The Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program

Improving safe transportation for our most vulnerable road users

Bonus: The Florida Crossing Guard Industry Survey 2020 results

Dana Crosby, M. Ed.
Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program
Safety Office, Florida Department of Transportation

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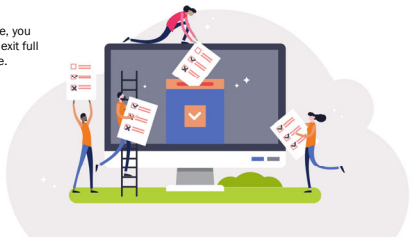
Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program
Safety Office, Florida Department of Transportation

1

Do you know what a school crossing guard is?

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. Yes
B. No



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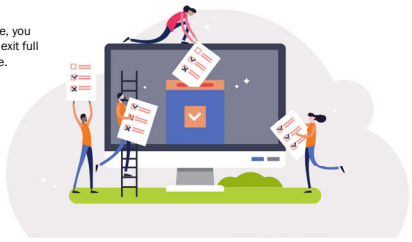
2

Do you have crossing guards in your community?

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. Yes
B. No



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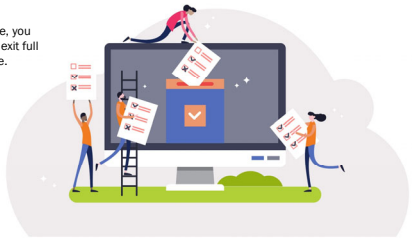
3

Do you think school crossing guards make crossing safer for kids?

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. Yes
B. No
C. Unsure



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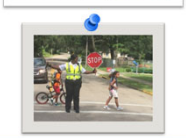
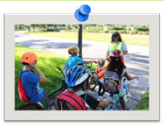
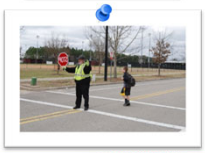
What makes walking and biking to school more feasible for some students and parents?



"A community must be sure, that this mode of transportation to school is as safe as possible for ALL." --Dana Crosby





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Crossing Guard Uniform Training

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1. What is the Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program?
2. How did the program come about?
3. How does it improve safe transportation for our most vulnerable road users?

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"Crossing Guards are the unsung heroes of the community working to keep our youngest citizens safe. Each school day they brave the elements of weather, traffic, air and noise pollution. They surrender personal needs to split up their day to ensure the safety of the communities' students. Often, they go unnoticed by the general public until you have a child of your own, or they don't show up one morning and you notice something different about an intersection."

Shannon Robeson
Former Crossing Guard Program Coordinator
Jacksonville Beach Police Department
School Crossing Guard Program

Program of the Year Award Winner 2013
(Medium Agency)

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Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program

- A **train-the-trainer program** based on Chapter 316 Section 75 - Florida Statutes
- *Local governmental entities* that administer school crossing guard programs must train their guards according to guidelines developed by the Florida Department of Transportation.

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History of the Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program

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Program Basis

Florida Statute 316.75– School Crossing Guards or "Ramon Tunquist Act"

Tuesday, August 27, 1991 25 cents

Boy, 7, killed by truck on way to school

By KIM MARGOLIS and KAREN SAMPLES
Staff Writers

HALLANDALE — A 7-year-old boy holding his mother's hand while heading to the first day of school on Monday was struck by a truck and killed after he stepped off a curb onto busy Hallandale Beach Boulevard.

As he lay on the ground, Ramon Turnquist quietly asked his "mom" when his crying mother, Debra Brown, asked him whether he could hear her. The second-grader died a while later at Memorial Hospital in Hollywood.

Ramon's brother, Quin, 5, watched from the sidewalk as his mother tried to comfort her oldest child, witnesses said.

The truck's driver, Angel Maceira, ran to Ramon's side and cradled the dying child.

"I don't think his feet was on the ground yet when [the truck] hit him," said Karen Young, who was walking her child to school a few paces behind Ramon and his family.

Police said the accident occurred right after the light turned red. The morning green light signals the crossing guard to stop traffic on Hallandale Beach Boulevard at Northwest Fourth Avenue. Debra Brown was holding Ramon with one hand and Quin with the other.

