



September 2021

School Bus Safety

School bus travel is very safe in Ontario. Most injuries and fatalities happen more often outside the bus as students are boarding and leaving the bus or crossing the street. Motorists need to pay particular attention to school buses during the school year. Always stop for a school bus.

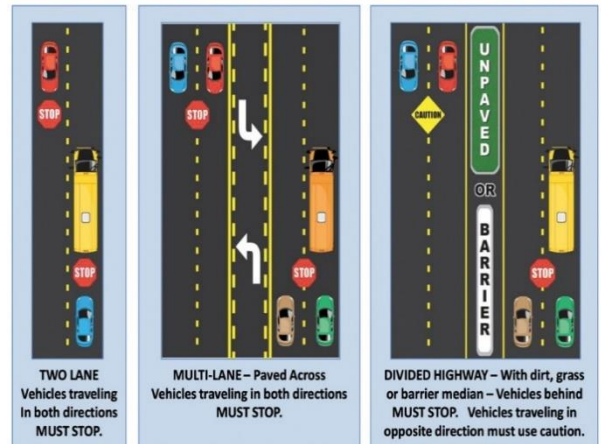
Drivers: Know the Rules!

When driving on a road **without** a median:

- Drivers travelling in both directions must stop for a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing
- When you approach the bus from the front, stop at a safe distance to let children get on and off the school bus and be aware of children crossing the street
- Don't move forward until the red lights have stopped

When driving on a road **with** a median:

- Drivers travelling behind the bus must stop while drivers travelling in opposite direction must use caution



Please stop **20 meters in front of the bus** and **20 meters behind a bus** with the red lights flashing.

Drivers can be charged if they pass a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing.

First Offence: \$400 to \$2000 and six demerit points

Subsequent Offence: \$1000 to \$4000, six demerit points and possible jail time (up to 6 months)

Vehicle owners can be charged if their vehicle illegally passes a stopped school bus, even if they weren't driving the vehicle.

White Strobe Light

The purpose of equipping buses with roof mount strobe lights is to alert motorists that a school bus is in the vicinity. This may be especially helpful in severe weather conditions, such as rain, fog, smog, and snow, where the vision of approaching motorists is more obscured.



School buses are one of the **safest ways for children** to get to school.



Every school day, **almost 824,000 students** travel in about **16,000 school vehicles**.

