

Oregon Crosswalk Laws: Driver and Pedestrian Responsibilities

We want all travelers to arrive safely. Knowing the law can help everyone share the roadways safely.

A crosswalk exists at any public street intersection, whether marked with paint or unmarked. Crosswalks also exist between intersections (mid-block) but only if they are marked with white painted lines. Under Oregon law (ORS 811.028), a pedestrian is crossing when any part or extension of the pedestrian, including but not limited to any part of the pedestrian's body, wheelchair, cane, crutch or bicycle, moves into the roadway in a crosswalk.

Drivers have specific duties to a pedestrian in a crosswalk. When turning at a traffic signal, stop and remain stopped for pedestrians until they have cleared the lane into which the vehicle is turning, and at least 6 feet of the next lane. At all other crosswalks, whether marked or unmarked, stop and remain stopped until pedestrians have cleared the lane in which you are traveling or turning, and the next lane. Stop and remain stopped for students as you are directed by a crossing guard. Stop and remain stopped for a blind pedestrian using a white cane or a guide dog until the pedestrian is completely across the roadway.

Oregon's laws affect pedestrians too (ORS 814.010; 814:040). Pedestrians must obey traffic signals and walk safely. But, pedestrians are unprotected and vulnerable. You, as the driver, can prevent a life-changing crash by being prepared to stop and yield no matter who has the right of way.

