

Who are Crossing Guards?

Crossing Guards in the City of Oshawa are employees of the City and are generally residents of the neighbourhood where they work. Crossing Guards are governed by the Ontario Highway Traffic Act and trained by the City to assist students to and from school safely. With the assistance of the schools, and the Durham Regional Police, the Crossing Guards teach the students the rules of the crossing.

At some point there may be a Rover Crossing Guard located at a crossing. A Rover Crossing Guard is a Crossing Guard who fills in on a temporary basis when the regular Crossing Guard is absent. The Rover Crossing Guard has had the same training as the Crossing Guard and therefore the routine will remain the same.

MOTORISTS PLEASE

- Be aware, patient, courteous and a safe driver!
- Stop before the crossing!
- Use your turn signals at all times to allow the Crossing Guard to assess the traffic before entering the crossing safely!

PEDESTRIANS PLEASE

- Cross with the Crossing Guard!
- Wait for the second whistle!
- Walk, don't run!
- Always check the traffic before entering the crossing!
- Walk your bikes across the street!



School Crossing Guards

PLEASE CO-OPERATE
WITH THE CROSSING GUARDS,
THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN
DEPENDS ON THEM AND YOU.



For further information on the
City of Oshawa's Crossing Guard Program

CALL 905-436-3311



General Rules For All Crossings

When students and adults arrive at a crossing, they should stand at least **1 metre** from the curb.

The City of Oshawa uses a two-whistle system. When ready to enter the crossing, the Crossing Guard will check the traffic, blow the first whistle to alert motorists and enter the crosswalk. The Crossing Guard will blow a second whistle when it is safe for the children and adults to enter the crossing.

When a Crossing Guard raises the stop sign, drivers and cyclists must stop before reaching the crossing. The Crossing Guard's sign has the same authority as a regular stop sign.

Everyone must walk quickly in the crossing and stay **between the white lines**, in a safe and appropriate manner. Running and extremely slow walking are not allowed.

Bikes and skateboards must be walked within the crossing. There is to be no bouncing of balls, no skipping rope and no horseplay while waiting to be crossed or while in the crossing.

Adults accompanying children are expected to follow all the rules to set an example for the children.

The needs of the school area and the time schedules of the schools being served determine the hours that Crossing Guards spend on duty.

Crossing Guards are prohibited from crossing anyone if there is a vehicle stopped in the crossing.



School Crossings At Traffic Signals

In addition to the General Rules, the following also applies for signalized crossings.

No one should enter the crossing once the Flashing Don't Walk Signal or an amber traffic light has been activated.

The Crossing Guard will stay in the crossing until the last child has reached the beginning of the furthest lane of traffic away from the Crossing Guard. The Crossing Guard will follow the children off the street if the children are crossing in the direction of the Crossing Guard's workstation.

At signalized crossings, high school students and senior citizens will be crossed by the Crossing Guard if asked to do so. To assist in setting an example for the younger children, high school students and senior citizens should always follow the rules.

School Crossings Without Traffic Signals

In addition to the General Rules, the following also applies for unsignalized crossings.

The Crossing Guard will stay in the crossing until all the children have reached the sidewalk. The Crossing Guard will follow the children off the street if the children are crossing in the direction of the Crossing Guard's workstation.

At unsignalized crossings the Crossing Guard is responsible for crossing **everyone**. Anyone not wanting assistance should cross elsewhere while the Crossing Guard is on duty.

Safety Patrollers

Safety patrollers assist the Crossing Guard at some locations. Their job is to hold the children back from the curb until the Crossing Guard is ready to cross them. At some locations Safety Patrollers have long handled signs that are held out to stop the curb lane from proceeding. They are trained and supervised by the School, the Police and the Crossing Guard.

