

# The School Safety Patrol Program




Each year, children travel to and from school almost 400 times. This can lead to concerns about pedestrian and traffic safety around schools.

Many BC schools, with the support of their local police, are partnering with the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation to address these problems. The Foundation's School Safety Patrol Program trains students from grades five to seven to assist and direct children and their families as they cross roads.

In addition, the program addresses environmental and health concerns by decreasing dangerous traffic congestion, reducing harmful vehicle emissions and encouraging students to choose more physically active modes of travel to school.



## Who benefits from the School Safety Patrol Program?

-  **The community** – The School Safety Patrol Program helps foster closer ties with the community. Local police officers provide the training for patrollers and build positive connections with students at the elementary school level. Student patrollers are visible ambassadors for their school and assist both parents and their children at school crossings.
-  **The school** – While the obvious benefit to the school is reduced congestion and pedestrian safety in the immediate area of the school, there are additional benefits. The school is providing students with an opportunity to learn leadership and teamwork skills and develop a sense of community service. Participating schools often find that the School Safety Patrol helps to increase the school's visibility in the neighbouring community. Providing a safe access to school encourages families to be active and choose alternative ways to travel to school as well as reduce harmful vehicle emissions.
-  **The student patrollers** – Being a patroller provides students with learning opportunities. They receive training, and, through the program, develop a sense of responsibility and citizenship. Student patrollers become role models for younger students. The school safety patrol receives recognition for their commitment and dedication to the program.

## How it works

The BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation's School Safety Patrol Program is a partnership involving the Foundation, police, school districts and schools. Each partner assumes specific roles to support the program and to ensure the safety of young children as they arrive and leave school each day.



**The BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation** provides safety patrol equipment, training resources, student recognition and support.



**Police services** are responsible for working with the schools to train patrollers at the beginning of each school year and for ongoing monitoring year round.



**School boards** are responsible for approving the use of a BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation-sponsored patrol program in their district.



**Each school** pays an initial start up fee of \$500. Thereafter, an annual partnership fee is due with registration. The fee for the 2009/2010 school year is \$275 if paid before June 26, 2009.

School staff coordinate the daily patrol operations, such as recruiting, scheduling and supervising students in the School Safety Patrol Program..

## Student patrollers

Student patrollers are intermediate elementary students who guide fellow students and prevent them from entering traffic when it is unsafe. When safe, patrollers direct students to cross. Patrollers are used only at crossings where there are safe gaps in the regular flow of traffic.

Patrol members are ambassadors for their schools and should be prepared to:

- Report for patrol duty on time.
- Set a good example for other students and strive to earn their respect.
- Participate on and commit to a team.
- Report the dangerous practices of other students to school officials.
- Obey teachers and other adults involved with the school safety patrol.

Patrollers must:

- Be responsible elementary school students (grades 5 to 7)
- Have parental consent.
- Be able to physically perform their duties in all weather conditions.

## For more information

Visit [www.SchoolSafetyPatrol.ca](http://www.SchoolSafetyPatrol.ca)  
or call our School Safety Patrol Program Coordinator at  
(604) 297-2153.