Ramon stepped off the curb first and was struck by Maceira's southbound pickup truck, which apparently ran through the red light, police said.

No charges were filed against Maceira. An investigation was continuing, said Marcia Sindler, spokeswoman for the Hallandale Police Department.

Karen Young, who usually walks to school with Brown and her children, was nearing the curb with her daughter when she saw the accident.

"He would always be with his mother, he was a nice little kid," said Young, who has known Debra Brown, 27, and Ramon's father, Almore Turquist, 28, since they were children.

Ramon was examined at Memorial Hospital and released, hospital employees said. Neither Quin nor Brown was hurt.

Since the early 1980s, Broward County parents have pressed for speed zones around schools, including Hallandale Elementary, which is on Southwest Fourth Avenue, near Hallandale Beach Boulevard.

The County Commission has designated 15 mph zones on county roads that schoolchildren must cross if the roads are within sight of a school. But that rule

SEE BOY / 4A

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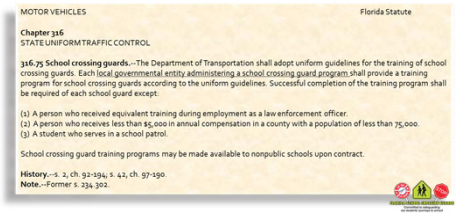
Statewide Program



MOTOR VEHICLES — Florida Statute

Chapter 316
STATE UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL

316.75 School crossing guards.--The Department of Transportation shall adopt uniform guidelines for the training of school crossing guards. Each local governmental entity administering a school crossing guard program shall provide a training program for school crossing guards according to the uniform guidelines. Successful completion of the training program shall be required of each school guard except:

(1) A person who received equivalent training during employment as a law enforcement officer.
(2) A person who receives less than $5,000 in annual compensation in a county with a population of less than 75,000.
(3) A student who serves in a school patrol.

School crossing guard training programs may be made available to nonpublic schools upon contract.

History.--s. 2, ch. 92-294; s. 42, ch. 97-190.
Note.--Former s. 234.302.

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Train-the-trainer Program Goals

1. Uniform Training
2. Consistency throughout the state
3. Effective and safe operation of guarded school crossings

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Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program

Adopt	Provide	Train and certify
The Department of Transportation shall adopt uniform guidelines for the training of school crossing guards.	Provide statewide, "train-the-trainer" certification courses throughout the year covering the state.	Train and certify local school crossing guard trainers in accordance with the *Guidelines*. Certified trainers in turn train guards for their local agencies. Training resources are provided.

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STOP
POLICE
This is NOT the crossing procedure recommended by Florida.
STOP
Going from this…
To get to this!
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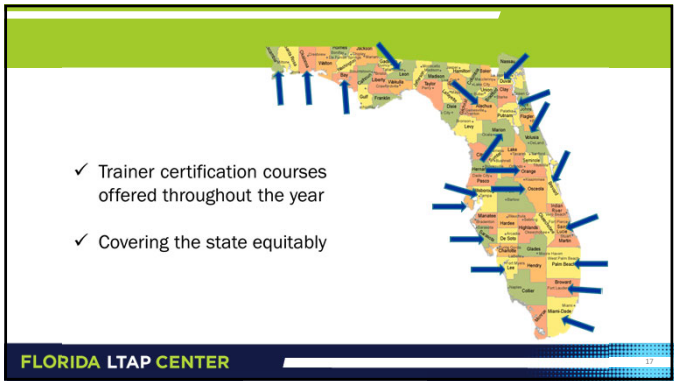
✓ Trainer certification courses offered throughout the year
✓ Covering the state equitably
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Classroom Instruction
Course Content
Resources
Help
Module 1: Introduction and Overview
Module 2: Background
Module 3: Administration and Training Program Components
Module 4: Traffic and Other Hazards
Module 5: Traffic Control Devices
Module 6: Crossing Fundamentals
Module 7: Crossing Procedures
Module 8: Course Conclusion
Final Exam
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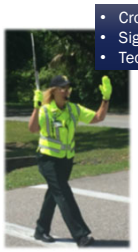
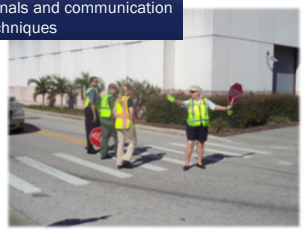
Practical Training

