

SMART DRIVER[®]

August 2023

SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY REVIEW

Yes, school is back in session and that means school zone safety

We have all heard it said, “The biggest worries in school zones are caused by the smallest people.” Children see traffic from their own little world. A child develops a sense of danger around nine or ten years of age. Unlike adults, it is difficult for small children to recognize a hazardous situation. A child may think that if one automobile stops, all traffic will stop.

Every year, young people are killed by motorists who fail to stop while children are boarding or exiting a stopped school bus. When following a school bus, professional drivers should maintain the proper speed and increase their following distance. The school bus driver may stop suddenly to pick up a young student who may be late.

Drivers of commercial motor vehicles may have difficulty seeing young children. Professional drivers must always anticipate the presence of children when operating in and around a school zone, residential area, strip mall, shopping center, playground, and on highways with bicycle lanes. When operating in these areas, drivers must reduce the speed of their vehicle to below the posted limit and plan for unexpected movements of young children and teenagers.

Teenage drivers and parents pose additional hazards for commercial vehicle operators. Teenage drivers take risks and may speed through school zones or suddenly cut in front of a commercial vehicle. Parents transporting a carload of noisy children may fail to use his or her turn signals, stop suddenly, or abruptly change lanes. Lets all pledge to operate our vehicles in a safe, professional manner and keep our young children safe.

Note: These lists are not intended to be all-inclusive.



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Knowledge Verification

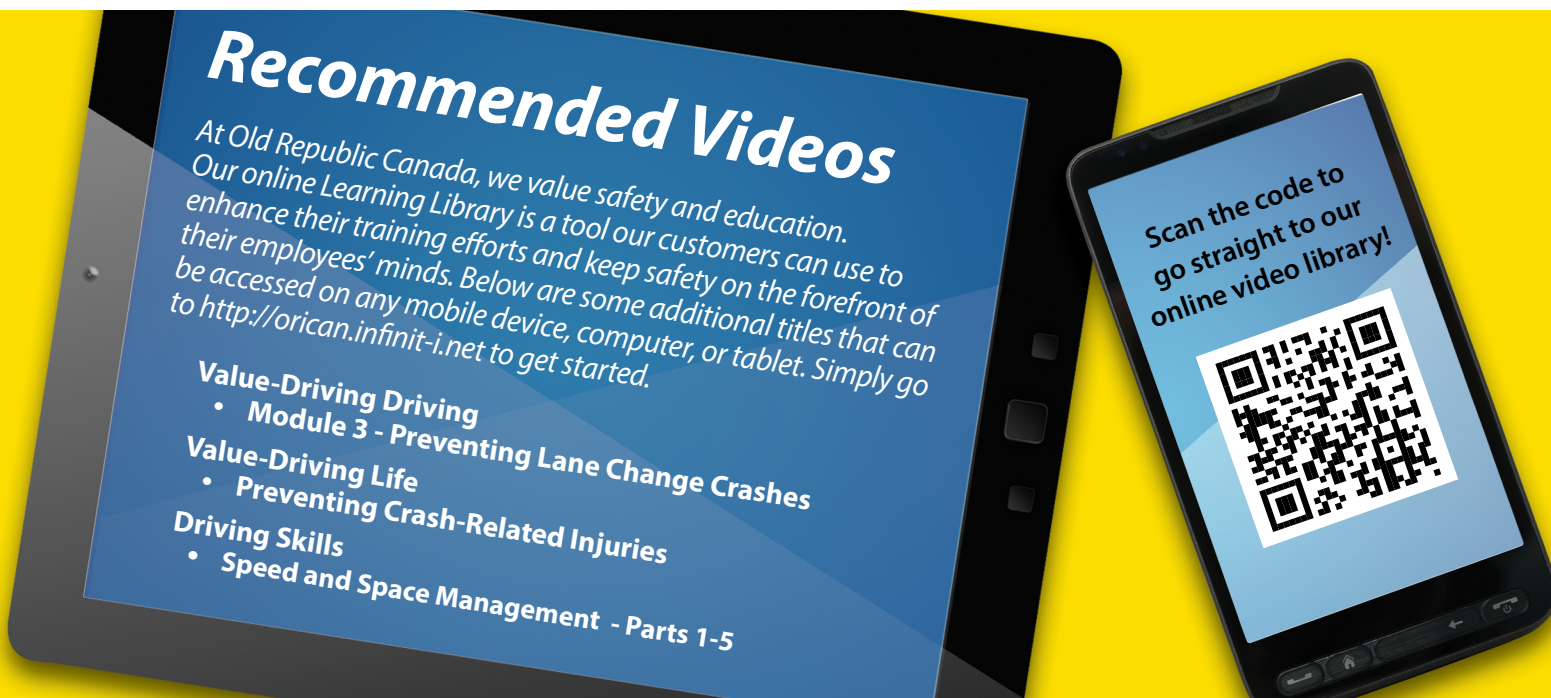
Driver's Name: _____ Driver's Signature: _____

Emp/Unit#: _____ Date: _____ Witness Name: _____

Please answer, and forward a completed copy to your Safety Department/Safety Representative.

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| 1. Teenage drivers take risks and may speed through school zones. | True | False |
| 2. Drivers must plan for the unexpected movements of young children and teenagers. | True | False |
| 3. Parents transporting a carload of noisy children may fail to use their turn signals, stop suddenly, or abruptly change lanes. | True | False |

Answers:
1. True
2. True
3. True



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SAFETY REVIEW**