

Communities With Daytime Curfews

Some communities have passed daytime curfew laws, probably to combat truancy or gang activity. These laws allow children to be cited if they are in any public place other than a school during the hours that schools normally are in session. Unfortunately, they are all written differently, so you need to read yours. But most have language something like this:

"It is unlawful for any minor under the age of eighteen years, who is subject to compulsory education or to compulsory continuation education, to loiter, idle, wander, stroll or play in or upon public street, highway, road, alley, park, playground, parking area, or other public ground, public place or public building, place of amusement or eating place, vacant lot, or any place open to the public in the unincorporated area of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, during those hours that his or her school is in session."

Notice the words "during those hours that his or her school is in session." This raises the interesting question of when schools where children are being taught at home are (or are not) in session. But you should assume, if you live in a community with a daytime curfew law, that police officers will think that any child out and about when the local public schools are in session is guilty of violating the law, even if you've given your child permission to go out for a while.

If you live in a community with a daytime curfew, HSC makes several recommendations for times when your child might be out in the community (such as at a park, library or restaurant) without you present. First, tell your child that if s/he is stopped without you there by a police or truancy officer, the child should not say that s/he is homeschooled. Tell your child to say that s/he is in a [charter school, public school independent study program, private school], whatever is the case. These officers don't like the "homeschool" word and it would be best not to trigger whatever negative associations they have with it. Second, you should make sure that your child has two things in his or her pockets. The first is a school identification card, which you can create on your computer at home (best if it has a picture of your child), giving the name/address/phone number of the school, child's name, age and grade (just put down what grade they'd be in if they were in school with their age group). You can laminate it (Kinkos can do that). The other thing to have in his or her pocket is a permission slip saying that the child has permission from the school to be off the property. Print up some slips with your school's name, street address and phone number at the top and with blanks for the date and time and name saying something like "On [write in the date], [print the name of school] ended its day at [write in the time]. The following student, [write in the name of student], has permission to be off of school property." Then have a signature line with a place for the signer to write his or her title under the signature.

Make sure your child is aware of the risk that he or she may be stopped and questioned by

the police, tell him or her that he or she should be prepared to show the authority the school identification card and permission slip, and if possible give him or her a cell phone so s/he is able to get in touch with you at all times.

Below is a list of communities with curfews updated as of 12/2019

California

Antioch, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:01 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Antioch, California, Municipal Code §§ 5-10.201-206](#)

Bakersfield, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Bakersfield, California, Municipal Code § 9.44.010](#)

Burbank, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Burbank, California, Municipal Code § 5-3-110](#)

Carlsbad, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Carlsbad, California, Municipal Code §§ 8.010-060](#)

Chula Vista, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Chula Vista, California, Municipal Code § 9.28.010](#)

Concord, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 12:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

During school hours

Code: [Concord, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.40.010-060](#)

Contra Costa County, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

During school hours

Code: [Contra Costa County, California, Municipal Code § 52.4](#)

Corona, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

During school hours

Code: [Corona, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.41.010-060 and §§ 9.42.010-050](#)

Costa Mesa, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Costa Mesa, California, Municipal Code §§ 11-51 to -53](#)

Daly City, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – daylight

Code: [Daly City, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.40.010-030](#)

Downey, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Downey, California, Municipal Code § 4108](#)

El Monte, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.

School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [El Monte, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.32.010-050](#)

Elk Grove, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – daylight

Code: [Elk Grove, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.05.000-070](#)

Escondido, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Escondido, California, Municipal Code §§ 17-54 to -56](#)

Fairfield, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Fairfield, California, Municipal Code §§ 12.1.1-7](#)

Fontana, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise

During school hours

Code: [Fontana, California, Municipal Code § 16-2 and §§ 16-15 to-16](#)

Fresno, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Fresno, California, Municipal Code § 10.40.010](#)

Fullerton, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Fullerton, California, Municipal Code §§ 7.20.010-060](#)

Garden Grove, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. (under 16)

Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. (under 18)
Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 6:00 a.m. (under 18)

Code: [Garden Grove, California, Municipal Code §§ 8.04.010-040](#)

Glendale, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Glendale, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.04.010-080](#)

Hayward, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.
During school hours

Code: [Hayward, California, Municipal Code §§ 4-9.00-09](#)

Huntington Beach, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Huntington Beach, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.68.010-120](#)

Irvine, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Irvine, California, Municipal Code §§ 4-14-301 to -309](#)

La Mesa, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [La Mesa, California, Municipal Code § 10.20](#)

Long Beach, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Long Beach, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.58.010-020](#)

Los Angeles County, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise

School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Los Angeles County, California, Municipal Code §§ 13.56-57](#)

Merced, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Merced, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.24.020-040](#)

Modesto, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. (under 16)

Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. (under 18)

