



# State Safe Passing Laws

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**KEY** | Safe distance  
Defined 3 feet or more  
Variation

State	Citation	Standard
Alabama	32-5A-82	"safe distance"
Alaska	13 AAC 02.065	"safe distance"
Arizona	28-735	"not less than 3 feet"
Arkansas	27-51-311	"not less than 3 feet"
California	21760	"shall not overtake or pass... at a distance of less than three feet"
Colorado	42-4-1002	"at least three-foot"
Connecticut	14-232	"not less than three feet"
Delaware	21: 4116	"a minimum of three feet"
District of Columbia	DC Rule 18-2202	"in no case less than 3 feet"
Florida	316.083	"not less than 3 feet"
Georgia	40-6-56	"not less than 3 feet"
Hawaii	291C-43	"safe distance"
Idaho	49-632	"safe distance"
Illinois	11-703	"not less than 3 feet"
Indiana	9-21-8-5	"safe distance"
Iowa	321.299	"safe distance"
Kansas	8-1516	"not less than 3 feet"
Kentucky	189.340	"reasonably clear"
Louisiana	32:76.1	"not less than 3 feet"
Maine	21-A: 2070	"not less than 3 feet"
Maryland	21-1209	"not less than 3 feet"
Massachusetts	Ch. 90 §14; Ch. 89 §2	"safe distance"
Michigan	257.636	"safe distance"
Minnesota	169.18	"in no case less than three feet"
Mississippi	63-3-1309	"not less than three feet"
Missouri	300.411	"safe distance"
Montana	61-8-320	"safely without endangering"
Nebraska	60-6,133	"no less than three feet"
Nevada	484B.270	"not less than three feet"
New Hampshire	265:143-a	"at least three feet"
New Jersey	39:4-85	"safe distance"
New Mexico	66-7-310	"safe distance"
New York	25: 1122-a	"safe distance"
North Carolina	20-149	"at least two feet"
North Dakota	39-10-11	"safe distance"
Ohio	4511.27	"safe distance"
Oklahoma	47-11-1208	"not less than 3 feet"
Oregon	811.065	"safe distance" (a distance sufficient to prevent contact with the person operating the bicycle if the person were to fall into the driver's lane of traffic)
Pennsylvania	75: 3303	"not less than 4 feet"
Rhode Island	31-15-18	"safe distance" (a distance sufficient to prevent contact with the person operating the bicycle if the person were to fall into the driver's lane of traffic)
South Carolina	56-5-3435	"safe operating distance"
South Dakota	32-26-26.1	"a minimum of 3 foot" if "the posted limit is 35 mph or less" and "a minimum of 6 feet" if "the posted limit is greater than 35 mph"
Tennessee	55-8-175(c)(2)	"not less than 3 feet"
Texas	545.053	"safe distance"
Utah	41-6a-706.5	"may not knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly operate... within three feet ... unless ... within a reasonable and safe distance"
Vermont	23: 1033	"safe distance"
Virginia	46.2-839	"at least two feet"
Washington	46.61.110	"safe distance to clearly avoid coming into contact with"
West Virginia	17C-7-3	"safe distance"
Wisconsin	346.075	"in no case less than 3 feet"
Wyoming	31-5-203(c)	"at least 3 foot separation"