

School Crossing Guard Criteria

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SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD CRITERIA

The basic philosophy of crossing guards' function is to supervise and educate the children rather than to function as a guide to lead the students across the street.

Each of the following criteria should be met to warrant an adult crossing guard for school crossing supervision:

1. The crossing should be used primarily by elementary school children between the ages of 5 and 12 years old.
2. The crossing should be used by at least 20 children during the morning and afternoon crossing periods.
3. There shall be, on the average, at least one safe crossing gap per minute. There shall be at least 150 vehicles per half hour during the morning and afternoon school crossing period.
4. The marked crossing should be across a through street.
5. The school crossing is on a designated school route.

Adult school safety supervisors may also be used if some of the following conditions exist.

- a) A change in school routes or school districts is imminent, thus requiring protection at the location for only a limited time.
- b) Special hazards exist that can be properly handled only by adult supervision. Such hazards would include unusual conditions such as complicated intersections, heavy vehicular turning movements, high vehicular speeds, or unfavorable street alignments (vertical and/or horizontal).
- c) An adult crossing supervisor is more feasible and economical than either a pedestrian grade separation structure or a traffic control device specially installed to handle the crossing problem.
- d) An area (rather than one crossing) exists where the crossing habits of the children are very poor. The adult school crossing supervisor will be used on a roving basis in these areas.
- e) Traffic signals exist that are being abused by the children. Adult school crossing supervisors may rotate among several such signals.

These criteria will be reviewed regularly and modified according to new research and past experiences.

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