

California Crossing Guard Training: Online Course Part 4

Prepared by the Safe Routes to School
Technical Assistance Resource Center

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Overview

This is Part 4 of 4 California Crossing Guard Training Online Courses. The following will be covered in this section:

- Crossing Procedures for a Variety of Situations

*****Figures in this section, except where indicated, were adapted from the Florida Department of Transportation's School Crossing Guard Training Program*****

Common Situations for Crossing Guards

- The following sections will describe common situations that Crossing Guards may encounter while on duty.
- These sections do not contain an exhaustive list of every possible situation.
- It is left to the discretion of the Local Program to ensure that Crossing Guards are adequately trained.

Traffic Scanning Procedure for Crossing a Street

- The Crossing Guards use the traffic scanning procedure for crossing a street and should encourage student pedestrians to follow the same procedure.

Steps of the Traffic Scanning Procedure

1. Stop at the curb or edge of the street.
2. Look left, right, then left again for approaching vehicles.
3. If standing at an intersection, look forward and behind. Scan for any vehicles that might cross your path and look over the appropriate shoulder for any vehicles approaching from your rear that might turn across your path.
4. If the gap seems adequate, make a final search to the left before proceeding. Vehicles on the left are on the side nearest to you.
5. When crossing the street, continue to scan for approaching vehicles.

Procedures for Typical Crosswalk Configurations

The following sections describe the procedures for crossing at:

- Unsignalized crosswalks
- Signalized crosswalks
- Crosswalks on Multi-Lane Streets

Unsignalized Crosswalks –

1. Curbside assembly



- Stand on curb or behind edge of roadway on the side of the street where students approach.
- Keep students at least one step back from the curb or roadway edge.
- If a yellow “stand-back” line is marked or taped on sidewalk, it should be at least three feet behind the curb.
- Instruct those arriving on a bicycle, scooter, or skateboard to dismount and walk the bicycle or scooter or carry the skateboard when crossing the street.

Unsignalized Crosswalks –

2. Select an opportune time

“Remember to wait for my signal to cross the street.”

- As students collect, wait for a sufficient gap in traffic.
- Make a final scan for approaching vehicles before entering the roadway.
- Remind students to wait for your verbal direction before starting to cross the street.



Unsignalized Crosswalks –

3. Enter crosswalk, stopping near-side approaching vehicles

- Raise and display the STOP paddle as you walk to the middle of the roadway.
- Make the hand signal to vehicles on continuing to hold your upraised palm as you walk to the middle of the roadway.



Unsignalized Crosswalks –

4. Stop far-side approaching vehicles

- As you approach the middle of the roadway, check that the STOP paddle is clearly visible to that approach as well.



Unsignalized Crosswalks –

5. Take position

- Stand in the middle of the street, just outside the crosswalk on the side closest to the approach with a greater apparent risk of traffic conflict (e.g., due to greater volume or higher typical speeds).
- Face that approach, continuing to display the STOP paddle to both approaches.
- Keep both arms extended horizontally to your sides.
- Make a final check that vehicles on both approaches have stopped.



Unsignalized Crosswalks –

6. Initiate crossing

“Check left, right, left when crossing the street.”



- Turn your head toward the waiting students and make eye contact with them.
- When you are ready to initiate signaling students to cross the street, instruct students *verbally and without gestures* to look to the left, right, and left again for vehicles approaching from either direction and begin and continue crossing the street.

Unsignalized Crosswalks – 7. Maintain your position



- As students cross behind you, do not allow any vehicle to cross the crosswalk until the last student of the released group has reached the opposite curb or roadway edge.

Unsignalized Crosswalks –

8. Return to the starting curb



- Remain alert for approaching vehicles and continue to display the STOP paddle until you have left the roadway.
- Do not lower your upraised hand to the near-side approach until you have left the roadway.

Signalized Crosswalks

- In the case of **signalized crosswalks**, a pedestrian pushbutton is ordinarily installed.

