

Be Safe For Kids

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Tips for Drivers in School Zones

Beginning this week, nearly two million Ohio kids will go back to school. Half of the kids will ride the bus while the others will walk, ride bikes, drive, and get rides.

It's up to drivers to know the law and drive safely in school zones and around busses:

- Stop for flashing red lights on school busses, regardless of which direction you're going.
- Once flashing lights go off and the bus begins moving -- or if the bus driver signals that it's okay to pass -- continue your trip.
- Obey posted speed limits.

Drivers should also be aware of pedestrians:

- Keep an eye on kids gathered at bus stops.
- Watch for kids who might dart across the street to catch a bus or a ride.
- Watch out for kids walking along side of a road, especially if there are no sidewalks.
- Make eye contact with pedestrians before turning in front of them.

Watch out for kids on bicycles:

- Bicyclists ride in the same direction as traffic, so drivers should stay alert and be aware of cyclists on the side of the road.
- Pass with care. Drivers should maintain a three-foot clearance when passing a bicycle.
- Traffic laws, especially at traffic signals and intersections, apply to drivers and bicyclists.
- Motorists and bicyclists should share the road...equally.