



rules for School

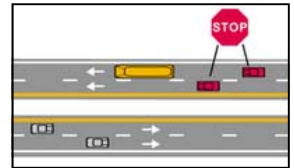
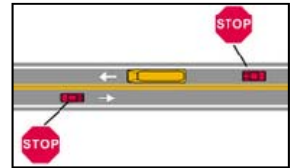


School-Related Traffic Enforcement Topics

Key Points - See Reverse for Fairfax County Code Language

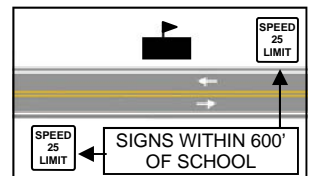
SCHOOL BUSES

- A driver who fails to stop for a school bus which is loading or discharging students **is guilty of Reckless Driving**.
- A driver need not stop when the school bus is on the **other side of a divided roadway** separated by a median or barrier.
- The school bus must have **warning lights, be painted yellow, and have the words "School Bus"** on the front and rear.
- However, failure of the warning lights to flash **does not relieve drivers of the duty to stop**. (Section 82-6-12. Failure to use school bus warning devices not to relieve motorist from duty. (Similar 46.2-1090.)



SCHOOL ZONES

- School Zones must be marked by **permanent flashing signs or temporary removable signs** when there is a traffic risk to school children (30 minutes before and after school).
- The speed limit in the area between School Zone signs is **25 miles per hour**.
- Speeding or improper driving in a school zone **is not automatically Reckless Driving** but may be if it constitutes a danger to life, limb or property.





rules for School



Selected Sections of Fairfax County Code

Section 82-4-2. Reckless driving; specific instances.

(For similar state law, see Va. Code Ann., § 46.2-853 et seq.)

(a) A person shall be guilty of reckless driving who shall: (6) Fail to stop when approaching from any direction a school bus, whether publicly or privately owned, which is stopped on any highway or school driveway for the purpose of taking on or discharging children, elderly, mentally or physically handicapped persons, and to remain stopped until all children, elderly, mentally or physically handicapped persons, are clear of the highway or school driveway and the bus is put in motion; except, that the driver of a vehicle upon a dual highway, when the roadways are separated by a physical barrier or barriers or an unpaved area, need not stop upon approaching a school bus which is on a roadway so separated from the one on which he is driving or an adjoining service road so separated, and except that the driver of a vehicle need not stop upon approaching a school bus which is loading or discharging passengers from or onto property immediately adjacent to a school if such driver is directed by a police officer or other duly authorized uniformed school crossing guard to pass such school bus. This Subsection shall apply to school buses which are equipped with warning devices prescribed in Code of Virginia, Section 46.2-1090, and are painted yellow with the words "School Bus, Stop, State Law" printed in black letters at least six (6) inches high on the front and rear thereof. If space is limited on the front, the words "School

Bus" may be in letters at least four (4) inches high. Only school buses as defined in Code of Virginia, Section 46.2-100, which are painted yellow and equipped with the required lettering and warning devices shall be identified as school buses; ...

Section 82-6-12. Failure to use school bus warning devices not to relieve motorist from duty. (Similar 46.2-1090.)

The failure of any school bus to have the warning device prescribed in Section 82-6-11 or the failure of the operator to use such warning device shall not relieve the operator of any motor vehicle from the duty to stop at or before passing such stopped school bus while taking on or discharging children as provided in Section 82-4-2(a)

Section 82-4-10. Maximum and minimum speed limits; posting of school zones. (For similar state law, see Va. Code Ann., § 46.2-878.)

(a) Whenever the speed limits incorporated by reference pursuant to [§ 82-1-6](#) have been increased or decreased for any highway or portion thereof pursuant to Virginia Code § 46.2-878 or § 46.2-1300, it shall be unlawful for any person to drive a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of such increased or decreased limits, when the same are properly indicated by signs on such highway. As provided for in Virginia Code § 46.2-878, whenever the speed limit on any highway has been increased or decreased or a differential speed limit has been established and such speed limit is properly posted, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the change in speed was properly established in accordance with the provisions of

Virginia Code § 46.2-878.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate a motor vehicle upon the highways in the county at a speed in excess of the maximum limits established in Virginia Code §§ 46.2-870—46.2-878.2. (3-13-63; 1961 Code, § 16-71; 9-78-82; 26-81-82; 25-10-82.)

Section 82-4-1. Reckless driving generally. (For similar state law, see Va. Code Ann., § 46.2-852.)

Irrespective of the maximum speeds provided in this Chapter, any person who drives a vehicle upon a highway recklessly or at a speed or in a manner so as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person shall be guilty of reckless driving; provided, that the driving of a motor vehicle in violation of any speed limit provision of Section 82-4-10 shall not of itself constitute ground for prosecution for reckless driving under this Section. Reckless driving shall be unlawful. ((3-13-63; 1961 Code, § 16-62.)