



*School Bus  
Safety  
Slow Down  
Watch for  
children*



## Safety Rules for Motorists



Motorists also need to observe traffic safety rules around school buses / School Zones.



First and foremost, they must know and understand the school bus laws in their state. In particular, ***they must be aware that it is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that has stopped to load or unload students.***





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## **Safety Rules for Motorists**



Motorists must learn the “flashing signal light system” that school bus drivers use to alert motorists that they are going to stop to load or unload students:



Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.



Red flashing lights and extended stop arm indicate that the bus has stopped and that children are getting on or off.



Motorist on any highway that has only two-travel lanes, one in each direction, must stop for the bus whether approaching from the front or overtaking from the rear and remain stopped until the lights are no longer activated or the bus resumes motion.



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## **Safety Rules for Motorists**



In Washington State, You must stop for a school bus that is stopped with its red lights flashing whether it is on your side of the road, the opposite side of the road or at an intersection you are approaching. You are not required to stop for a school bus with red lights flashing when the stopped school bus is traveling in the opposite direction and the roadway: has three or more marked traffic lanes, is separated by a median, or is separated by a physical barrier. After the school bus red lights have stopped flashing, watch for children along the side of the road and do not proceed until they have completely left the roadway



Watch and obey school crossing guard's hand & arm signals.





## Riding Safely for Students



**Students also need to behave safely during the school bus ride.**

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- ✓ Basic safety rules include the following:
- ✓ Always sit fully in the seat and face forward
- ✓ Never distract the driver
- ✓ Never stand on a moving bus
- ✓ Obey the driver
- ✓ Speak in a low voice, no screaming or shouting
- ✓ Never stick anything out the window (arms, legs, head, book bags, etc.)





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## School Bus Safety For Children



✓ Always **walk on the sidewalk** to the bus stop; **never run**. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left facing traffic.

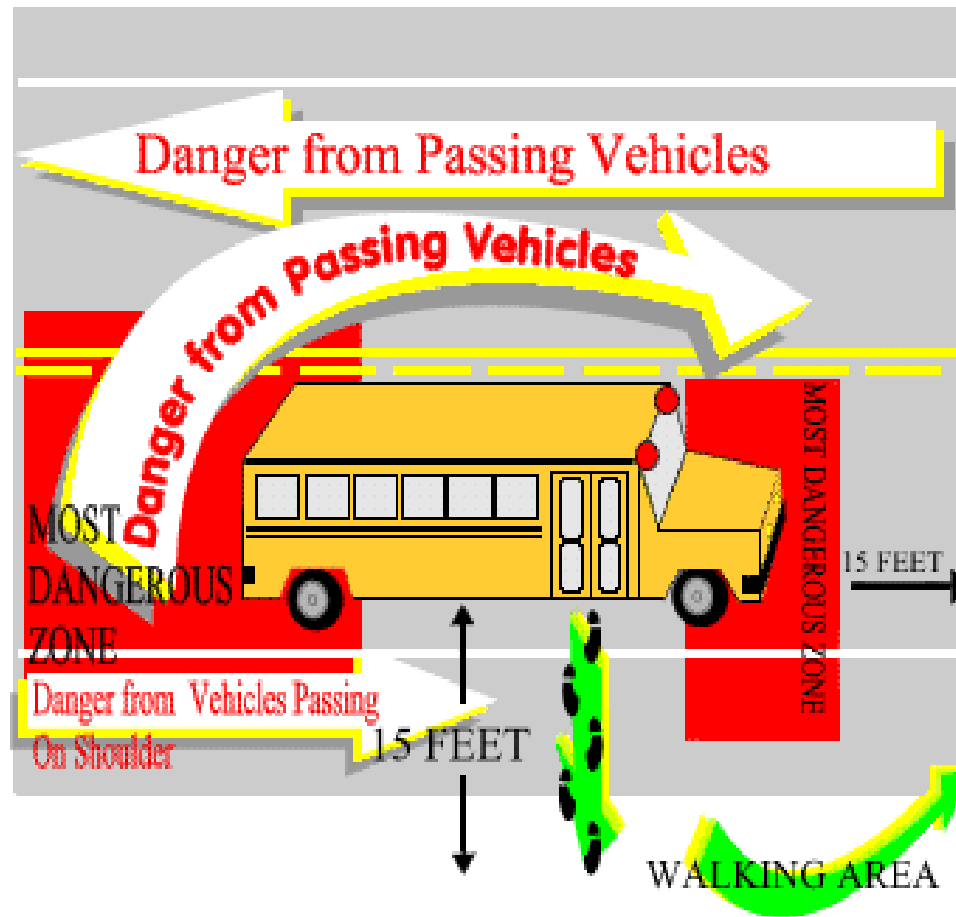
✓ Go to the bus stop about five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. While at the bus stop, wait quietly in a safe place well away from the road.

***Do not run and play while waiting.***





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