

One of the most common reasons people claim they crash is that they did not see the other person, vehicle, or object they crashed into. In some of those cases, the driver or drivers did not know who had the right-of-way or who was required to yield.

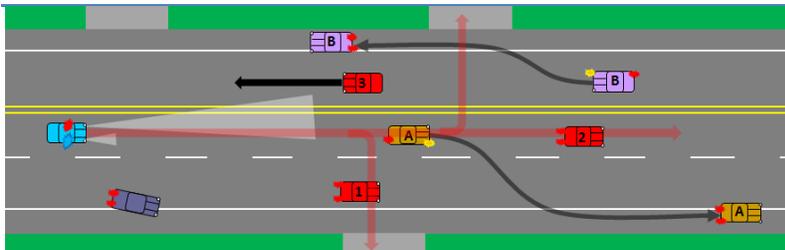
Right-of-Way vs. Yielding

Many drivers are confused about the meaning of right-of-way and yielding. The term right-of-way refers to giving way to the person on your right. Yielding refers to letting others go first. Never assume you have the right-of-way. Always be sure that the person that is required to yield is going to yield. If the other vehicle does not yield, do not continue until it is safe to do so. Don't get involved in a crash just because the other person should have yielded or given you the right-of-way.



Yield signs require you to let other vehicles and pedestrians proceed first. You should slow down, check, and give the right-of-way to others before you cross or turn at the intersection. Yield signs are mainly found in residential areas and at roundabouts.

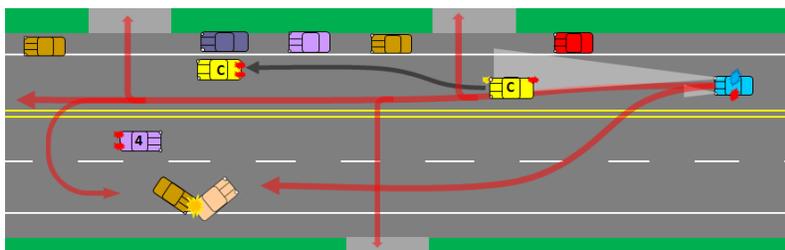
To Other Vehicles



Emergency Vehicles – You are required to yield to emergency vehicles with active warning lights. Pull to the right most part of the roadway and stop until the emergency vehicle has passed you.

You should: **CAR A** – If the emergency vehicle(s) is behind you, move to the right most part of the roadway and stop in a safe area. Wait until the emergency vehicle(s) have passed. When safe, pull back into traffic. **CAR B** – If the emergency vehicle is approaching from the front in the oncoming traffic lane, move to the right most part of the roadway and stop in a safe area. The emergency vehicle(s) may have to come into your lane of traffic to get around other vehicles. Wait until the emergency vehicle has passed. When safe, pull back into traffic.

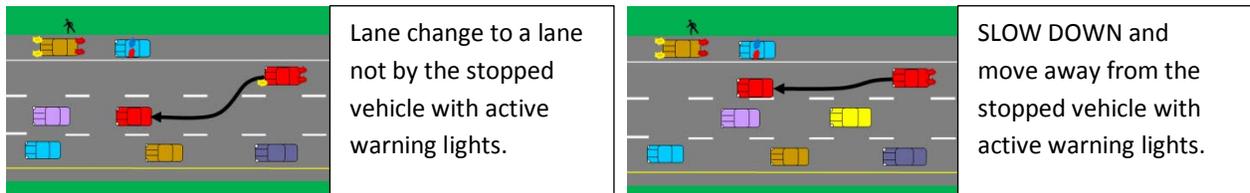
Do Not: **CAR 1** – Do not stop in front of a driveway or parking lot entrance. The emergency vehicle(s) may need to enter that driveway or parking lot entrance. **CAR 2** – Do not stop or continue to drive in the traffic lane that the emergency vehicle(s) are traveling in. **CAR 3** – Do not continue to drive when an emergency vehicle(s) is approaching in the oncoming traffic lane. They may need to come into your lane to get to the scene of emergency.



CAR C - If you are unable to get to the right most side of the roadway, pull over as far to the right as possible. Remember to keep driveway and parking lot entrances clear.

CAR 4 – If you are unsure of what to do or where to go, stop in a safe place and wait to see where the emergency vehicle is going. Do not assume the approaching emergency vehicle is going to the crash you see.

WI MOVE OVER LAW – Move to a lane away from the side that an emergency, maintenance, or tow vehicle with active warning lights is stopped. If unable to move to another lane, you are then required to slow down and move to the edge of your lane away from the emergency, maintenance, or tow vehicle with active warning lights.



As a safe, defensive, and responsible driver, you should move over for any vehicle stopped on the side of the roadway. When approaching and overtaking vehicles stopped on the side of the roadway, remember to keep looking at the driving path and not the stopped vehicles.