- Crossing procedures
- Signals and communication
- Techniques

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Trainer Certification

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FLORIDA SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

This is to certify that

Awesome A. Trainer

has successfully completed the training and is a certified

Florida School Crossing Guard Trainer

September 16, 2020
Date

FDOT

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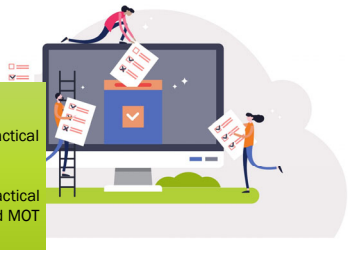
To be certified as a school crossing guard in Florida you must complete:

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.



A. Practical training and supervised duty
B. Classroom instruction, practical training and supervised duty
C. Practical training
D. Classroom instruction, practical training, supervised duty and MOT training

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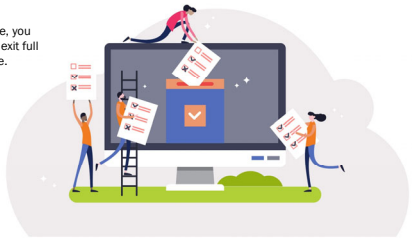
School Crossing Guards in Florida shall be recertified how often:

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. Every 5 years
B. Every 2 years
C. Every year



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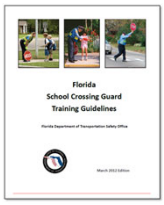
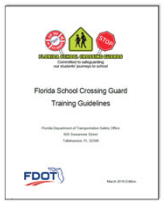
Guidelines



2012 Edition



March 2016 Edition

May 2020 Edition

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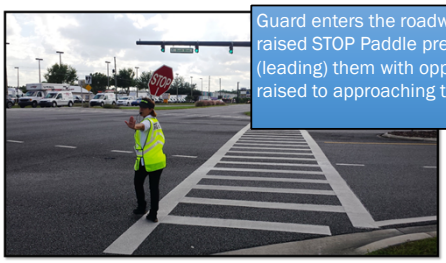
3B.01. Techniques for use of STOP paddle



Guard enters the roadway with raised STOP Paddle preceding (leading) them with opposite arm raised to approaching traffic.
-- (2016)

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3B.01. Techniques for use of STOP paddle

Raise the STOP paddle, at least shoulder-high, with the arm that will be closest to the far (opposite) side of the street when you take the position for crossing children.
– (2020)

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2A.13. C. Remain standing while on duty

- A guard **shall not** sit while on duty: The visible presence of an alert, standing guard helps deter unsafe behavior and maintain orderly crossings.

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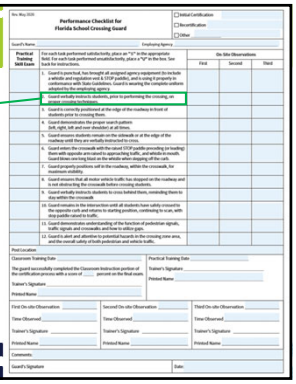
Performance Checklist

2. Guard verbally instructs students, prior to performing the crossing, on proper crossing techniques.


Performance Checklist for Florida School Crossing Guard

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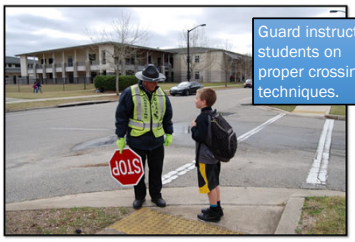
2A.03. Understanding children's need to master safe crossing skills



Guard instructs students on proper crossing techniques.

Why is this important?

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1J. State of Emergency

If within the certification year the Governor declares a state of emergency, guard and trainer certification requirements will be extended by 30 days of lifting the state of emergency and reopening of schools.

