

RESOURCES

SafeRoutes

National Center for Safe Routes to School



Putting Safe Routes to School Into Practice

Safe Routes to School Guide

guide.saferoutesinfo.org

This guide is a comprehensive online reference manual designed to support the development of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs. Available online or in a downloadable PDF version, the guide covers engineering, education, enforcement, encouragement, evaluation and more.

Evaluation Guide

guide.saferoutesinfo.org/evaluation

Evaluation is used to determine how well a SRTS program's strategies meet its goals and what changes might make a program more successful. This guide describes how to conduct a SRTS program evaluation that is tailored to that program's objectives and strategies.

SRTS Success Stories

www.saferoutesinfo.org/data-central/success-stories/

Browse more than 160 case studies of successful SRTS programs from around the country, searchable by topic and state.

Involving Students with Disabilities in SRTS

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/involving-students-disabilities-srts

Find ideas on how to include and accommodate children with disabilities in SRTS. This resource discusses practical strategies for involving students with disabilities in SRTS and provides examples of programs that have successfully done so.

Adult Crossing Guard Guide

guide.saferoutesinfo.org/crossing_guard

Adult school crossing guards play an important role in the lives of children who walk or bicycle to school by helping them cross the street safely and by acting as responsible pedestrian role models. This 16-page guide describes Federal standards and recommendations for adult school crossing guard practices, and it provides examples of how some states and communities address these issues.

Walking School Bus Guide

guide.saferoutesinfo.org/walking_school_bus

A walking school bus is a group of children walking or bicycling to school with one or more adults. Communities around the world are finding that walking school buses can help make walking to school more safe, fun, and convenient for children and families. Use this guide to understand the benefits, points to consider before launching one, and ways to conduct it.

Safe Routes to School Briefing Sheets by the Institute of Transportation Engineers

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/srts-ite-briefing-sheets

The National Center for Safe Routes to School and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) have created a series of nine instructional briefing sheets for transportation practitioners to use for Safe Routes to School program planning and implementation. The briefing sheets will support transportation engineers and planners as they work to establish safer walking and bicycling routes near schools.



**Safe Routes to School Noteworthy Practices Guide:
A Compendium of State SRTS Program Practices**
www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/srts-noteworthy-practices

The federal SRTS program empowers states and local communities to choose to make walking and bicycling to school a safe and available everyday mode choice. Since the federal SRTS program was enacted, states have implemented their programs through a myriad of approaches. This guide contains specific examples of noteworthy practices by state SRTS programs for consideration by state and federal SRTS practitioners.

Safe Routes to School Law Enforcement Website
apps.saferoutesinfo.org/lawenforcement

This website provides materials to help law enforcement officers get involved in Safe Routes to School. The resource includes a wide variety of tools, such as: tips for law enforcement officers on walking and bicycling safety, take away materials for students, parents, school staff, and others, links to related sites for resource materials, and much more.

10 Tips for SRTS Programs and Liability
www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/10-tips-safe-routes-school-programs-and-liability

In general, encouraging walking and bicycling to school does not increase a school's liability exposure. This tip sheet offers 10 steps that a school should take to minimize the risk that the school will be held liable for negligence in the event that a student is hurt while walking or bicycling to school.

Prioritizing Infrastructure Projects Guide
www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/prioritizing-infrastructure-projects

This document explains a process to help transportation professionals identify schools that merit additional review for specific pedestrian infrastructure improvements based on safety considerations.

School Bicycling and Walking Policies: Addressing Policies that Hinder and Implementing Policies that Help
www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/school-bicycling-and-walking-policies

While SRTS programs are developing and flourishing in many communities around the country, some communities are discovering school policies that act as barriers to active transportation. This six-page tip sheet provides information on how to identify key policies and how to convert barrier policies to ones more supportive of bicycling and walking to school. This resource was developed in partnership with the Safe Routes to School National Partnership.

