

Florida Safe Routes to School Program:

Background, Application & Evaluation Overview

Pat Pieratte, Florida SRTS Coordinator
FDOT Safety Office

Some Benefits of SRTS Programs:

Reduce the number of children hit by cars

Reduce congestion around schools

Improve children's physical activity & health

Reduce air pollution

Can lead to cost savings for schools and parents
(reduce "hazard" busing; reduce gas costs)

Others: increase child's sense of freedom, help establish lifetime habits, teach pedestrian skills

SRTS Program: Elements: 5 E's

Education

Encouragement

Enforcement

Engineering

Evaluation



The Federal SRTS Program was established in September, 2005:

\$612 million to States

infrastructure (70-90%) & non-infrastructure (10-30%)

Requires State SRTS Coordinators & a national Clearinghouse

Now funded by Continuing Resolution thru 12/10

- All States have Coordinators
- \$467 million committed



More Information:

- FHWA:
<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/>
- SRTS Clearinghouse:
www.saferoutesinfo.org

Florida's Safe Routes to School program

\$27.8 million thru 2009; \$9.7 million for 2010; most funds distributed to 7 Dist.

Program managed by Districts under state Guidelines & SRTS Coordinator, Pat Pieratte

Infrastructure:

- 4 Calls for Applications completed;
- 5th Call open now

Non-Infrastructure:

- Open until District's funds committed
- 155 SRTS projects & programs (100 started, 25 completed)
- \$53.4 million in Work Program
- affecting about 1000 schools



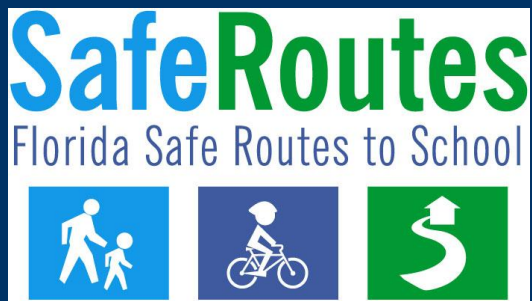
For more information:

www.srtsfl.org



Florida's SRTS Program Structure

- **State SRTS Coordinator:**
 - Establishes Guidelines, forms & website
 - Provides program direction, training & communication (like biweekly SRTS Updates)
- **District SRTS Contacts:**
 - Safety Engineers: Overall responsibility for SRTS, head the Infrastructure projects
 - CTST or Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, head the Non-Infrastructure programs
 - Day to day contact with local schools, governments & others
 - Review & rank applications and project sites, for submittal to State SRTS Coordinator



What we have learned:

- **Lots of interest in program—more applications than can be funded**
- **SRTS takes a lot of work, but everyone is willing to do the work**
- **We started with a good process & have made minor modifications as we learned more**

Steps in creating a SRTS Program

Bring together the right people

Hold a kick-off meeting

Gather information and identify issues

Identify solutions

Develop a Plan

Fund the plan

Act on the plan

Evaluate, make needed changes and keep moving



Resources-Florida: Florida SRTS Website:

- **Basic program information**
- **Application Guidelines**
- **Forms:**
 - **Non-Infrastructure Information Form**
 - **Link to Infrastructure Application**
- **SRTS Updates**
- **Website Resources List**
- **Links to:**
 - **Safe Ways to School Toolkit**
 - **Other helpful websites & resources**

www.srtsfl.org

Florida Department of Transportation Change of Address Page

The page you're trying to view has changed or moved. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Please update your bookmarks.

