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School Bus Safety



It's "Back to School" time. School buses are back on the roads, and students are walking along the side of the road and waiting for buses.



Please watch carefully for children near school buildings, in areas where school buses are traveling or where there are signs for school zones or bus stops.



Remember that if you are approaching a school bus from either the front or behind, and its yellow lights are flashing, the bus is preparing to stop.



If the buses red lights are flashing, **YOU MUST STOP. It's the law!**

This **includes** school buses that are:

- on the opposite sides of divided highways,
- on multiple lane roadways,
- in parking lots,

- on school grounds.

NOTE: The **only** exception to this law is if the bus driver or a police officer signals that you may pass the bus.


\$\$ PENALTIES FOR PASSING A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS \$\$

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

According to New York State law, any child under 4 years of age, must be in a federally approved child safety seat, even if the child is riding in a school bus. See [section 1229-c. \(11\)](#) of the New York State Vehicle & Traffic Law.

For more Back to School safety tips for motorists, parents and children please see:

- Our [Kids School Bus and School Zone Safety Page](#)
- Our [School Bus Index & Overview Page](#)

- [NYS Education Department Pupil Transportation Services Unit](#) 
- [Operation Safe Stop](#)
- [Operation Safe Stop & Pedestrian "Tips for Safety"](#)

