

Traffic Signal Guide

Safer, More Efficient Turn Signals

The City of Lincoln is upgrading its traffic signals and timings to enhance safety and traffic flow on major streets. As a result, intersections are using different arrow signals for turning traffic.



Understanding the Signal for Your Turn Lane

At many major intersections across Lincoln, arrow signals are used for both left and right turns. Studies show that arrow signals provide clearer instruction and result in fewer crashes.



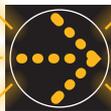
Solid red arrow: STOP. No turns allowed.

Do not enter the intersection to turn. Stop and wait until the signal changes.



Solid yellow arrow: Prepare to stop.

The signal will soon be red for turning traffic. If legally in the intersection, wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic to complete the turn.



Flashing yellow arrow: Yield, and turn when safe.

Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians in the crosswalk; then turn. See back to learn more.



Solid green arrow: Turns allowed and protected.

Turning traffic has the right of way. Oncoming traffic and pedestrians are stopped.

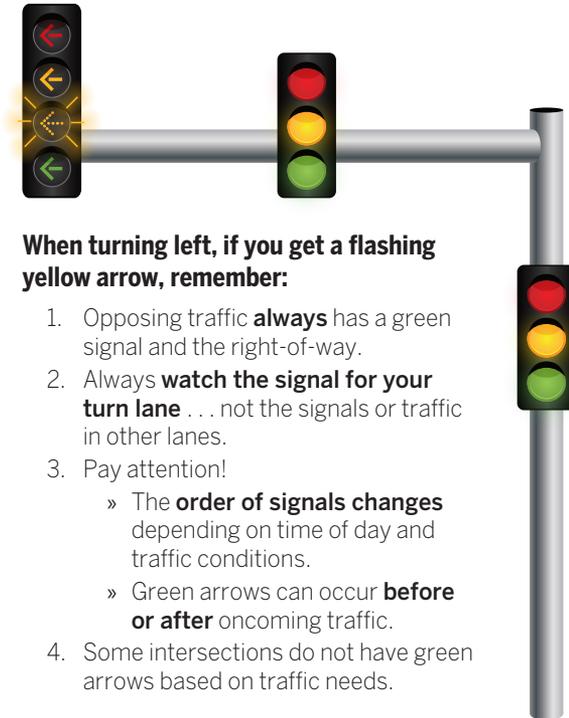
Flashing Yellow Arrow: Turning Left

Yield, Then Turn

When turning left on a flashing yellow arrow, **drivers must yield** to oncoming traffic and pedestrians in the crosswalk before turning. Oncoming traffic **always** has a green signal and the right-of-way.

Flashing yellow arrows replace the traditional green ball when turning left. A national study showed flashing yellow left-turn arrows are more understandable to drivers. Lincoln's upgraded signals give drivers more opportunities to turn left and traffic engineers more options to keep traffic moving at different times of the day.

Traditional Traffic Signal



When turning left, if you get a flashing yellow arrow, remember:

1. Opposing traffic **always** has a green signal and the right-of-way.
2. Always **watch the signal for your turn lane** . . . not the signals or traffic in other lanes.
3. Pay attention!
 - » The **order of signals changes** depending on time of day and traffic conditions.
 - » Green arrows can occur **before or after** oncoming traffic.
4. Some intersections do not have green arrows based on traffic needs.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Flashing yellow arrows...



were approved for use by Federal Highway Administration in 2006



reduce left-turning crashes by up to 25%



minimize travel delays by providing more turning opportunities