

**CITY OF WESTON**  
**MINIMUM GUIDELINES FOR THE PLACEMENT OF**  
**ADULT CROSSING GUARDS FOR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

Traffic flow throughout the City combined with the high ratio of students walking or biking to school makes the use of school crossing guards essential to assist these students across busy intersections.

For purposes of these guidelines, adult crossing guards will be considered for locations where public elementary and middle school students cross.

**The City of Weston incorporates herein, the Guidelines of Broward County for the Placement of Adult Crossing Guards:**

The topic of traffic control, at or near a school, is a highly sensitive subject. It can be classified into two categories:

1. The wants and needs of the general public, and
2. The safety requirements for all modes of traffic

The “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices” (MUTCD) along with the Florida Department of Transportation’s “Roadway and Traffic Design Standards” are the guidelines utilized for the installation of all traffic control devices.

A traffic engineering study is conducted for all school traffic safety issues on an annual basis, by Broward County Traffic Engineering staff. During these annual reviews the placement and/or removal of school crossing guards are reviewed by both a representative from the municipality and traffic engineering staff. A study is conducted for all new crossing guard locations to determine if there is an actual need for that position. The placement of crossing guards at unauthorized locations only lessen the effectiveness for the motorist at authorized locations. It is important to stress the point that effective traffic control can best be obtained through the uniform application of realistic policies, practices and guidelines developed through properly conducted engineering studies.

**For the purpose of these guidelines:**

1. Where School Crossing Guards or Crossing Guards are mentioned, it pertains to “Adult” School Crossing Guards. Adult is defined as 18 years of age or older.
2. Where School Crossings are mentioned, it pertains to “designated” School Crossing locations. Designated school crossings are locations established along a safe walk route by the Broward County Traffic Engineering Division, the School Board of Broward County and the municipality.
3. Official School Zone Times are the times set for each individual school crossing location, by F.S. 316.1895.

## **Guidelines:**

Adult School Crossing Guards should be assigned at designated crossing locations along the safe walk routes where 25 or more students are present during official school zone times. School Crossing Guards may also be used under the following conditions:

1. At uncontrolled crossings where there are no alternative controlled crossings within 600 feet; and
  - a. Vehicular traffic volume exceeds 350 during official school zone times
  - b. Where the gap\* in traffic is less than what is needed to cross the street
2. At stop sign controlled crossings where the vehicular traffic volume conflicts with the crosswalk and exceeds 500 during the official school zone times
3. At mid-block pedestrian signal controlled crossings
4. At intersection traffic signal controlled crossings where the number of vehicular turning movements through the crosswalk exceeds 300 during official school zone times

The placement of additional crossing guards at a specific location is recommended under the following conditions:

1. Four or more lanes of travel, including turn lanes
2. Physically divided roadways
3. Turning movements that conflict with the student crosswalk
4. Where students are required to utilize more than one crosswalk at the intersection
5. Sight visibility (both vehicular and pedestrian should be considered)

\* A "GAP" in traffic is considered a length of time in which no vehicle, in any direction, conflicts with a school crosswalk, in which a student has to cross from one side of the street to the other. The length of this gap is calculated in seconds and is based on the number of students per crossing cycle. The time required for a student to cross the street is calculated by the width of the roadway at 3.5 feet per second.

Consideration should be given to vehicular traffic and guards should cross students every other traffic light cycle.