- [Florida Wildflower Advisory Council](#)
- [I-395 Miami](#)
- [Safe Routes To School Program \(SRTSFL\)](#)

<http://www.srtsfl.org/> 

http://www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/SRTS_files/SRTS.shtm

Infrastructure application process:

- **Engineering Projects**



Infrastructure application process

Applicants, Maintaining Agencies & Partners should use the Safe Ways to School Toolkit or similar process to:

- 1. Form a School-Based SRTS Committee**
- 2. Identify problems & propose solutions**
- 3. Collect Data**
- 4. Fill out application and submit it to District**

**General Information, Tool Kit, Guidelines,
Application Information and Resources:**

Safe Ways to School Toolkit

Tool Kit: Since Safe Routes to School programs are comprehensive approaches to solving school-related problems, we are asking those interested in applying, to begin the planning process by using the steps outlined in the Florida Safe Ways to School Tool Kit, which is available for download [via this link](#).



http://www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/SRTS_files/SRTS.shtm

Safe Ways to School Toolkit:

Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education Program

[Contact Us](#)

[Program Summary](#)

[Training Workshops](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Program](#)

[Regional Trainers](#)

[Mini Grants](#)

[Safe Ways to School](#)

[Ordering Elementary Curriculum](#)

[Related Links](#)

[Pictures](#)

[Bike Florida](#)

[Florida Bicycle Association](#)

[Florida's Pedestrian/Bicycling Safety Resource Center](#)

[Home](#)

Application & Forms

Our Goal is to reduce the number and severity of injuries and deaths to children from bicycle and pedestrian crashes by training them with the knowledge and skills needed to be competent and safer in traffic.

Our Mission is to administer a traffic and bicycle safety education program through workshops and certificate programs for Florida elementary and middle school teachers, community volunteers, law enforcement officers and recreation leaders. Pilot projects, research, media awareness campaigns and the production of documents and guidelines are also carried out as part of the program's goal.



You can visit our calendar page to look for traffic and bicycle workshops in your area. If you would like to host/coordinate a workshop, please call (352) 392-4042 Ext. 1370 or email safety@hhp.ufl.edu

What's new.....

[Elementary Curriculum Redesign](#)

[New "Share The Road" Tag](#)

[New Contact for Safe Routes to School](#)



This program is funded by the [Florida Department of Transportation](#) Florida Traffic & Bicycle Safety Education Program, [Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management, University of Florida](#) P.O. Box 118208, Gainesville, FL 32611-8208. Phone: (352) 392-4042 Ext. 1370, Fax: (352) 392-7588 Last Updated: May 18, 2010



<http://www.hhp.ufl.edu/safety/index.html>

FTBSEP bicycle service provided by



Safe Ways to School



“Tool Kit”



Table of Contents:

The Toolkit gives you:

- the Process
- the Tools
- References & Examples

- ➔ **A. The Process**
 1. Introduction to the Pilot Project
 2. A Step by Step Process
 3. School Traffic Safety Team and Tasks
- ➔ **B. The Tools**
 1. Student Travel Survey
 2. School Site Assessment
 3. Neighborhood Site Assessment
 4. Parent Survey
 5. Parent Discussion Session
 6. Student Activity
 7. Implementation Ideas
- ➔ **C. References & Examples**
 1. List of Planned Improvements Example
 2. School Walk Map Example
 3. Golden Gate Walk Map and Letter
 4. Designing Walk Routes
 5. Example of Offsite Safety Form
 6. “Walk A Child to School” Sample Flyer
 7. Traffic Calming Techniques
 8. List of Funding Sources
 9. Model Language for School Improvement Plan
 10. Additional Resources
- D. Video & Brochures**

1. Form a School-Based SRTS Committee from the 5E's & meet at least 3 times



Start with an existing committee with most of the right people and add the rest: like a CTST, Safe Kids Coalition or a School Safety Committee

2. Identify Problems & Propose Solutions: Walkability Audits of school & neighborhood



**Involve adults from
many backgrounds**

**and children—they
use the facilities
every day, know the
problems and can
provide solutions**



2. Identify Problems & Propose Solutions: School Walk Route Map



Legend

	School		Signalized Intersection
	Marked Crosswalk		STOP Sign Approach
	Crossing Guard		Pedestrian Route

A school site plan should include a school walk route map:

- **School facilities**
- **School entrances**
- **Crosswalks, streets, sidewalks**
- **Traffic control devices**
- **Adult crossing guards**
- **Student safety patrols**
- **Designated walking routes**

<http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>

3. Collect Data: Conduct the Student Transportation Tally

SafeRoutes
National Center for Safe Routes to School

Search: search

[Skip to Main Links](#) [Site Map](#) [Contact Us](#)

Getting Started
[State SRTS Contacts](#)
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[SRTS Guide](#)
[Forums](#)
[Online Library](#)
[Ask a Question](#)
[Program Progress](#)
[Funding](#)
[Training](#)
[Submit Data](#)
[News Room](#)
[About Us](#)
[Task Force](#)
[Links](#)

Safe Routes to School programs enable community leaders, schools and parents across the United States to improve safety and encourage more children, including children with disabilities, to safely walk and bicycle to school. In the process, programs are working to reduce traffic congestion and improve health and the environment, making communities more livable for everyone. [Learn more.](#)

New: Register now for [Navigating Change: How to Use the Updated System for Accessing your Parent Surveys and Student Travel Tallies](#). The webinar will be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM EDT.

New: [Fall 2010 SRTS Mini-grant Recipients Announced](#)

New Resource: [Involving Children with Disabilities in SRTS](#)

Featured Pages
[Register Walk To School 2010 Events](#)
Be counted among the millions of participants who will Walk to School in October!

SRTS in the News
[Walking School Bus and Bicycle Train Program](#)
floridabicycle.org
07/03/2010

Evaluation

- [Data Collection Overview](#)
- [Data Entry Cover Sheets](#)
- [Student In-Class Travel Tally](#)
- [Parent Survey](#)
- [Instructions](#)

International Walk to School USA

SafeRoutes
National Center for Safe Routes to School

3. Collect Data: Conduct the Student Transportation Tally

Every school must conduct the student travel tally before submitting their application

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TALLY SHEET

School Name _____ Grade: _____ # of students enrolled in class _____

Teacher: _____ Monday's Date: _____

School's Zip Code _____ (used to identify weather conditions)

Teachers, here are simple instructions for using this form:

- Please conduct these counts each of the five days of the assigned week.
- Before asking your students to raise their hands to indicate the one answer that is correct for them, read through all potential answers so they will know what the choices are.
- Ask your students as a group the question "How did you arrive at school today?"
- Read each answer and record the number of students that raised their hands for each.
- Follow the same procedure for the question "How do you plan to leave for home after school?"
- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1. Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in class each day			Step 2. Ask students "how did you arrive at school today?" and "How do you plan to leave for home after school?" (record number of hands for each answer)							
Weather Drains Or Heavy Or Snow Or Other	Number of Students In Class (when count taken)	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle (only with children from your family)	Carpool (bring with children from other families)	Transit (city bus, subway, etc.)	Other (skate- board, roller, cree skates, etc.)		
Mon AM										
Mon PM										
Tues AM										
Tues PM										
Wed AM										
Wed PM										
Thur AM										
Thur PM										
Fri AM										
Fri PM										

Comments: (Please list any disruptions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally):

3. Collect Data: Parent & Student Surveys

SURVEY ABOUT WALKING AND BIKING TO SCHOOL - FOR PARENTS -

Dear Parent or Caregiver,
Your child's school wants to learn your thoughts about children walking and biking to school. This survey will take about 10 - 15 minutes to complete. We ask that each family complete only one survey per school year (children attend). If more than one child from a school brings a survey home, please fill out the survey for the child with the next birthday from today's date.

After you have completed this survey, send it back to the school with your child or give it to the teacher. Your responses will be kept confidential and neither your name nor your child's name will be associated with any results. Thank you for participating in this survey!

These first few questions gather some general and background information. Remember, all information will be confidential, and no identifying information will be released.

