

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.

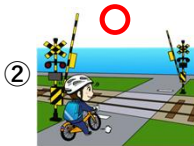


Cycling Violations

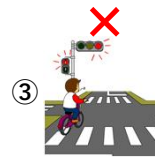
- ※ The revised law will cover 113 different types of cycling violations. Not all violations are listed here.
- ※ For any questions, please contact your nearest police station.



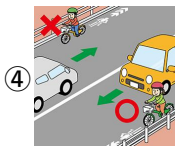
It is illegal to use a mobile phone while cycling.
Penalty: ¥ 12,000 fine



It is illegal to cross railway crossings without coming to complete stop, and checking for oncoming trains.
Penalty: ¥ 6,000 fine



It is illegal to disregard traffic signals; You can only cross the street when the lights are green.
Penalty: ¥ 6,000 fine



It is illegal to ride a bike on the right hand side of the road.
Penalty: ¥ 6,000 fine



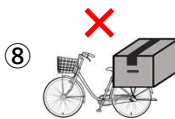
It is illegal to cross the street at signs marked "STOP" or "止まれ" without coming to a complete stop and checking that the intersection is clear.
Penalty: ¥ 5,000 fine



It is illegal to ride a bicycle while listening to music or other audio through earphones that impairs your ability to hear 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 fine



It is illegal to cycle at night without using your headlights.
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; Penalty: ¥ 6,000 fine 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.



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 summons for a trial.