Signalized Crosswalks –

1. Curbside Assembly

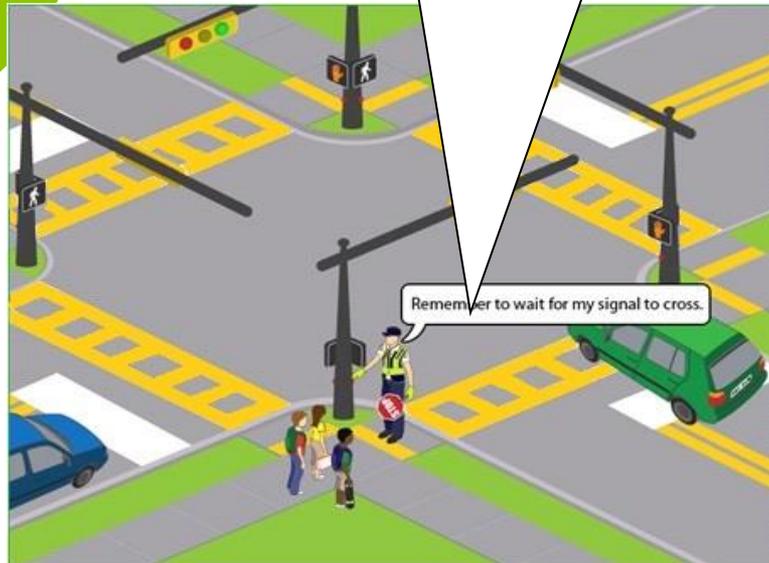


- Stand on curb or behind edge of roadway on the side of the street where students approach.
- Keep students at least one step back from the curb or roadway edge.
- If a yellow “stand-back” line is marked or taped on sidewalk, it should be at least three-feet behind the curb.
- Instruct those arriving on a bicycle, scooter, or skateboard to dismount and walk the bicycle or scooter or carry the skateboard when crossing the street.

Signalized Crosswalks –

2. Wait for walk indication

“Remember to wait for my signal to cross the street.”



- As students collect, press the pedestrian pushbutton to activate the pedestrian walk signal.
- Remind students to wait for your signal before starting to cross the street.
- When a fresh walking person symbol (or “walk” message) is displayed (or when the appropriate green is illuminated if there is no pedestrian signal), make a final scan for vehicles.

Signalized Crosswalks –

3. Enter crosswalk, stopping near-side vehicles

- Raise and display the STOP paddle as you walk to the middle of the roadway.



Signalized Crosswalks –

4. Alert far-side approaching vehicles



- Walk toward the middle of the street, alerting vehicles on all approaches (including those that might make left or right turns into the crosswalk) by holding the STOP paddle high.

Signalized Crosswalks –

5. Take position

- Stand in the middle of the street, just outside the crosswalk on the side closest to the intersection.
- Face vehicles on that side, continuing to display the STOP paddle to both approaches.
- Keep both arms extended horizontally to your sides.
- Make a final check that vehicles on both approaches have stopped.



Signalized Crosswalks –

6. Initiate crossing

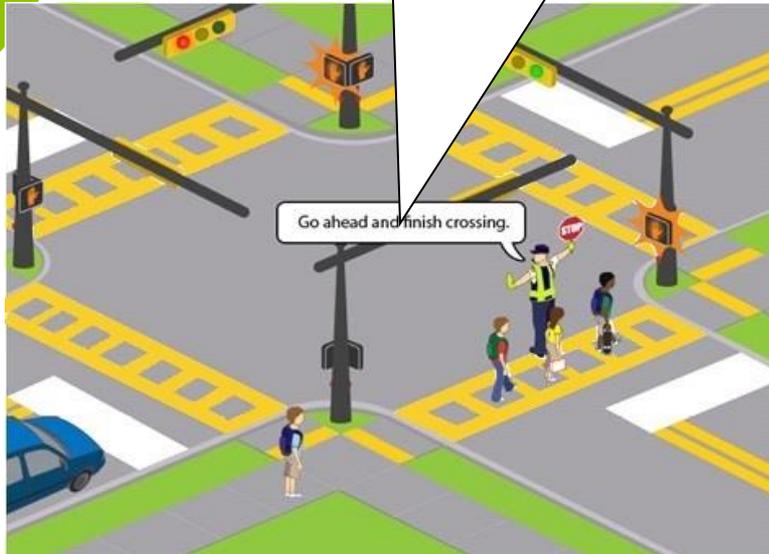
“Check left, right, left again
and over your shoulder.”



- Turn your head toward the waiting students and, making eye contact with them.
- When you are ready to initiate signaling students to cross the street, instruct students *verbally and without gestures* to look to the left, right, and left again for vehicles approaching from either direction and begin and continue crossing the street.

Signalized Crosswalks – 7. Maintain your position

“Go ahead and finish crossing the street.”



- As students cross behind you, do not allow any vehicle to cross the crosswalk until the last student of the released group has reached the opposite curb or roadway edge.

