

Sub-part 7601 – Traffic Engineering Division

Chapter 00500 Traffic Control School Areas

Purpose

- 100 Establish a policy for the erection of signs and signals for schools and school crossings as per the current edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and Mississippi Code Annotated, section 63-3-515.
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General Policies

- 200 All signs and signals shall conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for streets and highways.
- 201 School speed zone assemblies will be installed upon request at all public schools, and at all private schools that are members of MPSA and/or have a minimum enrollment of 100 students. Also, these facilities shall either have direct access to the MDOT roadway, or be the primary traffic generator for the roadway that connects to the MDOT roadway.
- 202 When requested, “School Traffic Turning” warning signs will be placed at schools that don’t meet the above criteria. Engineering studies will determine the need for such signs.
- 203 At intersections that are impacted significantly by school traffic, appropriate warning signs may be installed.

Responsibility of the Department of Transportation

- 300 Ground-mounted “School”, “School Speed Limit”, “School Advance”, and “When Children are Present”, or “When Flashing” signs will be erected by the Department as applicable.
- 301 Where a school speed limit is posted it shall apply only “When Children are Present” or “When Flashing” as posted. At all other times, any other posted speed limit or the statutory speed limit as applicable shall apply.
- 302 A posted school speed limit takes precedence over any other posted speed limit.
 - 1. School speed zone speed limits will be set no less than 10 MPH below the posted speed limit unless indicated by an engineering study.

- 303 The Department will purchase and attach amber flashers to the school speed limit sign assembly when a school site and the local jurisdiction meet all of the following conditions:
- 304 The school property is immediately adjacent to state highway right-of-way.
- 305 Driveway(s) to the school intersect a state highway that has been relocated to a point immediately adjacent to the school property or additional through-lanes have been constructed adjacent to the school.
- 306 The local jurisdiction obtains an approved permit from the Department, which includes maintenance, payment for electrical power, and operational requirements of the flashers and flasher accessories by the permittee.
- 307 The local jurisdiction must submit in writing to the District their capabilities for properly maintaining and operating the flashers and flasher accessories.

Responsibility of the Local Jurisdiction

- 400 If the local jurisdiction elects to do so, MDOT will issue a permit for them to attach amber flashers to the school speed limit sign assembly. The flashers shall operate only on school days and at times of special activities during periods as follows:
1. When children are going to school
 2. When children are leaving school
 3. At noon, if a substantial number of the students leave the school for lunch
- 401 All flasher assembly permits, layouts, wiring diagrams, and proposed equipment lists shall be submitted through the District to the Traffic Signal Engineer for approval.
- 402 All flashers installed under permit shall be maintained and kept in good working condition. The permit holder is responsible for payment for electrical power and maintenance. The permit holder is responsible for such maintenance. Failure to properly maintain and operate the flashers in accordance with the requirements as stated on the permit will result in their removal by the Department.
- 403 Sites for the Mississippi Code are available at www.state.ms.us and MUTCD information is available at mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov. Any other publications may be viewed during regular business hours at the MDOT Administration Building.