PRIMARY DISPLAY SYSTEM
[PDS]: ACTIVE

STATUS: HUD INTERFACE
ONLINE [V.4.2.1]

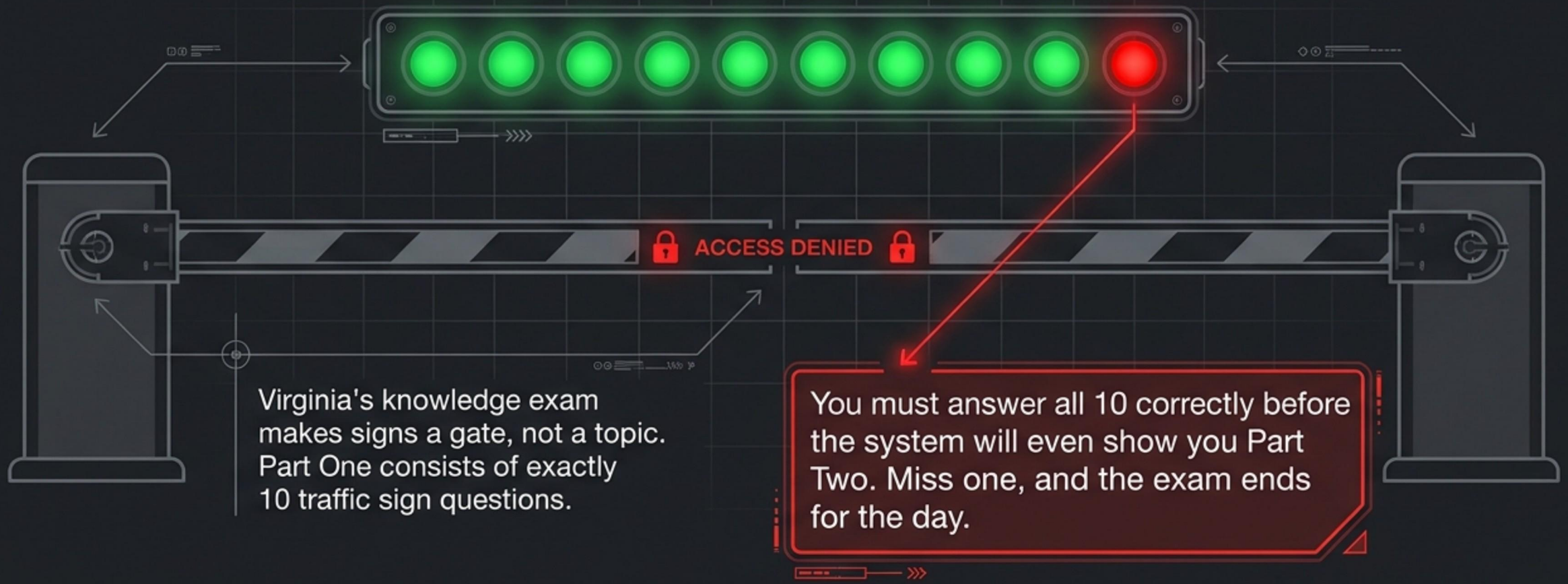
THE 10-QUESTION GATE

A Visual Decoder for the Virginia
Signs & Signals Knowledge Exam.

MODULE FOCUS:
REGULATORY & WARNING SIGNS

EXAM GATEWAY PROTOCOL:
INITIALIZED

The Perfect Score Requirement Required



Virginia's knowledge exam makes signs a gate, not a topic. Part One consists of exactly 10 traffic sign questions.

You must answer all 10 correctly before the system will even show you Part Two. Miss one, and the exam ends for the day.

Do not memorize signs one at a time. Learn the underlying code.

The Master Key, Part 1: Shape

Vertical = **The Law** (rules);
Horizontal = **Guidance**.

STOP — and only stop.
Recognizable from behind or in snow.

YIELD.

RAILROAD
crossing itself.

