

New Fines Introduced for Cycling Violations

Effective 1st April 2026

- Failure to follow cycling regulations constitute a traffic violation.
- Traffic violations result in fines.
- Under the new penalty system, all cyclists aged 16 and older will be subject to the new fines.



Cycling Violations

※ The revised law will cover 113 different types of cycling violations.

Not all violations are listed here.

※ For any questions, please contact your nearest police station.

It is illegal to use a mobile phone while operating a bicycle.

Penalty: ¥12,000 fine



It is illegal to proceed without coming to a complete stop and to check for safety in front of railroad crossings.

Penalty: ¥6,000



It is illegal to disregard traffic signals; You can only pull off when the green lights are showing.

Penalty: ¥6,000 fine



It is illegal to ride a bike on the right side of the road.

Penalty: ¥6,000 fine



It is illegal not to come to a complete stop at a stop sign with the word "STOP" or "止まれ" written in it and to make sure the way through the intersection is clear.

Penalty: ¥5,000 fine



It is illegal to ride a bicycle while listening to music or other audio through earphones and impairing your ability to pick up external sounds.

Penalty: ¥5,000 fine



It is illegal to cycle while holding an umbrella.

Penalty: ¥5,000 fine



It is illegal to ride a bike carrying a large load.

Penalty: ¥5,000



It is illegal to cycle at night without lights.

Penalty: ¥5,000 fine



It is illegal to cycle side by side.

Penalty: ¥3,000 fine



It is illegal to cycle with a passenger.

Penalty: ¥3,000 fine



Riding a bike on the sidewalk is illegal; however, it may be permitted under the following circumstances:

- ① where a sign permits cycling on the pavement.
- ② when the rider is under 13, over 70, or has a physical disability.
- ③ when traffic on the road is congested, or when the road lacks sufficient width.



Sign



Preschool children (aged 6 or younger) may ride along if secured in a child seat.

Cyclists must be at least 16 years old to carry the children mentioned above. No more than two children may ride on the bicycle at the same time.



• When you commit a traffic violation, you'll be handed an Aokippu (blue ticket: traffic infractions notice) and a Noufusho (penalty payment slip) by police officers.



Blue ticket



Penalty payment slip

- Head to a bank or post office with the payment slip you received to process the payment by the deadline.
- Failure to pay the fine by the due date may result in court summon for a trial.

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