



## Follow the Rules

- 1 Be on time.
- 2 Never run to or from the bus.
- 3 Stand back from the curb.
- 4 Don't push or shove.
- 5 Stay in your seat.
- 6 Don't yell or shout.
- 7 Always obey the driver.
- 8 Wait for driver's signal before crossing.
- 9 Always cross at least 3 metres (10 feet) in front of the bus.
- 10 Never crawl under a school bus.

## Spread the word!

Remind children and parents about school bus safety by handing out copies of this panel.

## Make safety work for you. IHSA is your first step.

IHSA is a leader in health and safety education. Through skills-based training, auditing, and evaluation, we provide safety solutions to those who perform high-risk activities such as working at heights, working with energized high-voltage power systems, driving motor vehicles, transporting dangerous goods, working on suspended access equipment, and utility line clearing.

We help our members continuously improve their health and safety performance by providing effective and innovative sector-specific programs, products, and services.

Find out what we can do for you at [ihsa.ca](http://ihsa.ca)



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# School Bus Safety

# School Bus Safety Tips

## School buses carry precious cargo

As drivers, you carry the responsibility for making sure that school bus travel remains a safe way for children to travel.

School buses and school bus drivers are the most regulated vehicles and drivers in the province. You are responsible for maintenance of your bus equipment, passenger safety and control, plus safe and timely passage on the roads.

## Three principles govern school bus safety

### 1. Safety

Every day, before taking a school bus onto the road, and while driving, you are responsible for making sure that the bus is in safe operating condition. Under Regulation 199/07: Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspections, you are required to do a pre-trip inspection of the interior and exterior in accordance with the applicable Schedule 5 or 6 for school purposes vehicles.

Information on any defects must be recorded in the log book and repaired promptly.

- Check that the driver's seat belt is correctly worn and fastened.
- Drive forward and brake to a stop to test the service brake.
- Make an additional check of all gauges.
- Complete the log book entry.

At the end of the bus run, do a post-trip child check to make sure that all passengers have left the bus.

### 2. Order

As a driver, you are responsible for the physical and emotional safety of the children who ride on your bus. Each child must be confident that the bus is a safe place. To ensure this, you must maintain order and control.

### 3. Respect

Everyone on the school bus—drivers and passengers alike—must respect the rights of others.

## Plan a safe route

When route layouts are being planned, the safety of the children is the first consideration. The location and accessibility of a school bus stop is important.

- Ensure that bus stops are accessible in all kind of weather.
- Ensure safe walking routes between homes and bus stops.
- Do not load passengers on a steep grade or curve.
- Avoid using bus stops at intersections with traffic signals.
- Minimize the number of street crossings that children have to make getting to and from the bus.
- Make sure that bus stops are free from hazard.

Let's all get on board for  
**Safety**



## Quick Facts



1. More than 800,000 students in Ontario ride school buses every school day.
2. School buses in Ontario travel almost 2 million kilometres every school day.
3. The law requires all school buses to have safety inspections every 6 months.
4. A school bus licence (class B and E) is the most regulated driver's licence in Ontario. Applicants are required to:
  - meet medical and vision standards
  - not have a criminal record
  - have a good driving record (less than 6 demerit points)
  - pass an MTO-approved driver improvement course.
5. Vehicle owners can be fined \$400 to \$2,000 for illegally passing a stopped school bus.

Source: MTO website