California Crossing Guard Training: Online Course Part 3

Prepared by the Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Resource Center

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Overview

This is Part 3 of 4 California Crossing Guard Training Online Courses. The following will be covered in this section:

Techniques Used in School Crossings



Traffic Scanning Procedure

At an intersection, vehicles can approach a crosswalk from various directions.

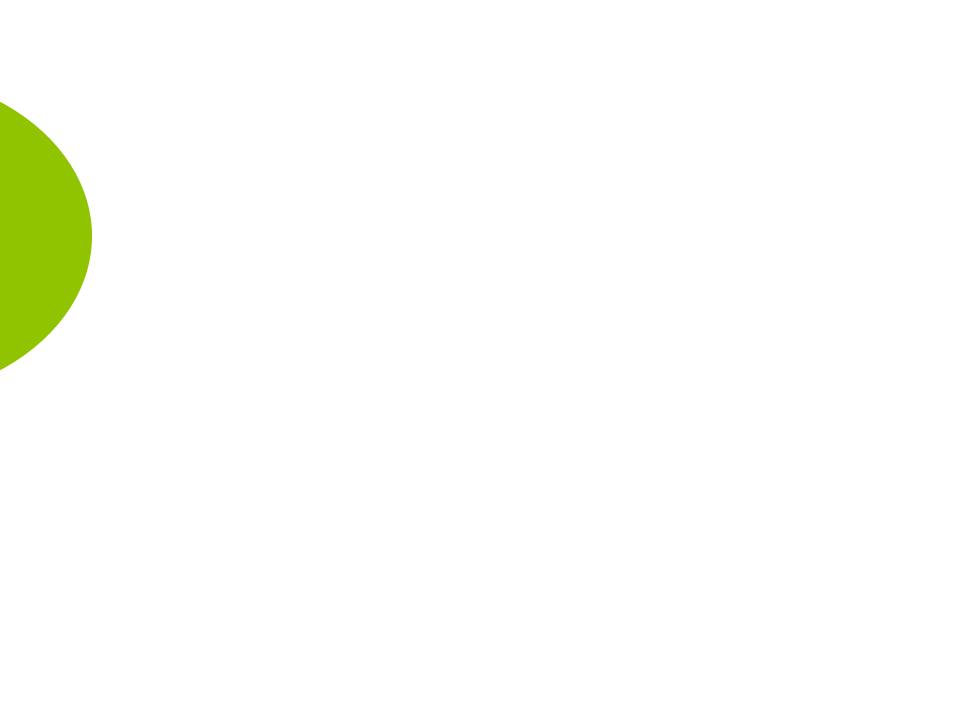
A Crossing Guard uses the traffic scanning procedure for crossing a street in order to gauge whether any approaching vehicles will have time to see the Crossing Guard in the crosswalk and yield.



Traffic Scanning Procedure Steps

- 1. Stop at the curb or edge of the street.
- 2. Look left, right, then left again for approaching vehicles.





Traffic Scanning Procedure Steps ...continued

- 4. If the gap* seems adequate, make a final search to the left before proceeding. Vehicles on the left are on the side nearest to you.
- 5. When crossing the street, continue to scan for approaching vehicles.

^{*} More instruction on determining an adequate gap in traffic should be given by the Crossing Guard Trainer in Practical Training provided by your Local Program.



Signaling to Drivers

A Crossing Guard signals to drivers to alert them to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk, not for the purposes of directing traffic.

While in the roadway, a Crossing Guard should never make any hand or head movement that might be interpreted by a driver as a signal to proceed.

A Crossing Guard should maintain eye contact directly with the driver to be alerted.

If a driver disregards the direction of a Crossing Guard, the Crossing Guard may blow a whistle.



Technique for Use of STOP Paddle on a Two-Way Street

1. Hold the STOP paddle shoulder-high so that one side is displayed to vehicles approaching the crosswalk on the near side of the street and the other is displayed to vehicles approaching the

Technique for Use of STOP Paddle on a Two-Way Street...continued





- 2. The STOP paddle leads you into the crosswalk. Look directly at any drivers momentarily, turning your head as necessary.
- 3. Continuing to hold the STOP paddle high, look directly at any drivers, turning your head as necessary, as you approach the middle of the street.

Technique for Use of STOP Paddle on a Two-Way Street...continued





4. If a driver disregards the STOP paddle, blow your whistle. The STOP paddle should be kept raised while a Crossing Guard is in the roadway. A Crossing Guard should not switch the STOP paddle from one hand to the other or wave it about while in the roadway.

Use of Whistle for Warning ...continued

If a whistle is used, it should be in the the crosswalk.

If a driver fails to stop in response to the display of a STOP paddle, the response is for the Crossing Guard to blow one long blast on the whistle to warn the driver while looking directly at her/him and continuing to display the STOP paddle to her/him with extended arm.

