

South Dakota Codified Laws to know when riding a bicycle:

Operation on a sidewalk or crosswalk:

- **32-20B-2. Rights of bicyclist** — Duty to stop. A person operating a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances, except as provided in 32-20B-3, and except that bicyclists must stop before entering a crosswalk or highway from a sidewalk or sidewalk area.
- **32-20B-3. Duty to yield right-of-way to pedestrian.** A person operating a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.
- **32-20B-4. Parking on sidewalk** — Violation as petty offense. A person may park a bicycle on a sidewalk unless prohibited or restricted by an official traffic control device or ordinance. The parked bicycle may not impede the normal and reasonable movement of pedestrian or other traffic. A violation of this section is a petty offense.

Operation on a roadway:

- **32-20B-5. Riding close to right-hand curb required** — Violation as misdemeanor. Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway. However, a person operating a bicycle may move from the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway to overtake and pass another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction, to prepare for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or roadway or to avoid conditions including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or substandard width lanes that make it unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge. For purposes of this section, a “substandard width lane” is a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.
- **32-20B-6. Turning, stopping, starting, slowing** — Signals and lookout — Overtaking on the right — Violation as misdemeanor. A person operating a bicycle shall give a continuous signal of intention to turn right or left during the last one hundred feet traveled by the bicycle before turning. The signal shall also be given while the bicycle is stopped waiting to turn. A signal by hand and arm need only be given intermittently if the hand is needed in the control operation of the bicycle. No driver of a bicycle may overtake another vehicle on the right if the overtaken vehicle is signaling to make a right turn. Except as provided in this section, a person operating a bicycle shall comply with the provisions of 32-26-22 and 32-26-22.1. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.
- **32-26-26.1. Overtaking bicycle** — Minimum separation — Violation as misdemeanor. The driver of any motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle proceeding in the same direction shall allow a minimum of a three foot separation between the right side of the driver’s vehicle, including any mirror or other projection, and the left side of the bicycle if the posted limit is thirty-five miles per hour or less and shall allow a minimum of six feet separation if the posted limit is greater than thirty-five miles per hour. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle proceeding in the same direction may partially cross the highway centerline or the dividing line between two lanes of travel in the same direction if it can be performed

safely. The driver of the motor vehicle shall maintain that separation until safely past the overtaken bicycle. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

- **32-17-25. Bicycle lamps** — Visibility and color — Violation as petty offense. Every bicycle shall be equipped with a lighted lamp on the front thereof visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of at least three hundred feet in front of such bicycle and shall also be equipped with a reflex mirror or lamp on the rear exhibiting a yellow or red light visible under like conditions from a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of such bicycle. A violation of this section is a petty offense.

For more information about State of South Dakota rules, visit: <https://dps.sd.gov/safety-enforcement/highway-safety/safety-priorities/pedestrian-bike-safety>

Municipalities have specific ordinances relating to the operation of bicycles within their city limits, as well, and bicyclists are encouraged to know and follow these rules.

Rapid City follows state laws and has its own city laws. Here are the city laws:

- **10.64.090 Brake** - Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.
- **10.64.100 Lights and reflectors.** - Every bicycle shall be equipped with a lighted lamp on the front thereof visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of at least 300 feet in front of the bicycle and shall also be equipped with a reflex mirror or lamp on the rear exhibiting a yellow or red light visible under like conditions from a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear of the bicycle. A violation of this section is a petty offense.
- **10.64.110 Applicability of traffic regulations.** - Every person propelling a vehicle by human power shall have all of the rights and all of the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle by the laws of the state and by the traffic ordinances of the city, except as to special regulations of this chapter, and except as to those provisions of such laws and ordinances which, by their nature, can have no application.
- **10.64.120 Compliance with traffic control devices required.** - Any person operating a bicycle shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signals, signs and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer or unless otherwise provided in this chapter.
- **10.64.130 Use of permanent seat required.** - A person operating a bicycle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.
- **10.64.140 Carrying excess passengers.** - No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or equipped, except that an adult rider may carry a child securely attached to his or her person in a backpack or sling.
- **10.64.150 Clinging to moving vehicles.** - No person riding any bicycle shall attach the bicycle or himself or herself to any other moving vehicle upon any street. This section shall not prohibit attaching a bicycle trailer or bicycle semitrailer to a bicycle if that trailer or semitrailer has been designed for the attachment.
- **10.64.160 Carrying articles.** - No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the use of both hands in the control and operation of the bicycle. A person operating a bicycle shall keep at least 1 hand on the handlebars at all times.
- **10.64.170 Lane position—When riding at less than normal speed of traffic.** - Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place

and under the conditions then existing shall ride in the right 4 feet of roadway near the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except under any of the following conditions:

- When overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
 - When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway; and
 - When reasonably necessary to avoid conditions including, but not limited to fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards or substandard width lanes that make it unsafe to continue along the righthand curb or edge. For purposes of this section, a ***SUBSTANDARD WIDTH LANE*** is a lane that is too narrow for a bicycle and vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.
- **10.64.180 Lane position–1-way streets.** - Any person operating a bicycle upon a 1-way street or highway with 2 or more marked traffic lanes may ride as near the left-hand curb or edge of the roadway as practicable. Cyclists should stay in the left 4 feet of roadway whenever possible to avoid interfering with traffic.
 - **10.64.190 Passing vehicles on the right.** - The operator of a bicycle may overtake and pass another vehicle upon the right only under conditions permitting the movement in safety. A bicycle may travel off the main traveled portion of the roadway when making the movement.
 - The operator of a bicycle may not pass the first vehicle at an intersection unless the bicycle is preparing to turn right and the vehicle is not signaling a right turn.
 - The operator of a bicycle shall not overtake another vehicle on the right when the overtaken vehicle is signaling to make a right turn.
 - **10.64.200 Riding 2 or more abreast.** - Persons riding bicycles shall not ride more than 2 abreast, except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. Persons riding 2 abreast shall not impede traffic when traveling at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing and shall ride within a single lane.
 - **10.64.210 Operation on sidewalk or crosswalk.** - A person operating a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances.
 - Any person operating a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.
 - No person shall operate a bicycle upon a sidewalk within a central business district as defined by [Chapter 10.04](#) of this code.
 - The Traffic Engineer is authorized to erect signs on any sidewalk or roadway prohibiting the riding of bicycles thereon by any person, and when the signs are in place, no person shall disobey the same.
 - **10.64.220 Parking on sidewalk.** - A person may park a bicycle on a sidewalk unless prohibited or restricted by an official traffic control device or ordinance; provided, that no person shall park a bicycle in such a way as to:
 - Impede the normal and reasonable movement of pedestrian or other traffic;
 - Hinder or restrict handrails or ramps; or
 - Lock the bicycle to a fire hydrant.
 - **10.64.230 Emerging from alley, driveway or building.** - The operator of a bicycle emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on the sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway, shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on the roadway.

- **10.64.240 Signaling requirements.** - A person operating a bicycle shall give a continuous signal of intention to turn right or left during the last 100 feet traveled by the bicycle before turning. A signal by hand and arm need only be given intermittently if the hand is needed in the control or operation of the bicycle. The signal shall also be given while the bicycle is stopped waiting to turn.
 - The signals required by this section shall be made by extending the hand and arm in the following manner and the signal shall indicate as follows:
 - Left turn: left hand and arm extended horizontally;
 - Right turn: left hand and arm extended upward, or right hand and arm extended horizontally; or
 - Stop or decrease speed: either hand and arm extended downward.
 - A person riding a bicycle intending to turn left shall be entitled to the full use of the lane from which such a turn may be legally made.
- **10.64.250 Parents and guardians not to authorize or permit chapter violations.** - The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this chapter.
- **10.64.260 Racing events—Exemption from traffic laws.** - Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person may race a bicycle on a sidewalk or street when competing in an event which has been approved by the Common Council of Rapid City. Approval of a bicycle racing event shall be granted only under conditions which assure reasonable safety for all race participants, spectators and other roadway users, and which prevent unreasonable interference with traffic flow. The Rapid City Common Council may exempt participants in an approved racing event from compliance with any traffic laws otherwise applicable thereto; provided that, traffic control is adequate to assure the safety of all roadway users.
- **10.64.270 Due care required by vehicle operators.** - Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter or the provisions of any local ordinance, every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian or any person operating a bicycle and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any obviously confused or incapacitated person.

Laws can change. It is important to stay up-to-date on any changes. Here is the website for Rapid City bicycle laws: https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/rapidcity/latest/rapidcity_sd/0-0-0-35666