



Dear SMU Community,

Welcome to campus for a new academic year. As you become accustomed to your schedule of classes and activities, take note of important safety reminders around campus. Newly painted crosswalks, flashing and other crossing safety signs, and additional police patrols are some of the ways we are working to keep pedestrians and drivers alert and safe. Here are some other safety tips:

Get to know campus. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the campus layout, designated crosswalks, and traffic flow. A great resource is the University's [interactive map](#). Don't hesitate to ask for directions. Our campus community is friendly and happy to assist you.

Stay alert. As you connect with friends, access important information, or catch up on news through your phones, don't lose track of what's going on around you. Whether you're walking or driving, be aware of others, especially near crosswalks and along campus roadways.

Use crosswalks. Always use designated crosswalks and look both ways when crossing streets, even if you have the right of way. Making eye contact with drivers can help ensure they see you and stop. Activate the rapid flashing beacon lights if the crosswalk has them. Take extra care around construction zones where views may be obstructed.

Obey traffic laws. Adhere to all traffic laws and signals, including stopping at designated crosswalks, yielding the right of way to pedestrians, and obeying speed limits.

Expect increased patrols. Watch for safety signs that provide visual reminders of crosswalks. SMU and University Park police will be actively patrolling streets and crosswalks.

Be patient and plan. Traffic can be heavy during peak hours. Drivers and pedestrians alike are encouraged to be patient and courteous to one another. Rushing can lead to accidents. Allow yourself plenty of time to get to campus and class.

Abide by electric scooters policies: Users of privately-owned electric scooters and other personal mobility devices must follow [University policy](#), including:

- Obeying traffic laws on campus, stopping at stop lights and stop signs, and limiting speed to ten (10) miles per hour or less.
- Staying to the right on all roadways, pathways, and sidewalks.
- Yielding to pedestrians in walkways and sidewalks and providing audible or hand signals when approaching or passing pedestrians.

Thank you for your attention to these important safety reminders. Download [the SMU Aware Safety App](#) and follow on [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) and [Facebook](#) for more safety tips and resources.

Sincerely,

Jim Walters
Chief of Police