# California Crossing Guard Training: Online Course Part 2

Prepared by the Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Resource Center

The Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Resource Center is a program within California Active Communities, a joint Unit of the University of California, San Francisco and the California Department of Public Health, funded through a Safe Routes to School Non-



#### Overview

This is Part 2 of four California Crossing Guard Training Online Courses. The following will be covered in this section:

California Crossing Guard Training Components
Introductory Information for Crossing Guards



## California Crossing Guard Training

The information contained in the

online trainings, and supplemental materials is intended to:

Support Local Program administration.

Teach Crossing Guard candidates the proper procedures and techniques necessary to get student pedestrians to get /Fe5 0 1 155.78 118.94



## California Crossing Guard Training

Crossing Guard training is made up of three components:

Online Training and Testing;

Practical Training; and,

Field Assessment.



## California Crossing Guard Training



## Online Training and Testing

Once the online training is completed, the Crossing Guard may be given time for questions and/or discussion with a Crossing Guard Trainer before taking the online test.

A Crossing Guard candidate must achieve a minimum passing score of 80% in each of the four (4) parts of the online test in order to move onto practical training.



## **Practical Training**

Practical training involves:

Hands



Practical training should be conducted at a crosswalk or simulated crosswalk with no children present and should cover both signalized and unsignalized intersections.



Participants should play and observe all roles (i.e., student pedestrians, Crossing Guards, drivers) and practice proper crossing procedures using the STOP paddle, hand gestures, and the whistle.\*

\* Whether and how to use the whistle is at the discretion of the Local Program. The decision to use a whistle or not should be based on the traffic conditions and the safety of the Crossing Guard. Each crosswalk should be considered individually.



At the completion of the practical training, Crossing Guards will participate in a field assessment.

#### Field Assessment

#### Field assessment involves:

Field assessment consists of observation, training, and guidance of a Crossing Guard candidate by a Crossing Guard Trainer while in the work environment.

Crossing Guard candidates will perform



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### Location Assignment

It is recommended that prior to an assignment, each Crossing Guard candidate be briefed about what to expect at the crossing.

A newly placed Crossing Guard should be observed by the Crossing Guard Trainer to ensure that the Crossing Guard has mastered crossing skills in the field.



## Common Traffic Hazards at Crosswalks

Collisions between pedestrians and motor vehicles at intersections usually involve an unexpected violation of road rules by at least one of the parties (pedestrian or driver) and the subsequent failure of both parties to take appropriate action.



Even when driver practice is poor, pedestrians who practice good crossing techniques can usually anticipate conflicts and avoid a collision.

Inexperienced pedestrians sometimes assume that, if one driver stops for them at an uncontrolled crosswalk, others will too.



A multiple-threat crash involves a driver stopping in one lane of a multi-lane road to permit pedestrians to cross, and an oncoming vehicle (in the same direction) then hits the pedestrian who is crossing in front of the stopped vehicle.

This crash type involves both the pedestrian and driver failing to see each other in time to avoid the collision.

The visible presence of Crossing Guards crossing children in a roadway tends to improve driver behavior.

Crossing Guards also deter improper crossings by children (e.g., darting into roadway, mid-block crossings between parked cars).

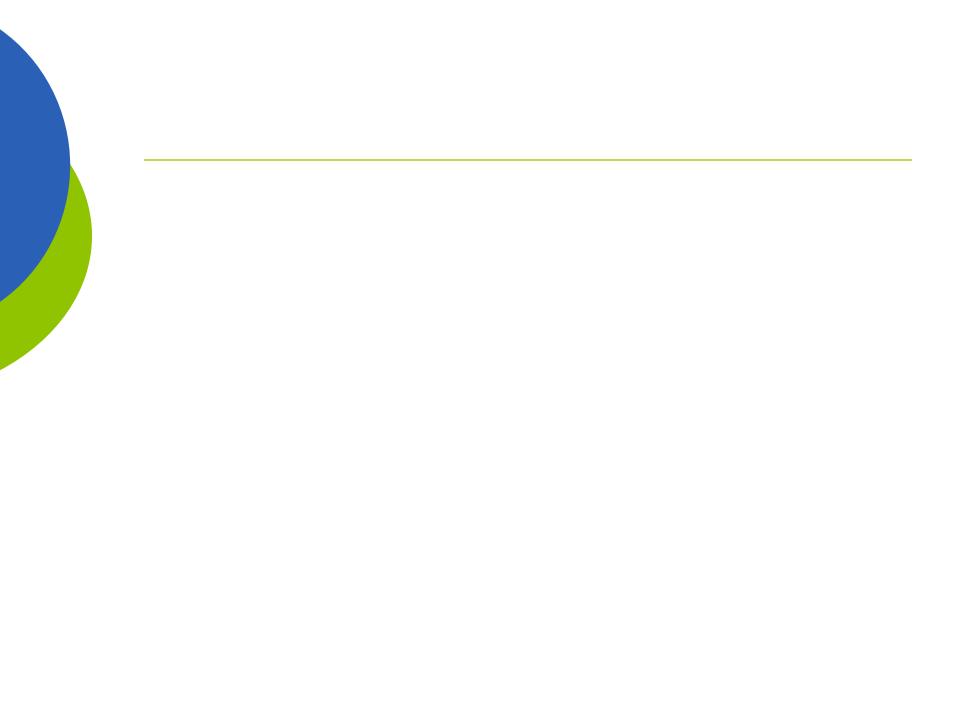


Hazardous driver behaviors that may still occur at a crosswalk with a Crossing Guard present include:

- speeding (when crosswalk use is not noticed);
- right turn into crosswalk on green light; entering crosswalk to make right turn on red light; and,
- left turn into crosswalk on green light.