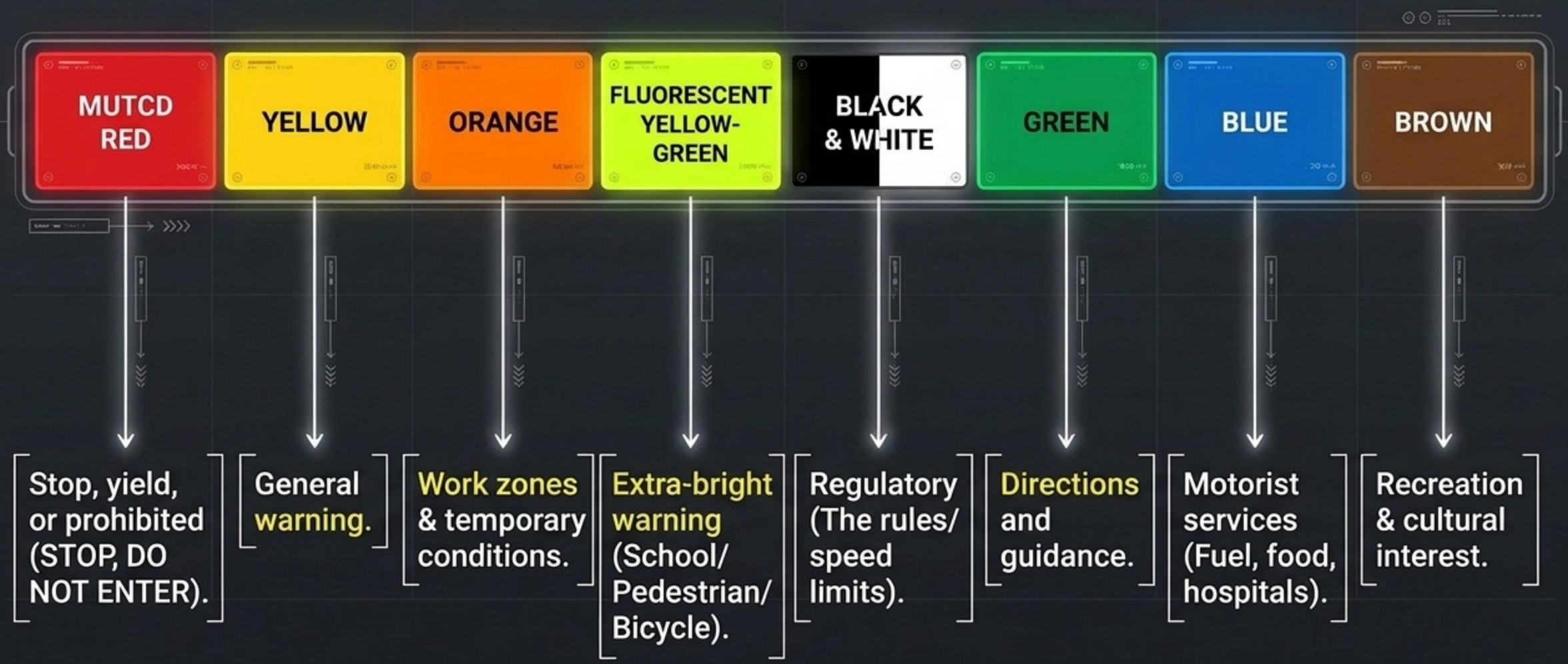
WARNING — hazard
or condition ahead.

RAILROAD advance
warning (tracks coming).

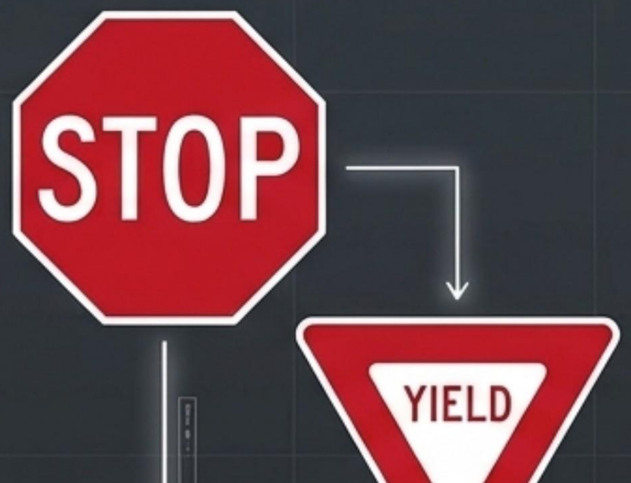
SCHOOL — zone
or crossing.

NO PASSING
zone begins.

The Master Key, Part 2: Color



Regulatory Signs: The Law on a Stick



Complete halt before the stop line, crosswalk, or sightline. YIELD requires absolute duty to give right-of-way, stopping if necessary.

