

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 their bus and be able to cross the road if needed
- 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.

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**.



Fines

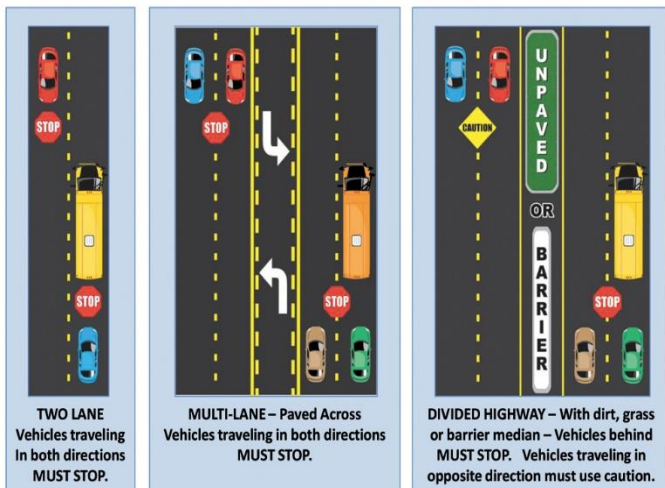
Drivers can be charged if they pass a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing:

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



Northern Safety Solutions Inc.

955 Bancroft Drive, Sudbury ON P3B 1P8

Toll Free: 705.524.8189

www.northernsafetysolutions.com

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