Montana Adult School Crossing Guard Training Rules

(ARM 23.3.1101 - 1103)

New school crossing guard rules, adopted on June 26, 2014 and implemented by the Montana Department of Justice and the Office of Public Instruction, provide clear guidelines for the identification, training requirements, and operation of adult school crossing guard programs. A school crossing guard program can increase the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers in school zones, especially with the active involvement of schools, families, communities, and government agencies.

1. TRAINING FOR ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

An adult school crossing guard may be a school district employee or an adult volunteer member of the community. Training for adult school crossing guards may be provided by the school district or local law enforcement and should include:

- safety issues for crossing guards and limitations of children as pedestrians;
- review of basic traffic laws, school zone signs, and pavement markings;
- methods of identifying traffic gaps and signaling drivers;
- street-crossing procedures and ways to impart them to children; and
- other information on traffic safety, injury prevention, and personal responsibility that the school district considers important for pedestrian safety and safe crossing operation. AUTH: 20-1-214, MCA; IMP: 20-1-214, MCA

2. SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR ADULT CROSSING GUARDS

Adults performing school crossing supervision shall wear high-visibility, retro reflective Class 2 safety apparel and use a STOP paddle in accordance with the sign manual adopted by the Department of Transportation.

3. OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR ADULT CROSSING GUARDS

- Adult crossing guards shall not direct traffic or act in a manner similar to that used by a law enforcement officer at the scene of a crash or within an area of high-volume traffic. School crossing guards shall control **only pedestrian traffic.**
- Adult crossing guards shall direct and assist school-age children by identifying and utilizing gaps in traffic to help pedestrians safely cross a street. The school crossing guard shall identify and take advantage of a sufficient gap in the traffic flow. When safe, the school crossing guard shall stand in the roadway with a STOP paddle to alert motorists that pedestrians are in the process of using or waiting to use the crosswalk and that all vehicle traffic must stop and yield to pedestrians.

  AUTH: 20-1-214, MCA; IMP: 20-1-214, MCA