

# EDUCATION

## Pedestrian Training Models

The Massachusetts Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS) offers two pedestrian safety education models: the Student Mentor Model, and the Adult Mentor Model. Both models are designed to teach adult or student volunteers to become pedestrian safety mentors for the younger students. Both are great options to educate students on pedestrian safety, and ways for your school to create ongoing pedestrian safety education lessons each year.

### ✓ Student Mentor Model

The Student Mentor Model trains older, responsible, mature students to be pedestrian safety mentors for the younger students (we recommend 5th graders). This model allows older students to take on a greater responsibility by training the younger ones. Many times younger students respond positively when being taught by older students as they often look up to them.

What is Needed:

- Two 5th or 6th graders per group of six or less students
- Between 30 to 45 minutes of training for the student volunteers
- Approximately 30 minutes for safety education for each class
- A safe and secure location on or near school grounds
- A few items that can be dropped during one of the activities, such as a pencil, book, or tennis ball

### ✓ Adult Mentor Model

The Adult Mentor Model trains adult volunteers to be pedestrian safety training leaders for their schools and communities by sharing safety knowledge with students. This model works especially well with parents who are enthusiastic and eager to volunteer for school activities.

What is Needed:

- One adult per group of five or less students
- Between 20 to 30 minutes of training for the volunteers
- Approximately 30 minutes for safety education for each class
- A safe and secure location on or near school grounds
- A few items that can be dropped during one of the activities, such as a pencil, book, or tennis ball



Massachusetts Safe Routes to School pedestrian safety education brings students out of the classroom and introduces them to real world situations that they may encounter when they walk to school. These sessions review basics such as how to properly cross the street in a crosswalk, as seen above.

### Massachusetts Safe Routes to School Education Classroom Tools

The National Center for Safe Routes to School has reported an increase of students walking to school from 12% in 2007 to 15% in 2012 nationwide. Research has shown that parents are more comfortable with having their children walk to school if the school supports walk to school activities and events.

Questions? Your SRTS outreach coordinator is here to help.

Massachusetts Safe Routes to School

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[www.mass.gov/massdot/saferoutes](http://www.mass.gov/massdot/saferoutes)

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