

Drivers: When the School Bus Stops . . .



School buses are one of the safest forms of transporting children to school. Every day, approximately 500,000* school buses transport more than 25 million students to and from school. Each year, nationwide, approximately 19* school-aged children are killed in motor vehicle crashes that are school bus related. On average, 6* are passengers of school transportation vehicles and 13* are pedestrians.

The Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education and AAA Mid-Atlantic encourage motorists to:

- Know the school bus laws in their state regarding when to stop (learn the “flashing light system”).
- Understand that children are inexperienced in traffic and motorists need to be alert for the unexpected.
- Be extra careful in school zones.
- Be aware that the most dangerous bus stop is the one in front of school.

To find out more about school bus stopping laws, visit AAA.com/Foundation.



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*Based on NHTSA statistics

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School Bus Tips for Students

Riding a school bus is a safe way to get to and from school. Listen to your school bus driver. The driver is in charge of the bus and the riders. The AAA School Safety Patrol also helps keep you safe. Here are some things you need to do:

Before the Bus Arrives!

- Get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- Stand at least five steps from the edge of the road.
- Be careful . . . the bus stop is not a play area.



Photo courtesy of AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

Getting On and Off the Bus!

- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- Be careful not to catch clothing and backpacks on the handrail.
- If you must cross the street, wait for a signal from the bus driver and always walk in front of the bus.
- Watch out for traffic.



On the Bus!

- Take a seat right away and sit facing forward.
- Always stay seated while the bus is moving.
- Never stick anything out of the window . . . arms, legs, head, backpacks, etc.



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