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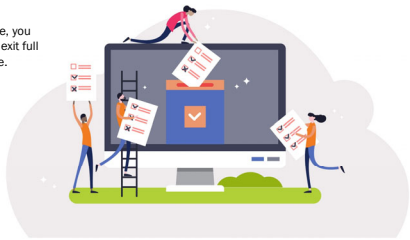
The Guidelines state that a guard ____ sit while on duty.

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. Shall not
B. Should not
C. May not



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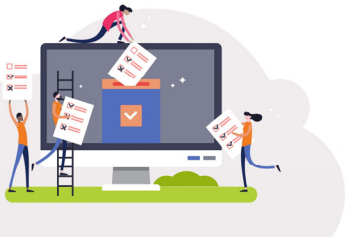
The Guidelines state that, adult crossing guards shall wear or use the following 3 items:

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.



A. Whistle, helmet and STOP paddle
B. Whistle, badge and STOP paddle
C. Whistle, retro-reflective outer garment and STOP paddle

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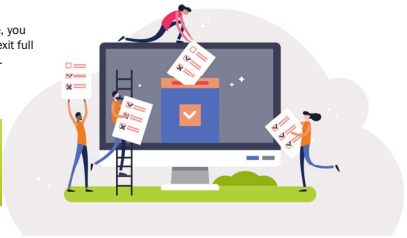
The guard ____ blow one long blast on the whistle when stepping off the curb.

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.



A. Shall (required)
B. Should (recommended)
C. May (optional)

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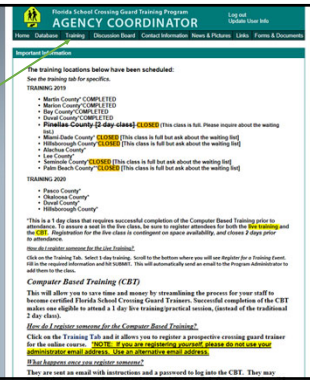
Click on the "Training" tab to access training resources



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Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program
FDOT
Florida School Crossing Guard Program: Comprehensive Training
Part One: Background & History
Part Two: Uniform Elements & Required Equipment
Part Three: Crossing Techniques, Communications & Signaling
Part Four: School Zone & Crossing Area Inspections
Part Five: Traffic and Other Hazards at School Crossings
Part Six: Summary - Primary Responsibilites
FDOT IT
This page maintained by Safety Office
Submit comments about this page to Dana Crosby
or contact us at (850) 414-4023.
Report Technical Problems to the FDOT Service Desk:
1 (866) 955-4357 or email FDOT Service Desk.
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Hazardous Motorists Behaviors video

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SUMMIT
May 7, 2019 | 10:00am - 3:00pm
LEARN, NETWORK, PARTICIPATE & ENJOY!
EVENT SCHEDULE
EXHIBITS & DEMO
WORKSHOP SESSIO
Continuing Safety Education…
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FDOT is dedicated to providing a train-the-trainer program to educate trainers on the safe and effective techniques and crossing procedures used by crossing guards.
Florida is a leader among states in developing its crossing guard uniform training guidelines and curriculum.
#1
Welcome to
FLORIDA
THE SUNSHINE STATE

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Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program

1. Train-the-Trainer program based on Florida Statute
2. Came about through tragedy and the need to improve safety
3. Improves safe transportation for our most vulnerable road users

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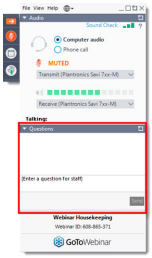
Questions?



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FSCGTP 2020 Biennial Survey

- Designed to gather information about the Crossing Guard industry in the state.
- Sent to Crossing Guard Program Coordinators.
- Responses compiled and charted.

