

NHTSA Launches New School Bus Safety Campaign

Deploys new resources from the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to address illegal passing of school buses

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The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has launched [a new national paid media campaign](#) to educate drivers about the dangers of illegally passing stopped school buses. The campaign will run through October 31.

"Passing a stopped school bus is against the law and could have fatal consequences. Nothing is worth the risk," said NHTSA Acting Administrator Ann Carlson. "Children's lives are on the line – every driver needs to stop when a school-bus stop arm is extended."

Every State and the District of Columbia have laws requiring drivers to stop when a school-bus stop arm is extended, because the greatest risk to a child isn't riding a school bus but boarding or leaving one. From 2010 to 2019, there were 1.6 times more fatalities among pedestrians than occupants of school transportation vehicles.

The President's [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) provides dedicated resources for NHTSA to create a public safety messaging campaign to protect the safety of children and bus operators. The campaign will educate drivers about the dangers of illegally passing school buses.

In the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services' 2019 Stop Arm survey, 130,963 school bus drivers reported that 95,319 vehicles passed their buses illegally on a single day. Throughout a 180-day school year, these sample results point to more than 17 million violations among America's driving public.

For school bus safety tips, please see NHTSA's [School Bus Safety](#) page.

NHTSA's 2020 [School-Transportation-Related Crashes Traffic Safety Facts](#) provides additional statistics on school bus safety.

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