

# STEP

*An Orange County Safe Routes to School Program*

## What is STEP?

STEP provides select schools with **FREE resources** to encourage families to walk/bike to school safely and more often.

## Why STEP?

**Students who walk/bike to school are healthier and arrive at school ready to learn!** STEP helps families choose walking or biking and teaches them how to do so safely.

## But our school doesn't have time for one more thing.

**We know! That's why STEP keeps it simple with services that don't require a lot of your time.**

By participating in STEP, your school will receive:

- Pedestrian and bike distance learning videos aligned with PE and HE standards
- Presentations for your PTA/PTO, school site councils, or other parent/caregiver/stakeholder groups
- Ready-to-forward e-blasts and/or tip sheets, e-newsletters, and educational materials to share with families
- Data about how your students get to and from school (hello Green Ribbon School Award!)
- Banner celebrating your school's efforts
- Suggested routes to school map that shows a preferred route to walk or bike to school

Check out the next page to see what additional services you can receive.



## YOU choose up to three activities from the list below that will be provided to your school over next two school years (21/22 + 22/23):

- **Walk/Bike Resource Fair.** In-school education during lunchtime, recess, or other convenient time. featuring activity stations that teach students bike maintenance, helmet use, walking skills, and the benefits of active travel.
- **Assembly.** Fun performances that teach students the basics of bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- **Bike + Ped Rodeos.** Students learn safe bicycling and walking behaviors and practice their skills.
- **Walking School Bus.** STEP will provide staffing and support to launch a Walking School Bus program at your school.
- **Walkin'/Wheelin' Days.** School designates walk/bike to school encouragement days, either on a weekly, monthly, or one-time basis. These might include Walk to School Day (October), Winter Walk to School Day (February), Earth Day (April), Bike to School Day (May), or other similar events.
- **'Pop-Up' Events.** Booth at a school event/back to school night to promote walking and biking, share helpful tips, and offer specific advice to make it easy for families to choose walking and biking.
- **After-school Safety Education.** Safe walking and bicycling instruction for after-school programs.
- **Activity Tracking.** Fun methods for tracking how many students travel to school include the Golden Sneaker program, punch-cards, and calendars. These pit classrooms against one another in friendly competitions that encourage walking and biking.
- **"I Drive 25" Campaign.** Students encourage parents/caregivers to commit to driving 25 MPH or less in school zones.
- **DIY (aka Design-It-Yourself).** Don't see anything you like? Tell us what you have in mind and we tailor something for your school!

### Acronyms

HE - Health Education  
MPH - Miles Per Hour  
PE - Physical Education  
PTA - Parent Teacher Association  
PTO - Parent Teacher Organization  
STEP - Safe Travels Education Program

[www.octa.net/Walk/Safe-Routes-to-School/OC-Step/](http://www.octa.net/Walk/Safe-Routes-to-School/OC-Step/)

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## STEP

STEP is a joint program of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA).

