

## **Pedestrian Laws**

Drivers must stop and yield the right of way to pedestrians crossing the roadway within a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Pedestrians should not enter a crosswalk when it would cause an immediate hazard because of nearby traffic. When a "walk" signal illuminates, pedestrians facing the signal may cross the roadway in the direction of the signal and this signal gives them the right-of-way. Pedestrians should not start to walk on a "don't walk" or "wait" signal.

Pedestrians must yield the right-of-way to vehicles if crossing a roadway that is not a marked or unmarked crosswalk.

## **Driving Laws**

Some of the most important laws that motorists must follow include:

- Passing - Drivers must pass to the left at a safe distance and must stay in the passing lane until it is safe to return to the right lane. Drivers being passed should not increase their speed while being passed.
- Following - A driver must not follow another driver more closely than what is reasonable and prudent and must consider the speed of other drivers and traffic conditions.
- Turning left - Drivers turning left must give an appropriate signal and should only do so when the turn can be made reasonably safely.
- Intersections - If two drivers approach an intersection at the same time, the driver on the left must yield the right of way of the driver on the right.
- Mobile devices - Drivers must not operate a motor vehicle while using a mobile electronic device unless it is configured to allow voice-operated and hands-free operation to dictate, send or listen to a text-based communication.

## **Motorcycle Laws**

All motorcyclists and their passengers are required to wear helmets while riding on roadways. Motorcycle headlights must be activated during darkness.

## **Insurance Requirements**

In California, car owners must have an insurance policy that provides liability coverage that meets the minimum requirements of:

- \$15,000 per person
- \$30,000 for two or more people
- \$5,000 per occurrence for property damage

California uses a no-fault insurance system in which it finds that every owner of a motor vehicle is liable and responsible for an injury to a person or death or property damage caused by a negligent or wrongful act or lack of action up to the liability limits discussed above. If a car accident victim can show that the injury or death was caused by a driver's intoxication or willful misconduct, he or she can file a lawsuit against the driver.

### **Duty to Give Information and Render Aid**

A driver involved in an automotive accident that causes injury or death must stop at the accident, render aid and provide their information. A driver must report any such accident to the California Highway Patrol or local police department within 24 hours of the accident.