** - There are certified LCI instructors on campus who teach regular classes. The college/university offers for-credit classes in bicycle-planning, engineering or public health. There is also a ticket diversion program
- **Encouragement** - The college/university offers strong incentive programs. They actively support a number of on-campus events and rides
- **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 campus-wide policies in place to ensure that cyclists are treated equitably.
- **Evaluation** - The campus has clear targets set for school-wide bike use. A high percentage of students, faculty and staff bike to campus or class more than twice a week. There is a full-time bike coordinator on staff to ensure programs and facilities perform properly and are successful.