Personal Security and Safe Routes to School
www.saferoutesinfo.org/events-and-training/srts-webinars/personal-security-and-safe-routes-school

Follow these strategies to increase oversight along routes to school so students and parents feel safe. Supervised "walking school buses" that collect neighborhood children to walk in a group to school, middle school students walking or bicycling to school together, and adult "corner captains" who volunteer to provide an extra set of eyes along common school routes are all ways that Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs make the environment around schools safer for students.

Environmental Education
www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/safe-routes-schools-walking-health-and-environment-curriculum

Families and communities are becoming increasingly interested in finding ways to reduce their impact on the environment. The free, downloadable resources listed here offer interdisciplinary approaches to teach children about air pollution and global climate change with a focus on transportation choices.



Getting More Students to Walk and Bicycle: Four Elements of Successful Programs

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/getting-students-to-walk-and-bicycle-for-practitioners

This summary resource highlights how practitioners can use the Shifting Modes study's findings to increase student participation in SRTS programs.

Tips for Engaging Middle School Students in SRTS Programs

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/engaging-middle-school-students

This tip sheet offers ideas on how SRTS practitioners get energetic and curious, yet sometimes hard-to-engage, middle school students excited about SRTS.

Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety

Teaching Children to Walk Safely as They Grow and Develop: A Guide for Parents and Caregivers

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/teaching-children-to-walk-safely

To help children become safe walkers, adults must look at the world of traffic from a child's point of view and have an understanding of how children's abilities to learn and reason develop over time. This 22-page guide helps parents and caregivers match their guidance and expectations with their children's abilities.

Child Pedestrian Safety Curriculum Teachers Guide

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/NHTSA-pedestrian-curriculum

This guide developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) helps teachers encourage pedestrian safety for students grades K-5 with lessons on walking near traffic, crossing streets, crossing intersections, parking lot safety and school bus safety.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education

www.walkbiketoschool.org/keep-going/ongoing-activities/classroom-curricula

Knowing how to walk and bicycle safely is important. Free, downloadable pedestrian and bicycle safety education programs listed here offer age-appropriate lessons and skills practice.

Tips for Walking Safely to School

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/education-tip-sheets

Three tip sheets offer helpful guidelines for educating parents, teachers and children on safe ways to walk and bike to school. The tips are available in English and Spanish.

Bike Safety Tip Sheets

www.walkbiketoschool.org/keep-going/bike-safety

These tip sheets help parents and children prepare for bicycling to school with information on route planning, helmet safety, and more.



Making the Case for Safe Routes to School

Safe Routes to School Talking Points

(in English and in Spanish)

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/srts-talking-points

Talking points offer helpful information on topics such as trends in school travel, safety, physical activity, and environment and air quality that can help make the case for Safe Routes to School. Use these talking points during interviews with local media, meetings with parents, or any other communications planned for a Safe Routes to School program.

Downloadable Video — Why Safe Routes to School Matter

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/marketing-and-promotions-why-safe-routes-matter-video

Use this video to promote safe walking and bicycling to school within your community and to give an overview of the basics of Safe Routes to School.

Safe Routes to School Flier

(in English and in Spanish)

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/marketing-and-promotions-flyers-and-postcards

This flier offers a brief overview of the Safe Routes to School Program.

Downloadable PowerPoint — SRTS: Improving Health, Safety and Transportation

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/presentation-srts-improving-health-safety-and-transportation

Use this PowerPoint presentation to promote safe walking and bicycling to school and to give an overview of the basics of Safe Routes to School. The presentation reviews the reasons why walking and bicycling to school have decreased in the United States, the consequences of this decrease, and the ways in which Safe Routes to School are a part of the solution

Walk and Bike to School Day Resources

Getting Started Guide

www.walkbiketoschool.org/getting-started

This eight-step guide provides an easy to-do list for Walk to School Day and Bike to School Day event organizers.

Promotional Materials

www.walkbiketoschool.org/get-set/promote-the-event

Find templates for news releases, PSAs and other promotional materials to help garner media attention.

Talking Points

www.walkbiketoschool.org/get-set/promote-the-event/talking-points

These talking points offer helpful information on topics such as trends in school travel, safety, physical activity, environment and air quality, event history, participating countries, and Safe Routes to School. They are useful for interviews with local media, meetings with parents or other event communications.



