Bike Riding in Chicago

With investment in bicycle infrastructure, education, awareness and advocacy, the city of Chicago is recognized as one of the best cities in the United States for cycling.

There are more than 200 miles of on-street bike lanes in addition to miles of off-street paths across the city, including the 18.5 mile Lakefront Trail. The city also has more than 13,000 bike racks and sheltered bike areas at CTA rail stations for daily use.

Mayor Emanuel's goal of making Chicago the best big city for cycling in America has led to the Chicago Streets for Cycling Plan 2020, which calls for a 645-mile network of biking facilities to provide a bicycle accommodation within a half-mile of every Chicagoan. For more information, check out City of Chicago Transportation.
Bike Riding at Loyola University

In 2016, Loyola's Lake Shore Campus was recognized as a Bike Friendly Campus by the League of American Cyclists. We joined over 160 campuses from across 44 states as a Bike Friendly University.

Biking is a healthy, environmentally friendly and affordable way to commute around the city of Chicago and we want to make sure you are prepared to navigate the city as a biker! From proper bike handling tips, safety precautions, theft prevention to biking routes and rental options, we have put together a guide that has everything you need to know before you go for your first ride.
Rules of the Road

9-52-010 a-d – Bicyclists must obey all of the rules of the road; penalty: $50-$200.
9-4-025 a,b – Penalty for motorists who violate bicycle safety provisions:$150 to $500
9-16-020 e – Drivers must yield to bicycles turning left
9-16-020 f – Drivers must yield to bicycles when turning right
9-36-010 e – Drivers must pass bicycles with at least 3 feet of clearance when passing
9-40-060 – Drivers must not park, stand or drive a vehicle in any bike lane
9-40-160 – Drivers must exercise due care to avoid crashing with any bicyclist or pedestrian on the roadway
9-52-020 a-c – Bicycling prohibited on Lake Shore Drive and on sidewalks, exceptions.
9-52-021 – Penalty for bicycling on the sidewalk on portions of Sheridan Road: $200
9-52-030 – Bicyclists must operate at a safe speed
9-52-040 a,b – Bicyclists’ required position on the roadway, exceptions.
9-52-045 – Bicyclists must signal when turning, provisions.
9-52-050 – Bicyclists must ride single file, exceptions; bicyclists may ride two abreast when not impeding other traffic.
9-52-060 – Bicyclists may not carry items that prevent them from operating with at least one hand on their handlebars.
9-52-070 – Bicycles parked on sidewalks must not block pedestrian traffic.
9-52-071 – It is illegal to abandon a bicycle in Chicago. Bikes left for one week may be considered abandoned, and can be removed by City crews after having a removal notice affixed to them for one week.
9-52-080 – At night, bicyclists must use a front white headlight and rear red reflector or red light.
9-52-090 – Don’t ride a bicycle without a seat; don’t carry passengers on your bicycle without the proper equipment.
9-52-100 – Parents and legal guardians are responsible for kids’ behavior on bicycles. 9-52-110 – It is illegal to talk on the phone or text while bicycling, penalty: $20-$500. 9-80-035 – It is illegal to open a vehicle door into moving traffic, unless it is reasonably safe to do so and only long enough to load and unload passengers.
9-120-010 – Defines bicycle, bicyclist, bike share station
9-120-020, 030, 040 – Bicycles must be registered with the Chicago Police Department
9-120-050 – It is illegal to alter the serial number on any bicycle.
9-120-060 – Traffic rules apply to bicyclists
4-168-010 – Defines bicycle messenger service, bicycle operator, person and bicycle
4-168-020 Bicycle messengers must have a license to work within the central business district, exceptions.
Theft Prevention

Riding your bike is a healthy and easy way to commute to school, but you must take the proper precautions to prevent theft. Here are some tips on theft prevention:

- Lock both your bike's frame and wheels with a high-quality U-lock (with a flat or disc key)
- Remove anything that is detachable from the bike including lights, bags, and parts

The most secure place to lock your bike is to a bike rack, parking meter, sign pole or anything else that is firmly affixed to the ground. Beware of locking it to any poles that are loosely bolted down and can be easily removed.

Record your bike's serial number, take a photo of it, and keep the receipt of purchase in order to help identify your bike in case of theft.

Never leave your bike unlocked, even if you're just leaving for a moment.

Make sure to read signs and not lock to private property.

If your bike is stolen:

- File a theft report with the Chicago Police Department at your local district headquarters or call 311
- Make sure you register your bike as this is beneficial to recovery
- After filing a theft report, file a report on the Chicago Stolen Bike Registry
Where to Ride?

Chicago has over 200 miles for bikers including bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, conventional bike lanes, dashed/advisory lanes, shared lanes and neighborhood routes. As biking becomes more popular, the network has continued to expand, especially with the Streets for Cycling Plan 2020.

It is especially important to know where to bike and the different types of bike lanes. Chicago Complete Streets is a useful resource for biker education and includes a Chicago Bike Map with marked routes for reference.

In addition, Chicago.gov provides a biking map with each type of bike lane marked clearly.
Rent a Bike from Chainlinks

Serving the Lake Shore Campus and the communities of Rogers Park and Edgewater, Chainlinks bike shop is proud to be a Loyola Limited business! Loyola Limited is Loyola University Chicago’s undergraduate student-run and managed business enterprise.

Established by seven undergraduate students with the vision of creating several student-run and managed businesses around campus, ChainLinks, a bike rental and repair business, launched in August of 2011.

For Loyola Students:

Day (24-Hour) Special Student Rate - $20
All you need is a valid student ID to unlock an array of rental options for a discounted price!

Week (7-day) Special Student Rate - $60
A valid student ID gets you the same bike options but with much more time to ride!

Month (30-day) Special Student Rate - $100
Just bring in your valid student ID and you can rent a bike for a whopping 30 days!

Semester - $180
School is hard. Why should getting to class be hard too? Rent a bike for the duration of the Spring or Fall semester. Just be sure to return it the last day of finals.

Academic School Year - $280
Divvy Bikes

With 580 stations and 5,800 bikes, Divvy is a fun and affordable way to travel across Chicagoland. Here's how it works:

The law school is located at 25 E Pearson in downtown Chicago. There are several Divvy locations within just a few blocks:

Loyola University Chicago students are eligible for a $75 Annual Membership (regularly $99). Students should first register for a Divvy account. You must use your Loyola e-mail (@luc.edu) and LUCycles for the Partner Password to complete the registration and receive the discount.

Use the Divvy Website to check availability of bikes at each location.
Resources


http://chicagocompletestreets.org/streets/bikeways/

http://chicagocompletestreets.org/resources/trafficsafetyandlaws/laws/

https://www.luc.edu/biketoloyola/getabike/divvy/

https://www.luc.edu/biketoloyola/about/