1. What is the grade of the child who brought home this survey? (K-6) _____ grade
2. Is the child who brought home this survey male or female? MALE FEMALE
3. How many children do you have in Kindergarten through 6th grade? _____ (0-1000)
4. What is your ZIP Code? (please provide ZIP only if known) _____ ZIP code
note: many city sites will show your ZIP only
5. How far does your child live from school? choose one:

<input type="checkbox"/> a. less than 1/4 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> d. 1 mile up to 2 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> b. 1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> e. More than 2 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> c. 1/2 mile up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> f. Don't know
6. On most days, how does your child arrive at school and leave for home after school? (circle one choice per column)

Active at school	Leaves for home
a. Walk	a. Walk
b. Bike	b. Bike
c. School Bus	c. School Bus
d. Family vehicle (only with driver's Pass your form)	d. Family vehicle (only with driver's Pass your form)
e. Carpool (only with driver from other families)	e. Carpool (only with driver from other families)
f. Transit (only bus, subway, etc.)	f. Transit (only bus, subway, etc.)
g. Other (skateboard, roller skis, etc.)	g. Other (skateboard, roller skis, etc.)

Page 1 of 2

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TALLY SHEET

School Name: _____ Grade: _____ # of students enrolled in class: _____
Teacher: _____ Monday's Date: _____
School's Zip Code: _____ (used to identify weather conditions)

Teachers, here are simple instructions for using this form:

- Please conduct these counts each of the five days of the assigned week.
- Before asking your students to raise their hands to indicate the one answer that is correct for them, read through all potential answers so they will know what the choices are.
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- Please conduct this count regardless of weather conditions (i.e., ask these questions on rainy days, too).

Step 1. Fill in the weather conditions and number of students in class each day			Step 2. Ask students "How did you arrive at school today?" and "How do you plan to leave for home after school?" (record number of hands for each answer)							
Weather (Drainy, Drizzle, Or Snow, Or Snow)	Number of Students (in class when count taken)	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle (only with children from your family)	Carpool (only with children from other families)	Transit (only bus, subway, etc.)	Other (skateboard, roller skis, etc.)		
Mon AM										
Mon PM										
Tues AM										
Tues PM										
Wed AM										
Wed PM										
Thurs AM										
Thurs PM										
Fri AM										
Fri PM										

Comments: (Please list any discussions to these counts or any unusual travel conditions to/from the school on the days of the tally.)

Every funded SRTS program in Florida must provide before & after data using these forms

3. Collect Data:

Data Collection Ideas

Student Travel Survey:

Have these people ask the questions:

- Principal or daily announcer
- PTA volunteers
- Teachers

Parent's Survey:

- Parents fill out at
 - back to school night
 - bike rodeo or safety fair
 - PTA meeting
- Assign as homework—students interview parents

4. Fill out Infrastructure application

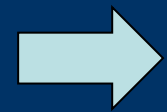
- **Call for Applications Nov 30-March 31**
- **Eligible Applicants:**
 - School Boards
 - Private Schools
 - Community Traffic Safety Teams
- **Eligible Maintaining Agencies:**
 - Counties
 - Cities
 - Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) or Transportation Planning Organizations (TPO's)
- **Other Partners encouraged**

4. Fill out Infrastructure Application: Guidelines

**General Information, Tool Kit, Guidelines,
Application Information and Resources:**

Guidelines: The below updated Guidelines cover all the rules for Florida's SRTS Program. Be sure to read this before you begin the application process.

