

Title 10 ► Chapter 5

School Bus Warning Lights

10-5-1 School Bus Warning Lights

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(a) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Sec. 346.48(2)(b)2., Wis. Stats., adopted by reference in Section 10.5, to the contrary and except as provided in Subsection (b) below, school bus operators shall use flashing red warning lights in residential and business districts when pupils or other authorized passengers are to be loaded or unloaded at locations at which there are no crosswalk or traffic signals so that pupils must cross the street or highway before being loaded or after being unloaded.

(2) The operator of a school bus equipped with flashing red warning lights shall actuate such lights at least one hundred (100) feet before stopping to load or unload pupils or other authorized passengers and shall not extinguish such lights until loading or unloading is completed and persons who must cross the street or highway are safely across.

(3) The operator of a school bus shall use the flashing red warning lights when loading or unloading passengers in a residential or business district, with the exception of streets or highways with four or more lanes.

(4) The operator of a motor vehicle which approaches from the front or rear of any school bus which has stopped on a street or highway when the bus is displaying flashing red warning lights shall stop the vehicle not less than twenty (20) feet from the bus and shall remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights. The operator of a school bus, which approaches the front or rear of another school bus that has stopped and is displaying red warning lights, shall stop not less than twenty (20) feet from the other bus, display its red warning lights and remain stopped with red warning lights actuated until the other bus resumes motion or the other operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights.

(b) Pursuant to Sec. 349.21(2), Wis. Stats., the use of flashing red warning lights by school bus operators is prohibited when pupils or other authorized passengers are loaded or unloaded directly from or onto the school grounds or that portion of a right-of-way between the roadway and the school grounds designated by "school" warning signs as provided in Sec. 118.08(1), Wis. Stats.

(c) This section is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by Wis. Stat. § 349.21.

(d) Violators of this Section will be subject to the penalty provisions in Wisconsin State Code.