



LIFT GATES

can be found on some university vehicles used largely for facilities, events, catering, and waste handling operations. They are hydraulic or electric powered moving platforms located on the back of vehicles used in material handling. Lift gates are designed to lift objects to/from the truck to the ground, reducing the risk of injury from manual material handling. If the vehicle you are driving is equipped with a lift gate, then take the time to use it, each and every time, when moving items to and from the vehicle. The most common injuries from lift gates are crushing and lacerations from hands and feet getting caught in the pinch points created during use. Review and follow the best practices listed here, in addition to departmental policies prior to operating a lift gate.

EXAMPLE BEST PRACTICES

- Complete a pre-operation inspection.
- Place the vehicle in park or neutral and set the parking brake. Chock or block wheels on slopes, as needed.
- Read and follow all manufacturer's guidelines and instructional decals before use.
- Avoid manual material handling by taking the time to raise/lower the lift gate all the way to the truck bed or ground surface, every time.
- Use good body mechanics when folding or unfolding a manual platform.
- Keep open communication with co-workers in the area.
- Ensure the gate's area is clear of hands, feet, and other objects before operating.
- Do not enter the area below a raised gate.
- Do not exceed the lift's load rating.
- Secure top-heavy loads. Let dropping items drop!
- Do not drive with the gate down.

WHAT TO DO!

- Complete your "UO Driver's Certification" before operating university vehicles at parking.uoregon.edu.
- Receive training before the use of a lift gate! Contact your supervisor.
- Bring questions and maintenance concerns to your supervisor.
- Report any injuries to your supervisor immediately!
- In an emergency, call **911** and **UOPD** (541-346-2919) for immediate assistance!



Read and follow all manufacturer's guidelines and decals!



Ensure the gate's area is clear of people and objects!



Keep hands and feet clear of pinch points!

