



# School Bus Safety

Stay alert and stop for school buses. Be the reason kids arrive safely.



## Must-Know Facts

- A school bus with upper flashing amber lights activated indicates that the bus is preparing to stop.
  - Slow down and prepare to stop.
- When a school bus is stopped with upper flashing red lights activated, and/or stop arm activated, all vehicles must stop, regardless of direction.
  - When approaching the bus from the front, stop at a safe distance for children to get off the bus and cross the road in front of you. If approaching from the back, stop at least 20 metres away.
  - On a road with a median strip, only vehicles coming from behind the bus are required to stop.
- Vehicles must remain stopped until the school bus retracts the stop arm, and the red lights stop flashing.

## Consequences

- Vehicles that illegally pass a school bus while its red lights are flashing, and/or the stop arm extended are subject to severe penalties including fines, demerit points, possible jail time and criminal charges.
- Repeat offenders or severe violations are subject to increased penalties.

## More Information

[Ontario.ca/SchoolBusSafety](https://ontario.ca/SchoolBusSafety)

## Reminders

- Always be vigilant and expect children to cross the street unexpectedly.
- Slow down in school zones and be prepared to stop when necessary.
- Wait for the bus to move, the red lights to stop flashing, and the stop arm to retract before proceeding.
- Avoid distractions while driving.
- School bus drivers and witnesses can report vehicles that illegally pass a school bus, leading to charges against the vehicle owner.