* [SRTS Guidelines](#) revised 11/30/10

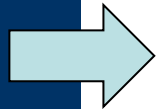


http://www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/SRTS_files/SRTS.shtm

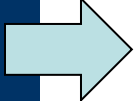
4. Fill out Infrastructure Application: Sample Application

- o Attached below is a sample application form (text only; no attachments), which should help you to understand the information which is being requested in the application:

Sample Application [\(Word document\)](#)



4. Fill out Infrastructure Application: Information & Locating the Forms

- o The Infrastructure Application Form is now an official FDOT form number # 500-000-30; search for it by number at this website:
 <http://formserver.dot.state.fl.us/capture/listings/FormListing.aspx?ListType=FormNumber>. The Word version can be filled in electronically.

http://www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/SRTS_files/SRTS.shtm

4. Fill out Infrastructure application

Locating the Forms

FORMS AND PROCEDURES

Office Manager: Tana Ashbaker

The following Procedural Documents and Forms are available for the Department of Transportation:

- 
- [FORMS](#)

[\[Formats Available for Download\]](#)

4. Fill out Infrastructure application:

Locating the forms:

Select "S" for
Safety Office

Download Forms:

- [By Number](#)
- [By Office](#)
- [By Title](#)



Forms by Office Name

Form Office Name beginning with:

[A](#)|[C](#)|[E](#)|[F](#)|[G](#)|[I](#)|[M](#)|[P](#)|[R](#) → **S** ← |[T](#)|[U](#)

-- Select an Office --

[Search](#)

<u>Form Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Revision Date</u>	<u>Formats Available for Download</u>
500-000-25	Detailed Damage Inspection Report	SAFETY OFFICE	07/2003	[PDF] [HTML Form]
500-000-30	Florida's Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Application	SAFETY OFFICE	11/2010	[PDF] [Word Form] [Form Assistance]
500-000-31	SRTS Infrastructure Scoring Form	SAFETY OFFICE	05/2010	[Excel]

4. Fill out Infrastructure application: Check the Form Assistance Form for:

- Important Dates
- Notes
- Applications Guidance
- Application Checklist, including:
 - Required Attachments
 - Optional Attachments



Infrastructure Application Review Process

District:

- District Safety Engineer makes sure applications are complete
- Evaluation committee ranks applications using Infrastructure Scoring Form

Infrastructure Application

Section 3B – Background Information: Five E's

Notes: SRTS is designed to be a comprehensive program, encompassing the Five E's listed below. Describe what efforts your school and the community has made to address the identified problem through each E so far, and what is planned in the future for each. Each box must be filled in. For more information on the E's, see Florida's SRTS Guidelines and the SRTS Guide: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/guide/>

1. Engineering

1A. Past:

1B. Future:

Infrastructure Application Scoring Form

1A. Efforts in the past to address the identified problems using Engineering

**Not identified = 0 pts Minimal Information/potential for improvement = 5 pts
Maximum information/potential for improvement = 10 pts**

1B. Plans in the future to address the identified problems using Engineering

**Not identified = 0 pts Minimal Information/potential for improvement = 5 pts
Maximum information/potential for improvement = 10 pts**



Infrastructure Application Review Process

District:

- Does on-site inspection of the project sites or orders a concept report to make sure they are feasible to build
- Submits selected projects to State SRTS Coordinator; Projects:
 - high scoring
 - feasible to build
 - able to be funded within budget
 - which "share the wealth" around the District

SRTS Coordinator:

- SRTS Coordinator reviews projects



Infrastructure Application Review Process

District:

- **Revise projects as needed**
- **Proceed with project details:**
 - **Work Program**
 - **Local Agency Program (LAP) agreement**
 - **Design and construction phases**
 - **Invoicing**

Non-Infrastructure Application Process:

- **Education Programs**
- **Encouragement Programs**



Non-Infrastructure process: District options

- **Use their funds to develop Districtwide activities & materials**
- **Accept proposals from any time until their \$ is committed:**
 - **Work with existing partners to enhance programs**
 - **Solicit new ideas from potential partners**

We have a variety of District approaches



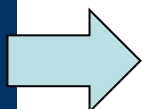
Non-Infrastructure process: Benefits

- **More qualified partners:**
 - **government entities**
 - **schools**
 - **universities**
 - **non-profits**
- **More flexibility to start projects quickly**

Non-Infrastructure Information Form

General Information, Tool Kit, Guidelines, Application Information and Resources:

- **Non-Infrastructure programs:** Non-Infrastructure program proposals can be submitted to your District using the Non-Infrastructure Information Form, at any time until the Districts' funds are fully committed. Check with your District Non-Infrastructure contact before filling out the form, to confirm the District is accepting proposals. A few weeks after you have sent in your proposal, follow up with your District contact to discuss your ideas.