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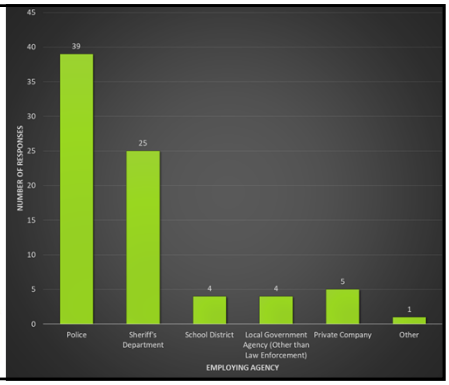
Crossing guards in your agency are employed by:

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*



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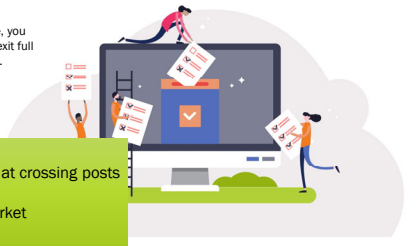
Which factor(s) affect guard vacancies?

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.



A. Salary Offered
B. Working conditions at crossing posts
C. Hours of Position
D. Competitive job market
E. All of the Above

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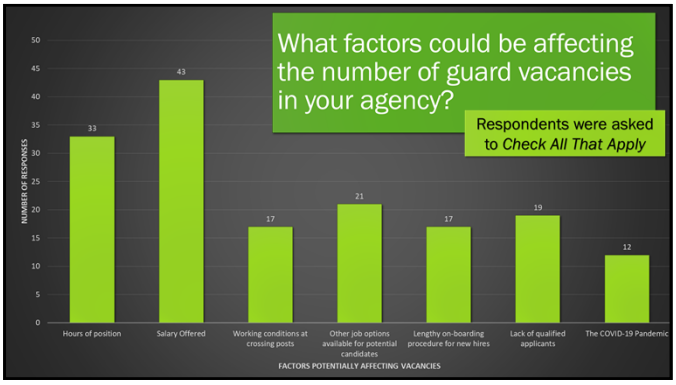
What factors could be affecting the number of guard vacancies in your agency?

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*



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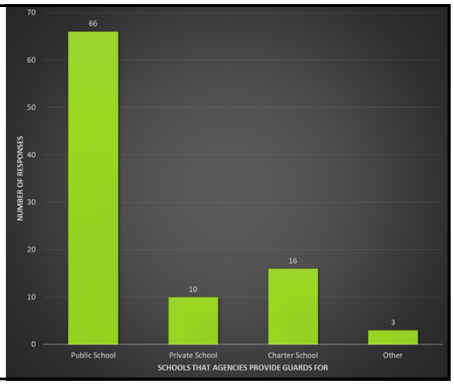
Does your agency provide crossing guards for:

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*



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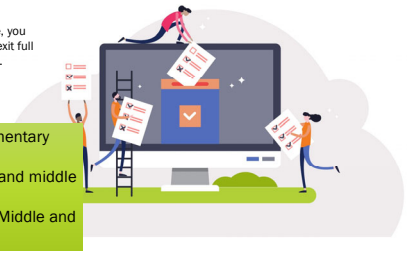
Crossing guards are provided for:

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.



A. Only Pre-K and elementary school students
B. Pre-K, Elementary, and middle school students
C. Pre-K, Elementary, Middle and High school students

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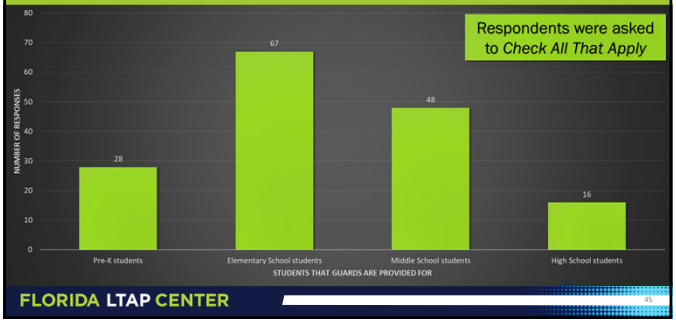
Are Crossing Guards Provided for:

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*



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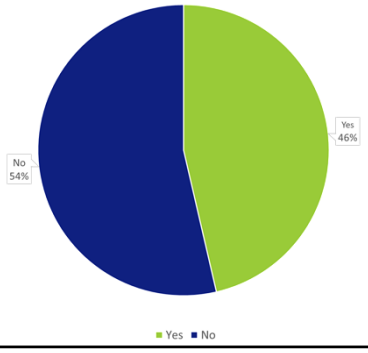
Do You Receive Requests To Cover More Schools Than You Have Resources For?



