



Operation Safe Stop

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WHAT IS OPERATION SAFE STOP?

Operation Safe Stop seeks to promote school bus safety through education and enforcement efforts. Operation Safe Stop is a cooperative project supported by the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, the New York State Education Department, the [New York Association for Pupil Transportation](#), the New York State School Bus Contractors Association, the student transportation industry and state, county, city and local law enforcement agencies.



DID YOU KNOW:

An estimated 50,000 motor vehicles illegally pass New York State school buses every day.

Between the years 2002 through 2004, there were 69 students injured and one killed by motorists who passed stopped school buses.



THE LAW SAYS:

It is illegal - and very dangerous - to pass a stopped school bus when the large red lights located on top of the bus are flashing. Flashing lights mean the bus is picking up or discharging students.

You must stop whether you are approaching the school bus from the front or overtaking it from the rear.

You must always stop for flashing red lights, even on divided and multilane highways and on school grounds.

The first-time fine for illegally passing a school bus is a \$250 fine, 5 points on your license, and/or possibly 30 days in jail.

Worse yet, the memory of hitting or killing a child may be one you carry for the rest of your life!



PENALTIES FOR PASSING A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS:

\$\$ -- FINES -- \$\$

By Conviction	Minimum Fine	Maximum Fine	Possible Imprisonment
First Conviction	\$250.00	\$400.00	Up to 30 days
Second Conviction (within 3 years)	\$600.00	\$750.00	Up to 180 days
Third or Subsequent Convictions (within 3 years)	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	Up to 180 days



REMEMBER:

Yellow lights mean the bus is going to stop. Slow down!

Red lights mean students are getting on or off the bus.

STOP! STOP! STOP!

The goal of Operation Safe Stop is to proactively educate motorists about the dangers of passing stopped school buses.



FOR MORE INFORMATION...

General School Bus Safety:

[School Bus Safety Page](#) at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[National Association for Pupil Transportation](#)

[New York Association for Pupil Transportation](#)