Drivers who have a green light must still follow the direction of a Crossing Guard.





#### Children in traffic:

- can be impulsive;
- have limited peripheral vision and ability to locate relevant sound sources;
- have poor ability to assess vehicular approach speeds and gaps in traffic;
- are shorter and easily blocked from view by cars;
- are likely to assume that if one driver stops for them, the coast is clear; and,
- are likely to consider simply running across a road as a viable crossing strategy.

## Procedures for Crossing Guards from the CAMUTCD CAMUTCD Section 7D.05:

\*How to create a gap in traffic should be covered by the Crossing Guard Trainer in Practical Training.





# Understanding Applicable Regulations ... continued

#### **Traffic**

#### CVC Section 21950 summary:

- A driver shall yield to a pedestrian crossing the roadway.
- No pedestrian may suddenly leave a curb and walk or run into the path of an approaching vehicle that could constitute an immediate hazard.
- No pedestrian may unnecessarily stop or delay traffic.
- A driver approaching a pedestrian shall exercise all due care and shall reduce the speed of the vehicle as necessary to safeguard the safety of the pedestrian.



## Understanding Traffic Signals at Crosswalks

Crossing Guards should know the meaning of the following signs:



Indicates that the pedestrian may entering the roadway.



Indicates to the pedestrian the roadway.



# Familiarity with School Area Signs and Pavement Markings

Crossing Guards should be familiar with the signs and pavement markings used at and on approaches to their assigned crossing.

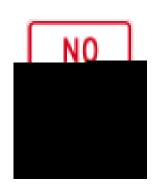
These may include crosswalk markings, parking prohibition signs, stop signs, stop lines, pavement word markings for school areas, and school warning and speed zone signs.



## Examples of Parking Prohibition Signs

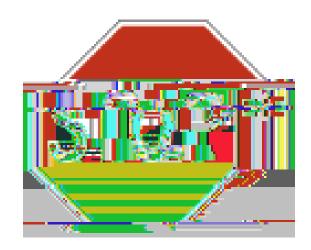






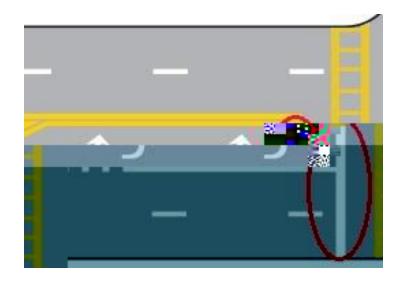


## Example of a Stop Sgn





### Example of a Stop Line

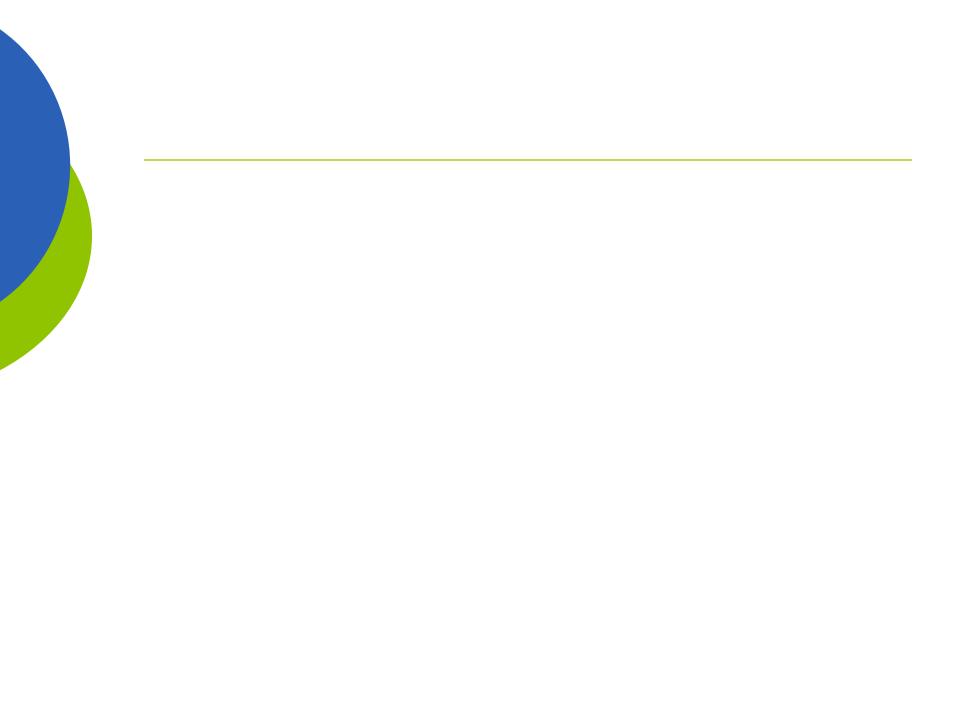


The oval highlights the stop line. A stop line is a solid white pavement marking line extending across approach lanes to indicate the point at which a vehicular stop is to be made.

## Examples of School Warning Signs

As described in CAMUTCD, crosswalk markings





## End of Part 2 of the 4-part California Crossing Guard Training Online Courses