Assessing and Planning Routes

Assessing Walking and Bicycling Routes: A Selection of Tools

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/assessing-walking-and-bicycling-routes

This two-page resource provides a selection of the many existing tools created to assist community members, transportation professionals, and others as they assess the routes that students could use to walk and bicycle to school.

Walkability Checklist

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/walkability-checklist

Walking needs to be safe and easy. Use this checklist to decide if your neighborhood is a friendly place to walk.

School Bus Stop Locations: A Guide for School Transportation Professionals

guide.saferoutesinfo.org/school_bus_locations

This resource addresses safety issues not only for children waiting for the bus, but also along the route from home to the stop.

Bikeability Checklist

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/education-bikeability-checklist

Some communities are more bikeable than others: how does yours rate? Bicycle with your child and use this checklist to decide how bikeable your neighborhood is.

Data Collection

Student Travel Tally

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/evaluation-student-class-travel-tally

This resource helps programs collect data about the number of students traveling to and from school by travel mode (walk, bicycle, school bus, etc.).

Parent Survey form (available in several languages)

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/evaluation-parent-survey

Understand more about parents' thoughts on bicycling and walking to school using this survey.

Data Entry Cover Sheet

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/evaluation-data-entry-cover-sheets

Describes the information required about the local SRTS program when submitting data to the National Center for processing.

Data System Instructions

www.saferoutesinfo.org/data-central/data-collection-forms

This page is the place for all the National Center's resources related to data collection and evaluation. The links provided here direct users to resources for collecting, entering, and using Safe Routes to School (SRTS) data.

SRTS Travel Data: A Look at Baseline Results from Parent Surveys and Student Travel Tallies

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/school-travel-data-baseline-results

This national report provides a summary of school travel data that local SRTS programs throughout the United States collected from April 2007 to May 2009.



Federal SRTS Program

SRTS Project List

apps.saferoutesinfo.org/project_list

Learn which projects in your state have received Federal Safe Routes to School funds. Search this list to find projects, amounts, and recipient schools.

Federal Safe Routes to School Program Progress Report

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/federal-safe-routes-school-program-progress-report

For the period of August 2005 through December 2010, this report describes how federal and state agencies met the requirements of the enabling legislation; the program's reach and types of projects funded; and an overview of how state programs are administered. Intended to inform policy and program decisions for FHWA, State SRTS Coordinators, and policymakers and stakeholders at the federal, state and local levels.

Interactive Map of SRTS Projects

maps.saferoutesinfo.org

This interactive map of federally funded Safe Routes to School projects across the United States is searchable by state/county, congressional district, physical address and year. Information available includes project location, funding amount, schools impacted and the year the project award was announced.

SRTS Program Tracking Briefs

www.saferoutesinfo.org/data-central/national-progress/program-tracking-reports

The SRTS Program Tracking Brief is prepared by the National Center for Safe Routes to School to provide information about State SRTS programs. Each quarter, it provides a tracking table summarizing key attributes from all programs.

Promotion and Media

8 Tips for Promoting Your SRTS Program

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/8-tips-promoting-your-safe-routes-school-program

Use these eight tips to get students, parents, schools, and community members excited about walking and bicycling to school.

Media Guide

guide.saferoutesinfo.org/media

Working with the news media can be an effective, low-cost strategy to promote and expand Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs. Use this 19-page guide to learn more about increasing the newsworthiness of your SRTS program and maximizing your media relations activities.

Tips for Planning a News Conference

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/tips-planning-news-conference

News conferences are a great way to announce new developments in your SRTS program and to maximize the efficiency of your time. This tip sheet suggests what to do to prepare and host a news conference.

Every Step Counts Marketing Materials

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/every-step-counts-marketing-materials

Every Step Counts is the theme of a series of free, downloadable SRTS marketing materials focused on the benefits of walking and bicycling to school and on what motivates parents to consider making that choice.



