

School Zone Signs in Alberta: Everything You Need to Know

Driving in a school zone should be done cautiously and attentively to ensure the safety of children and pedestrians. Marked by specific traffic signs, these areas are protected by strict regulations, so drivers are responsible for adhering to the rules set in place for these roadways.

This article covers everything you must know about school zones in Alberta, including their traffic signs, applicable regulations, and speed limits.

Key Takeaways

- School zones in Alberta require vehicles to stay within a 30km/hr speed limit (or lower) but only during school hours.
- Calgary and Edmonton have converted all of their school zones to playground zones, allowing them to implement a speed limit on the previous school zones all year long.

What Are School Zones In Alberta?

In Alberta, school zones are specific sections of roadways that run alongside educational institutions. These areas are easily recognizable as they're marked by a fluorescent 5-sided signage, which displays the silhouette of two pedestrians, and a speed limit sign.

On top of school zones, Alberta also has roadways that are referred to as "school areas."

These roads are also situated near educational institutions. However, as they're not as easily accessible from a school, they're less likely to have school-generated foot traffic. As a result, they don't command a speed limit restriction.

Note: Calgary and Edmonton have no school zones or specific school zone times. These cities only have playground zones, which will be explained in more detail later.

School Zone Times In Alberta

School zone times in Alberta are applicable only on school days and vary among towns and cities according to municipality bylaws.

Most of the time, the effective school zone times are as follows:

- 8 AM to 9:30 AM
- 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
- 3 PM to 4:30 PM

However, as municipalities are allowed to establish their own school zone times, you might notice different specified hours under school zone signs.

Keep in mind that it's always recommended to exercise caution while driving in a school zone, even when it's before or past school hours. After all, students sometimes stay at school even after classes have ended, which means there's still a potential risk of children