- **Non-Infrastructure Information Form: revised 4-7-08**

http://www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/SRTS_files/SRTS.shtm



Non-Infrastructure process Application & Evaluation Process

Applicant fills out Non-Infrastructure Information Form or writes a Scope of Services:

- **basic proposal ideas**
- **If the idea shows promise, the District works with applicant & me to develop a good proposal**

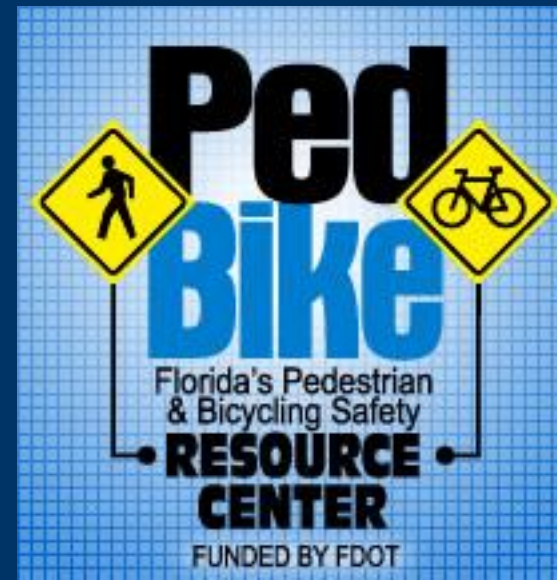
Florida SRTS Resources



Florida Resources: Florida's Pedestrian and Bicycling Safety Resource Center Website:

- Educational items for children & adults
- Promotional items for children
- Sample packets for safety fairs & other events (created upon request)

<http://www.pedbikesrc.ce.ufl.edu/>





Florida Resources:

- **District SRTS Contacts:** www.srtsfl.org
- **Safe Kids Coordinators:** www.safekids.org
Most teach pedestrian safety and have coordinated Walk to School Days
- **Community Traffic Safety Teams:** www.ctst.org Work on traffic safety issues using the 5 E's
- **SRTS Updates:** biweekly electronic updates on SRTS news & resources from Florida & beyond
- **Florida SRTS Network**
- **DOH Regional Coordinators: Walking School Buses**

Safe Routes to School National movement

National SRTS Program

FHWA funds each state DOT

National Center for SRTS (NCSRTS)

Funded by FHWA
cannot lobby

Florida SRTS Program

FL's SRTS Coordinator
& 7 FDOT Districts
implement

SRTS National Partnership

Privately funded network
advancing SRTS in the US.

Some employees can lobby

State Network Project

Partners in select
states advocating for
policy changes to
support SRTS

FL State Network Project

FL partners working
toward policies to
support SRTS



Complete Streets

Instituting a complete streets policy ensures that transportation planners and engineers consistently design and operate the entire roadway with all users in mind - including bicyclists, public transportation vehicles and riders, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

Florida Department of Health's Communities Putting Prevention to Work Grant:

- **13 Regional Coordinators working on 3 health issues**
- **They will spend 1/3 of their time creating and supporting Walking School Buses**
- **Trained in May and very enthusiastic supporters of SRTS**



