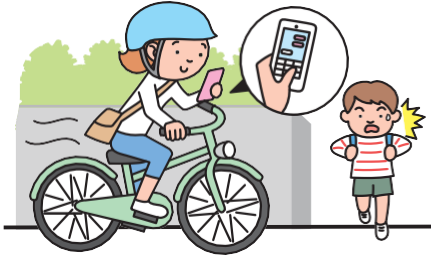


Amendment to the Road Traffic Act

There are new penalties for dangerous cycling.



Using a phone while cycling



Talking on a smartphone etc. or looking at the screen while cycling is now prohibited under law and will be penalized.

*Using a phone while stationary is not included.



Cycling under the influence or aiding and abetting offenders



New penalties have been established for cycling under the influence of alcohol, providing alcohol to a cyclist, or riding with or lending a bike to a drunk person.

Offenders will be sentenced to up to 6 months in prison or a maximum fine of 100,000 yen.

If a traffic hazard occurs, up to 1 year in prison or a maximum fine of 300,000 yen.

Offenders will be sentenced to up to 3 years in prison or a maximum fine of 500,000 yen.

Those who lend a bike will be sentenced to up to 3 years in prison or a maximum fine of 500,000 yen.

Those who provide alcohol or cycle with a drunk person will be sentenced to up to 2 years in prison or a maximum fine of 300,000 yen.



Those using a phone while cycling, cycling under the influence, or aiding and abetting drunk offenders will be subject to the Cyclist Lecture System.

Cyclist Lecture System

Those who repeatedly commit certain violations (dangerous acts) that may cause traffic hazards while riding a bicycle will be subject to the lecture system.

* Failure to attend a lecture course will be penalized with a fine of up to 50,000 yen.

Dangerous acts Ignoring traffic lights, failing to stop at stop signs, entering closed railway crossings, breach of duty to ride safely, using the wrong traffic lane etc.