To Pedestrians

Pedestrians in marked or unmarked crosswalk areas always have the right-of-way. You must also yield to pedestrians crossing mid-block on a roadway. Be extra alert for children, elderly, and disabled. They may need more time and space to cross.

Blind & Disabled Pedestrians – When there is a visually impaired or disabled person crossing or about to cross the roadway, stop at least 10 feet from that person and allow them to completely cross the roadway before proceeding. Give them the time they need to safely cross the roadway.

Wisconsin's White Cane Law (SS. 246.26), which has been in force since 1947, states the following:

Blind pedestrian on roadway:

1. An operator of a vehicle shall stop the vehicle before approaching closer than 10 feet to a pedestrian who is carrying a cane or walking stick which is white in color or white trimmed with red and which is held in an extended or raised position or who is using a dog guide and shall take such precautions as may be necessary to avoid accident or injury to the pedestrian. The fact that the pedestrian may be violating any of the laws applicable to pedestrians does not relieve the operator of a vehicle from the duties imposed by this subsection.
2. Nothing in this section shall be construed to deprive any totally or partially blind person not carrying the white or the red and white cane or walking stick or not using a guide dog of the rights of other pedestrians crossing highways, nor shall the failure of such totally or partially blind pedestrian to carry such cane or walking stick or to use a dog guide be evidence of any negligence.
3. No person who is not totally or partially blind shall carry or use on any street, highway, or other public place any cane or walking stick which is white in color, or white trimmed with red.

Police, Emergency & Maintenance Workers Directing Traffic – At times, police officers, fire fighters, or maintenance workers may be in the roadway directing the flow of traffic. You must obey their directions. If the person directing the flow of traffic is indicating to proceed forward or to turn and there is a stop sign or red traffic signal, obey the person directing traffic and ignore the sign or signal. Always use caution when driving in areas being directed by police, emergency, or maintenance workers. Other vehicles may not realize that traffic is being directed by a person and not by the signs or signals.

To Animals On or Near the Roadway

Drivers must do everything possible to avoid running into animals on or near the roadway. Hitting an animal on the roadway can cause serious damage to your vehicle and injury to the driver and passengers. Slow down and give space to the animal.

People riding in or operating an animal drawn vehicle have the same right to use the roadway as other vehicles and must follow by the same duties.

The person in charge of the livestock or animals must attempt to open the way for traffic. If the person in charge of the livestock or animals gives a signal of distress, drivers must stop and do what is necessary to avoid a crash with the livestock or animals.

To Funeral Processions



The lead vehicle in a funeral procession will obey the traffic signs and signals at intersections. Once it is safe, the lead vehicle will proceed with the other vehicles in the procession following through without stopping at traffic signals, or stop and yield signs. Cross traffic is required to yield to the vehicles in the funeral procession. Do not enter or interrupt the funeral procession.

The first vehicle in the funeral procession will stop for the red traffic signal and wait for the green signal to show. Once the first vehicle has the green traffic signal, they will proceed through with the other vehicles following. If the light turns to a red signal, all other vehicles in the procession will continue through the red signal light with caution and only if it is safe.

Vehicles are also required to yield to vehicles in a funeral procession that is entering or exiting a driveway or parking lot as long as the first vehicle has already entered or exited. Vehicles in the funeral procession must have their low beam headlights on and must yield to emergency vehicles with active warning lights or when directed by a traffic officer. Some funeral procession vehicles will have flags on the hood or signs in the front windshield indicating that it is part of a funeral procession.

To Military Convoys



The lead vehicle in a military convoy will obey the traffic signs and signals at intersections. Once it is safe, the lead vehicle will proceed with the other vehicles in the convoy following through without stopping at traffic signals, or stop and yield signs. Cross traffic is required to yield to the vehicles in the military convoy.

The first vehicle in the military convoy will stop for the red traffic signal and wait for the green signal to show. Once the first vehicle has the green traffic signal, they will proceed through with the other vehicles following. If the light turns to a red signal, all other vehicles in the convoy will continue through the red signal light with caution and only if it is safe.

Vehicles are also required to yield to vehicles in a military convoy that is entering or exiting a driveway or parking lot as long as the first vehicle has already entered or exited. Vehicles in the military convoy must have their low beam headlights on and must yield to emergency vehicles with active warning lights or when directed by a traffic officer.

Take a look at the following illustrations and determine who is required to yield and why:

<p>1) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>	<p>2) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>	<p>3) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>
<p>4) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>	<p>5) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>	<p>6) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>
<p>7) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>	<p>8) Who yields? Car A or Car B Why?</p>	<p>9) Who yields? Car A or Bike B Why?</p>

To check your answers, go to: www.wpsda.org and click on the Student Center at the bottom of the home page.

Never assume the other driver is going to yield to you if they are required to. If the other driver does not know that they are required to yield, you may be rushing into a crash. Always make sure that it is safe before you make your move. If not, just wait until it is.