

ADULT CROSSING GUARDS



WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR REQUESTING NEW ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS?

All requests for new adult crossing guards should be directed to the appropriate School District. If the School District's staff feels that the location being requested needs to be evaluated, the District will forward the request to the City Public Works Department, which will arrange the collection of the data necessary to thoroughly study the location.

The results of the study for placing a crossing guard are transmitted back to the School District, which is responsible to budget funds for hiring a new crossing guard if the criteria are met. When the funds are budgeted, the new adult crossing guard goes into operation.

WHAT STANDARDS ARE USED TO DECIDE WHERE ADULT CROSSING GUARDS ARE PROVIDED?

Adult School Crossing Guards normally are assigned at locations where official supervision of elementary school pedestrians is desirable when they cross a public street indicated on the Suggested Route to School, and at least 40 elementary school pedestrians for each of any two hours daily use the crossing while going to or from school. Adult School Crossing Guards may be used under the following conditions:

1. At controlled crossings where there is no alternative controlled crossing within 600 feet; and

a. Vehicular traffic volume exceeds 350 during each of any two hours (not necessarily consecutive) in which 40 or more school

pedestrians cross daily while going to or from school; or

b. In rural areas where the vehicular traffic volume exceeds 300 during each of any two hours (not necessarily consecutive) in which 30 or more school pedestrians cross daily while going to or from school. Whenever the critical (85 percentile) approach speed exceeds 40 mph, the guidelines for rural areas should be applied.

2. At stop sign-controlled crossings:

Where the vehicular traffic volume on undivided highways of four or more lanes exceeds 500 per hour during any period when the school pedestrians are going to or from school.



3. At traffic signal-controlled crossings:

a. Where the number of vehicular-turning movements through the school crosswalk exceeds 300 per hour while school pedestrians are going to or from school.

b. Where justified through analysis of the operations of the intersection.

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ARE ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS TRAINED?



Desert Sands Unified School District provides a training program for all new adult crossing guards and monitors the effectiveness of all existing guards on an ongoing basis.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PROVIDE AN ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD?

Each adult crossing guard costs the school district approximately several thousand dollars per year. There is very limited funding for providing crossing guards and school districts are very careful in deciding where and for what hours adult crossing guards can be provided. The City of La Quinta does not fund Adult School Crossing Guard programs.

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROMOTE SCHOOL SAFETY?

Studies have shown that school-age pedestrians are the group at greatest risk from traffic.

You as a parent or concerned citizen can be the greatest influence, by ensuring that children are aware of and use the recommended routes. Also make sure that they are taught to “Stop, Look and Listen” prior to crossing a street, and to be alert yourself for the unexpected presence of school children, when you are driving.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions, requests or suggestions concerning crossing guard issues, please call the Public Works Department at (