Recent Research & Evaluation

How Children Get to School: School Travel Patterns from 1969 to 2009

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/NHTS-school-travel-1969-2009

Using information from the 2001 and 2009 National Household Travel Surveys (NHTS) and their predecessors, the 1969 and 1995 Nationwide Personal Transportation Surveys (NPTS), this National Center report describes how student school travel in the United States changed between 1969 and 2009.

Getting Results: SRTS Programs That Increase Walking and Bicycling to School

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/getting-results-srts-programs-increase-walking-bicycling

The National Center has released a new resource that aims to assist and inspire SRTS programs to measure student travel patterns to look for possible changes over time.

Getting Results: SRTS Programs That Reduce Traffic

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/getting-results-srts-programs-reduce-traffic

This resource shows how specific schools in Utah, Colorado, Georgia, North Carolina, Vermont and California measured success after using a variety of traffic reduction strategies. It is one of three "Getting Results" resources designed to highlight the visible results gained by communities implementing SRTS programs and to provide examples of how successful SRTS programs tracked their progress.

Getting Results: SRTS Programs That Reduce Speeding and Distracted Driving

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/getting-results-reduce-speeding-and-distracted-driving

This resource explains how several communities successfully reduced speeding and distracted driving and measured their results.

Methods for Estimating the Environmental Health Impacts of SRTS Programs

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/environmental-health

This report explores environmental health and Safe Routes to School through a review of the relationship between environmental health and school travel, a discussion on measuring the environmental health impacts of school travel, and five examples of methods used by SRTS programs to estimate the impact of their activities on local air quality and carbon dioxide emissions.

Federal Safe Routes to School Program Evaluation Plan

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/federal-safe-routes-school-program-evaluation-plan

An evaluation of the Federal SRTS Program is needed to monitor its implementation and measure its impact. The national evaluation plan will focus on the extent to which children are being reached by the program and the extent to which changes in walking and bicycling and safety occur, while recognizing the significant data needs for such an evaluation and the realities of data collection capabilities at the local level.

Considerations for Conducting a Crash-based Evaluation of the Federal Safe Routes to School Program: A Feasibility Study

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/crash-based-evaluation-feasibility

This report describes the feasibility of conducting a crash-based evaluation of the safety effects of the SRTS program. The findings are based on what has been learned in prior attempts to evaluate SRTS safety effects, on good evaluation practices from other safety areas, on calculations concerning needed sample sizes, and on evaluating crashes using actual jurisdictions in three states.



Shifting Modes: A Comparative Analysis of Safe Routes to School Program Elements and Travel Mode Outcomes

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/shifting-modes-report

This report identifies four key factors that successful SRTS programs share, exploring how school-level dynamics that underlie planning and implementation of SRTS programs relate to the percentage of students who walk and bicycle between home and school.

Safe Routes to School and Health: Understanding the Physical Activity Benefits of Walking and Bicycling to School

www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/benefits-of-walking-and-bicycling

Walking and biking are two of the easiest ways to be active. This research-based resource specifically looks at the potential physical activity benefits of a SRTS program and describes strategies for measuring those benefits.

Online Training

SRTS Webinars

www.saferoutesinfo.org/events-and-training/SRTS-webinars

The National Center for Safe Routes to School partners with America Walks to offer a series of SRTS-related webinars designed to educate individuals and organizations on successful outreach efforts.

The Walking School Bus Program: A Primer and First Steps

apps.saferoutesinfo.org/training/walking_school_bus

This training highlights important planning tips and strategies for planning a walking school bus program. Participants will gain an understanding of how to prepare, build momentum and launch a walking school bus program, including identifying community partners, and securing program funding.

Skills for Local Safe Routes to School Program Development

www.saferoutesinfo.org/events-and-training/local-skills-training

This training focuses on key steps to comprehensive SRTS planning and specifically addresses issues critical to creating a solid framework on which to build a successful SRTS program. Participants gain an understanding of the skills and processes needed to establish a thriving task force, the basic tools used to gather information that help guide program planning and evaluation, and the processes to implement successful SRTS strategies.