

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Transportation of Students

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Hazardous Conditions on Designated Walking Routes When Students Travel to or from School or a Bus Stop

1. When Sidewalks or Walkways Are Available

A street or road having an adjacent or parallel sidewalk or walkway on either side shall be deemed hazardous when any of the following conditions exist:

- a. **For pupils enrolled in Grades K through 5**, who must cross an intersection to get to a bus stop or to school, it shall be deemed hazardous where there is no stop sign, crossing guard, or traffic control signal at the intersection and the traffic count on the street being crossed exceeds one hundred and twenty vehicles per hour.
- b. **For pupils enrolled in grades 6 through 8**, who must cross an intersection to get to a bus stop or to school, it shall be deemed hazardous where the intersection has no stop sign, crossing guard, or traffic control signal, and the traffic count on the street being crossed exceeds one hundred eighty vehicles per hour.
- c. **For all pupils**
 1. any street, road or highway with posted speed limits in excess of 40 miles per hour which does not have pedestrian crossing lights or crossing guards or other safety provisions at points where pupils must cross when going to or from school or the bus stop.
 2. where a street has a sidewalk on only one side, pupils residing on said street shall be required to use the sidewalk to walk to and from a bus stop or school.

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Hazardous Conditions on Designated Walking Routes When Students Travel to or from School or a Bus Stop - continued

2. When No Sidewalks or Walkways Are Available

The following guidelines are used to determine when a street, road or highway, with no walkway on either side may be considered hazardous:

a. For pupils enrolled in grades K through 5 any street, road or highway:

1. possessing a traffic count of ninety or more vehicles per hour;
2. having traffic in excess of 40 vehicles per hour and the line-of-sight visibility and posted speed limits do not permit vehicular braking/stopping in accordance with the Connecticut Drivers Manual or Department of Transportation, Division of Design. In contested cases tests shall be conducted by an independent traffic engineer who shall be hired by the Board;
3. possessing a speed limit in excess of 30 miles per hour.

The walking hazard testing for pupils in grades K through 5 shall consist of the setting up of a mannequin the average height of a kindergarten pupil (43"), on the side of the road, a car traveling at the posted speed limit around the curve and/or poor visibility area, and a measurement made of the time and distance it took the driver to stop from the time he/she first noticed the mannequin until the car came to a full stop. The distance will then be compared with the above criteria and a determination made by the traffic engineer as to whether or not the car stopped before reaching the mannequin.

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Hazardous Conditions on Designated Walking Routes When Students Travel to or from School or a Bus Stop - continued

2. When No Sidewalks or Walkways Are Available - continued

b. For pupils enrolled in grades 6 through 8, any street, road or highway:

possessing a traffic count of one hundred eighty or more vehicles per hour where the traffic count exceeds 80 cars per hour and the line-of-sight visibility and/or posted speed limits do not permit vehicular braking/stopping in accordance with the Connecticut Drivers Manual or Department of Transportation, Division of Design.

c. For all pupils:

1. any roadway available to vehicles that does not have a minimum width of 22 feet with a traffic count of 40 or more vehicles per hour;
2. where a street has a sidewalk on only one side, pupils residing on said street shall be required to use the sidewalk.

The walking hazard testing for pupils in grades 6 through 8 shall be conducted by an independent traffic engineer who shall be hired by the Board in contested cases. The testing shall consist of the setting up of a mannequin the average height of a sixth grade pupil (58½") on the side of the road, a car traveling at the posted speed limit around the curve and/or poor visibility area, and a measurement made of the time and distance it took the driver to stop from the time he/she first noticed the mannequin until the car came to a full stop. The distance will then be compared with the above criteria and a determination made by the traffic engineer as to whether or not the car stopped before reaching the mannequin.

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3. Other Hazards

For pupils in grades K through 5

- a. a lake, pond, stream, waterway or bridge shall be deemed a hazard in the absence of a fence or suitable barrier fixed between the pupil and the water and within 15 feet of the sidewalk.
- b. any area adjacent and within five feet to a roadway, sidewalk, or bridge having a drop of three or more feet per four feet of travel length on either side of the established lanes, the absence of a fence or other suitable barrier shall be deemed hazardous.

For pupils in grades K through 8, walking to or from school or the bus stop at any time prior to one-half hour before sunrise or any time one half hour after sunset, as determined by the U.S. Weather Bureau shall be deemed hazardous.

4. Adjustments for Special Situations

When any of the aforementioned conditions exist, bus stops shall be provided no more than 500 feet from the point in the approved walking route to the bus stop where the condition exists. This distance, however, is not to result in bus stops being less than 500 feet apart for grades K-5. These stops will be no more than 750 feet for grades 6-8 provided that this distance will not result in bus stops for grades 6-8 being less than 750 feet apart.

Pupils possessing physical handicaps and/or health conditions rendering them unable to walk to either the bus stop or school, as determined by their physician or the school medical advisor, shall receive appropriate transportation. Special education pupils shall be evaluated on an individual basis as a result of an I.E.P.

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Traffic-related Hazardous Condition Identification

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Traffic-related Hazardous Conditions Exist if:					
To get to school or their assigned bus stop, students must cross one or more intersections of streets, roads, or highways which have:	and the student grade-range is:	and intersections or crossing points lack:	and at the time students are walking to or from school or bus stop:		
			the # vehicles/hr. exceeds	and the posted speed limits exceeds	
A. adjacent, parallel walkways on one or both sides	K - 5	stop sign, crossing guard or traffic control signal	120		
	6 - 8	"	180		
	All/any	"		40 mph	
B. there is no walkway on either side	K - 5	"	90	30 mph	
		"	40		
	6 - 8	"	180		
	All/any	at least 22 ft.	40		

*Conditions are deemed hazardous when the line of sight/visibility together with posted speed limits do not permit vehicular braking/stopping in accordance with the Connecticut Drivers Manual or the manual of the Department of Transportation, Division of Design. In contested cases, tests shall be conducted by an independent traffic engineer who shall be hired by the Board. Such tests shall employ the use of a mannequin of the following representative heights (smallest student in the grade-range group) to represent students in contested cases: grade K - 5, 43" (height of average kindergartner); grade 6 - 8, 58-1/2" (height of average 6th grade student). Testing shall consist of setting a mannequin on the side of the road, a car traveling at the posted speed limit around the curve and/or poor visibility area, and a measurement made of the time and distance it took the driver to stop from the time the driver first noticed the mannequin until the car came to a full stop. The distance will then be compared with the above criteria and a determination made by the traffic engineer as to whether or not the car stopped before reaching the mannequin.