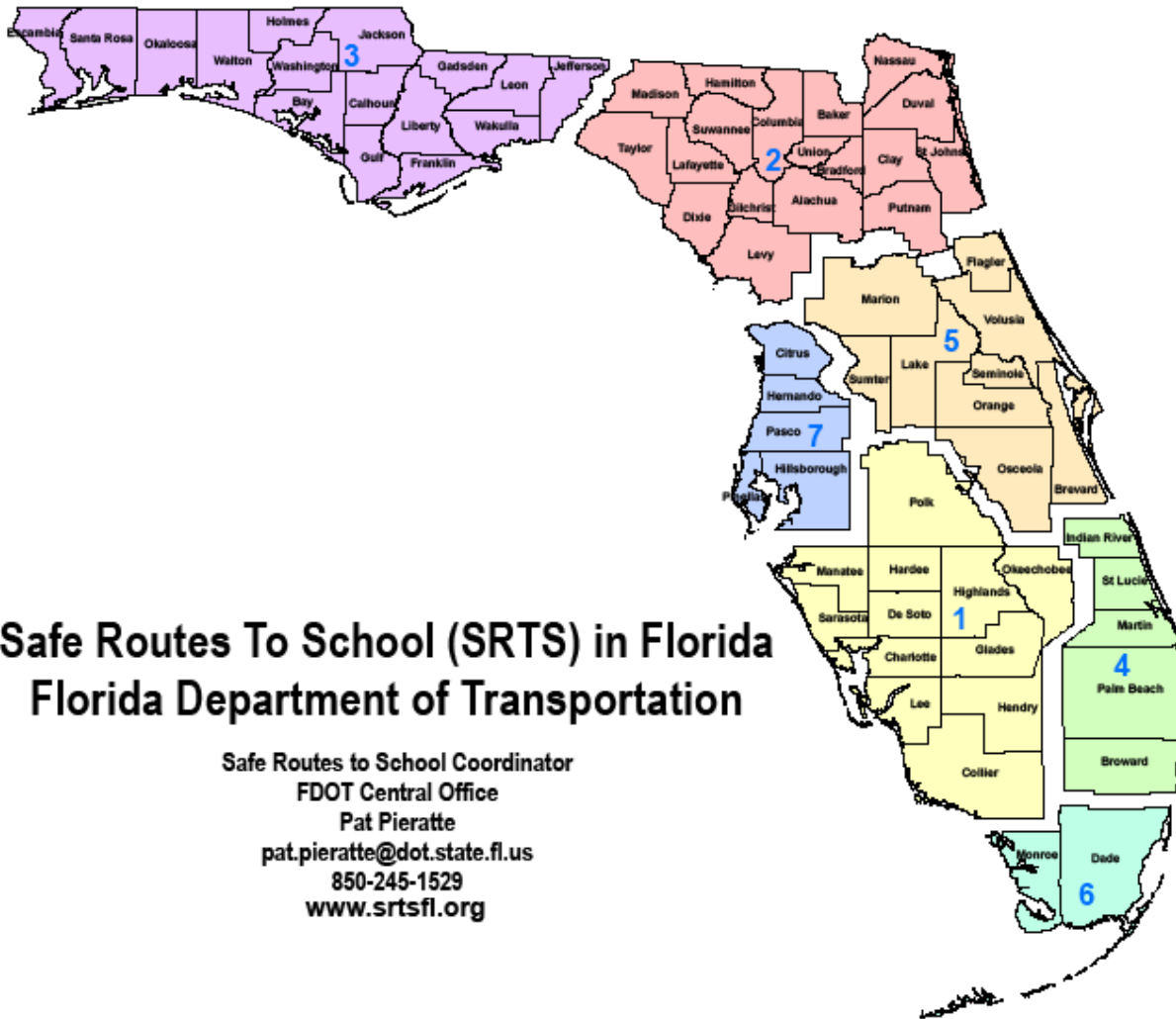
Questions?

Contact:

Florida SRTS Coordinator

Pat Pieratte, 850-245-1529

Pat.Pieratte@dot.state.fl.us



Safe Routes To School (SRTS) in Florida Florida Department of Transportation

Safe Routes to School Coordinator
 FDOT Central Office
 Pat Pieratte
 pat.pieratte@dot.state.fl.us
 850-245-1529
 www.srtsfl.org

See back for District contacts

Or your District Contacts
 See chart at www.srtsfl.org