

TIPS AND INFO

BUILDING A TEAM/SCHEDULING

The easiest way to recruit and maintain patrollers is by promoting this program as a valued leadership opportunity. Here's how:

- Engage previous patrollers as program advocates. New patrollers should "shadow" an experienced team to gain a better understanding of traffic/student flows.
- Keep the team to a manageable size (25-30 per crosswalk). This helps patrollers stay motivated, and also ensures each student has more opportunities to patrol.
- Let patrollers know they need to get their own substitute, if needed.
- Ask new recruits for any commitments that may interfere with their ability to patrol. Start by putting the patrollers with restrictions on the schedule first.
- Create a weekly or daily schedule. If you prefer making a weekly schedule, run the week from Friday to Thursday, with new patrols taking over on Friday.
- Have a patrol team bulletin board to celebrate team successes.

SELF ASSESSMENT FORM

Allowing patrollers to self-evaluate their performance is a great way to teach them accountability. Use the **Patroller Self-Assessment Form** found in Appendix G as a review tool for them. When assessing, keep an eye out for these common errors:

- Not making direct eye contact with drivers
- Stepping off the curb into traffic
- Not looking for traffic while crossing on setup or takedown
- Turning their backs to traffic
- Not checking for traffic while pedestrians cross
- Incorrectly using parked car procedure

INCENTIVES

It is important that patrollers receive both intrinsic and extrinsic rewards. While it is up to each patroller to feel self-rewarded, schools may want to approach the Parent Council and other community-minded groups and organizations for additional incentives. These may include:

- Small rewards, such as pens, pencils and erasers
- Hot chocolate, lemonade or iced tea
- Patroller/Patrol Team of the Month recognition at an assembly or patrol team meeting
- Pizza party
- Early class dismissal for patrollers on the afternoon shift
- Extra gym time or other activities for the patrol team
- Year-end appreciation event

ADDITIONAL PATROLLER DUTIES

Other than being responsible for crosswalk duties, some patrollers may:

- Assist the supervisor with setting, maintaining and communicating the shift schedule
- Assess patrollers at the crosswalk to ensure proper procedures are used
- Check equipment for damage or loss
- Report any concerns and/or incidents to the supervisor
- Manage equipment and supplies
- Facilitate patrol meetings
- Write safety messages for the school's newsletter
- Deliver safety presentations in classrooms, school assemblies and/or during morning announcements
- Create safety message boards

TEAM MEETINGS

- Share information
- Create team rules and consequences
- Identify and solve problems
- Team build
- Reward students for their volunteer work
- Review expectations and procedures

Contact your AMA School Safety Patrol Coordinator for more tips.