Code: [Modesto, California, Municipal Code §§ 4-7.201-207](#)

Moreno Valley, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: During school hours

Code: [Moreno Valley, California, Municipal Code §§ 11.05.010-110](#)

Murrieta, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
School days 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Code: [Murrieta, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.02.010-120](#)

Napa County, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – sunrise

Code: [Napa County, California, Municipal Code § 9.08](#)

Norwalk, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
School days 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Code: [Norwalk, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.20.010-120](#)

Oceanside, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:30 a.m.
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Oceanside, California, Municipal Code §§ 16.1-10](#)

Ontario, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
During school hours

Code: [Ontario, California, Municipal Code §§ 5-7.01-05](#)

Orange, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Orange, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.28.010-050](#)

Orange County, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Orange County, California, Municipal Code § 3-6-1](#)

Oxnard, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Oxnard, California, Municipal Code §§ 7-70 to -73](#)

Palmdale, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Palmdale, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.28.010-013](#)

Pasadena, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Pasadena, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.68.010-025](#)

Pomona, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
Friday and Saturday 11:59 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Pomona, California, Municipal Code §§ 34-260 to -268](#)

Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
During school hours

Code: [Rancho Cucamonga, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.30.010-040](#)

Redding, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Redding, California, Municipal Code § 10.50](#)

Richmond, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: September 16 to June 14:
Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.
June 15 to September 15:
Sunday through Thursday 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Richmond, California, Municipal Code §§ 11.60.010-070](#)

Riverside, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Riverside, California, Municipal Code § 9.06.020](#)

Rohnert Park, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Rohnert Park, California, Municipal Code § 9.76](#)

Roseville, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Roseville, California, Municipal Code §§ 10.70.010-070](#)

Salinas, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Salinas, California, Municipal Code § 21-6](#)

San Bernardino, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
During school hours

Code: [San Bernardino, California, Municipal Code §§ 25.0101-0102 and §§ 25.0201-0208](#)

Sacramento, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Sacramento, California, Municipal Code § 9.040.010](#)

San Diego, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [San Diego, California, Municipal Code § 58.0101](#)

San Diego County, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [San Diego County, California, Municipal Code §§ 35.102-103](#)

San Jose, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. (under 16)
Everyday 11:30 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. (under 18)

Code: [San Jose, California, Municipal Code § 10.28](#)

San Francisco, CA

Applies to individuals: under 14

When: Everyday 12:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [San Francisco, California, Municipal Code § 539](#)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Sunday through Thursday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [San Luis Obispo County, California, Municipal Code § 7.22](#)

San Ramon, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. – 30 minutes before sunrise

Friday and Saturday 12:01 a.m. – 30 minutes before sunrise

Code: [San Ramon, California, Municipal Code §§ B7-231 to -234](#)

Santa Ana, CA

Applies to individuals: under 17

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Santa Ana, California, Municipal Code §§ 7.12.010-040](#)

Santa Clara County, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Santa Clara County, California, Municipal Code §§ B13-30 to -35](#)

Santa Clarita County, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.
Code: [Santa Clarita, California, Municipal Code §§ 11.56.010-060](#)

Santa Barbara, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
During school hours
Code: [Santa Barbara, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.04.010-30](#)

Santa Barbara County, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18
When: During Pacific Standard Time:
Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
During Pacific Daylight Time:
Everyday 11:00 p.m. – sunrise
During school hours
Code: [Santa Barbara County, California, Municipal Code §§ 20-1 to -4](#)

Santa Cruz, CA
Applies to individuals: under 17
When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.
Code: [Santa Cruz, California, Municipal Code § 9.04](#)

Santa Rosa, CA
Applies to individuals: under 18

When: September to May:
Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.
June to August:
Everyday 12:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Santa Rosa, California, Municipal Code §§ 10-16.010-035](#)

Santee, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18
When: September to May:
Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise
June to August:
Everyday 11:00 p.m. – sunrise

Code: [Santee, California, Municipal Code § 9.44.030](#)

Simi Valley, CA

Applies to individuals: under 17
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Simi Valley, California, Municipal Code §§ 5-14.01-05](#)

Stockton, CA

Applies to individuals: under 17
When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Code: [Stockton, California, Municipal Code § 9.24](#)

Temecula, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – sunrise

Code: [Temecula, California, Municipal Code §§ 9.12.010-040](#)

Thousand Oaks, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Thousand Oaks, California, Municipal Code § 5-8.02](#)

Torrance, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

School days 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Code: [Torrance, California, Municipal Code §§ 45.2.1-5](#)

Tracy, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Code: [Tracy, California, Municipal Code §§ 4.12.1080-1120](#)

Ventura, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

When: Everyday 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.

School days 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Code: [Ventura, California, Municipal Code §§ 10.300.210-360](#)

Victorville, CA

Applies to individuals: under 18