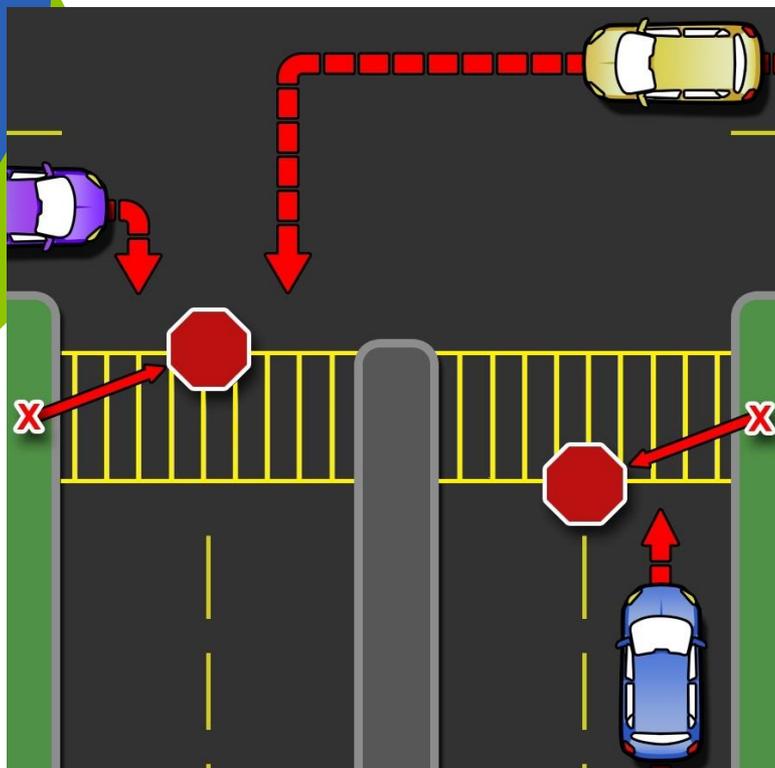
Signalized Crosswalks –

8. Return to the starting curb or roadway edge



- Remain alert for approaching vehicles and continue to display the STOP paddle until you have left the roadway.
- Do not lower your upraised hand to the near-side approach until you have left the roadway.

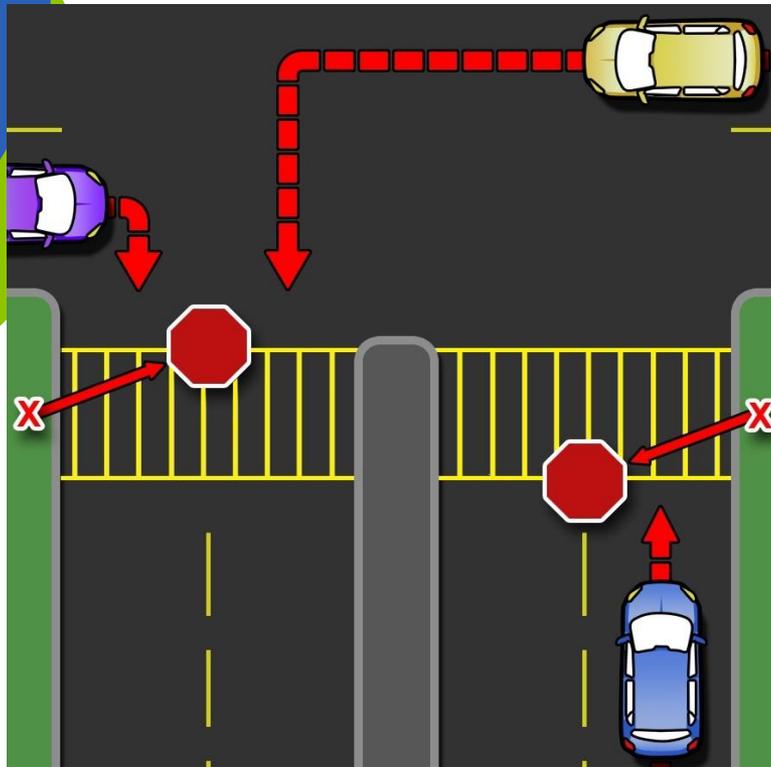
Crosswalks on Multi-Lane Streets



Positions taken by both Crossing Guards to conduct a multi-lane crossing.

- At a **signalized or unsignalized crosswalk** that crosses four or more lanes (on an undivided or divided street), two Crossing Guards should be assigned, so that each can handle one side of the street. (One of the Crossing Guards should be designated lead Crossing Guard.)
- Crossing Guards stand at the edge of the crosswalk on the side closest to vehicles approaching their side, and facing that approach.

Crosswalks on Multi-Lane Streets ...continued



- The lead Crossing Guard makes the final visual check and gives the verbal direction to students to look for approaching vehicles and directs them to proceed when the roadway is clear.
- Students cross in the crosswalk between the two Crossing Guards.

Positions taken by two Crossing Guards to conduct a multilane crossing.



End of Part 4 of the 4-part California Crossing Guard Training Online Courses