Respondents were asked to *Select One Answer*

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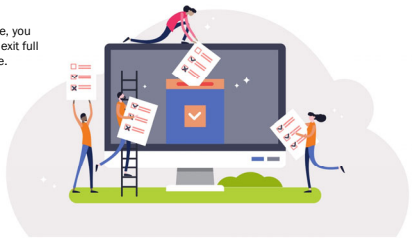
What is the average starting hourly pay is for a crossing guard in Florida?

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. $8.96
B. $10.78
C. $13.07
D. $14.20



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What is the starting hourly rate for a new crossing guard in your agency?

	Starting Hourly Pay
Minimum	$8.56*
Average	$13.07
Maximum	$30.00

*$8.56 is the minimum wage in Florida

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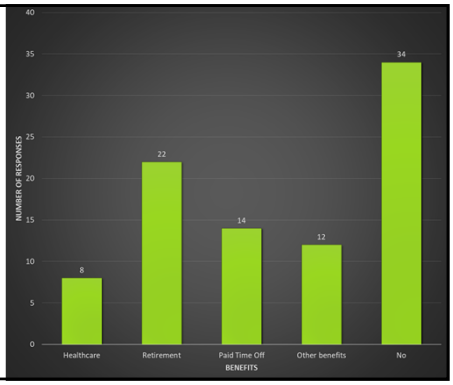
Do crossing guards in your agency receive any employee benefits?

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*



49

What equipment does your agency provide to guards?

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*

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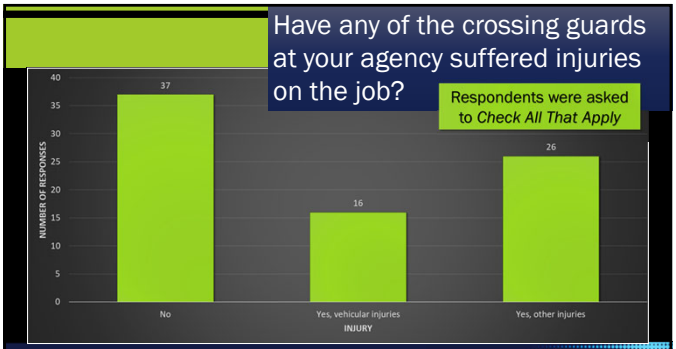
Have any of the crossing guards at your agency suffered injuries on the job?

Respondents were asked to *Check All That Apply*



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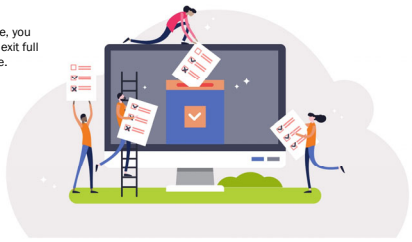
What percentage of Florida agencies laid off guards due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Cast your vote on-screen.
If you are in full-screen mode, you may need to press "ESC" to exit full screen mode in order to vote.

A. 12%
B. 26%
C. 34%
D. 41%



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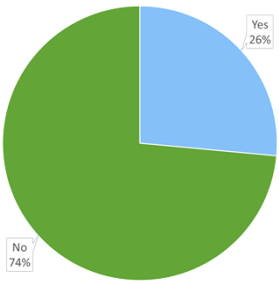
Did your agency lay off guards due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Respondents were asked to *Select One Answer*



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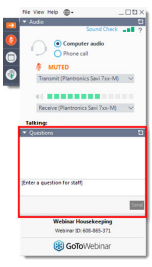
Questions?



Send follow-up questions to:
FloridaLTAP@cutr.usf.edu

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Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program
DON'T BE THAT GUARD!
PSA
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Committed to safeguarding our students' journeys to school
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THANK YOU
For more information, contact:
Dana Crosby, M. Ed.
Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program
Safety Office, Florida Department of Transportation
Dana.Crosby@dot.state.fl.us
FLORIDA SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS
Committed to safeguarding our students' journeys to school
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