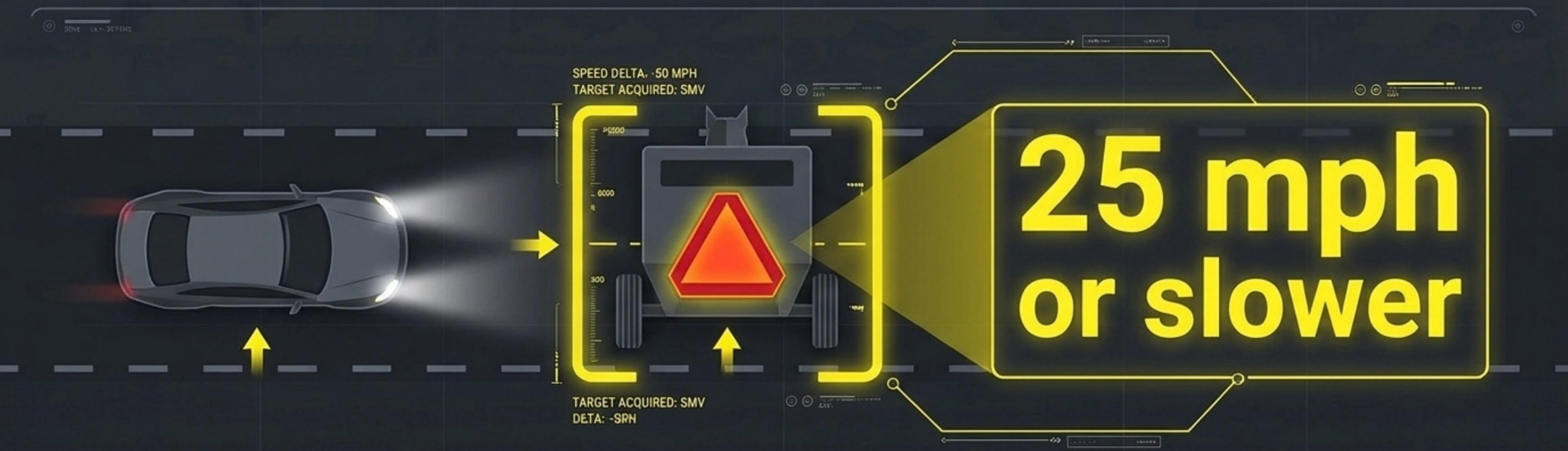


“DO NOT ENTER” = One-way streets, exit ramps.
“WRONG WAY” = You are going against traffic; pull over and turn around immediately.



Enforceable by law. Speed limits set the maximum, but remember: even a legal speed can be too fast for conditions.
“KEEP RIGHT” means pass to the right of an obstruction.

The Closing Gap: Slow-Moving Vehicles



The slow-moving-vehicle (SMV) emblem is not on a post; it is mounted directly on farm equipment and animal-drawn vehicles.

When you see the red-and-orange triangle ahead, close the gap slowly and pass only when safe.

Warning Signs: Translating the Arrow

Warning signs are heads-ups, not orders.
In work zones, they turn orange.



Read the S-curve symbol from bottom to top. **The first bend drawn is the first bend you will drive.**

TARGET ACQUIRED:
DATA:~SIPN

Additional Hazards:

- Slippery When Wet: Avoid quick braking.
- Low Clearance: Shows exact clearance (e.g., 13′-6″); do not enter if taller.
- Lane Ends: Adjust speed and spacing early, not at the last moment.

The Classic Exam Trap: Divided Highways



BEGINS

Median nose is at the TOP.
Traffic is about to split around a median.



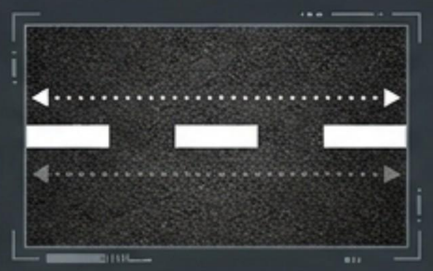
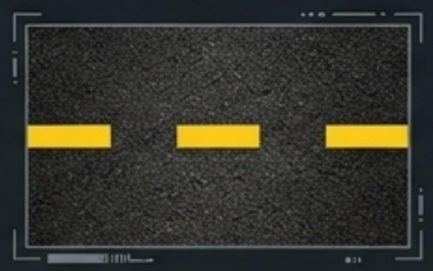
ENDS

Median nose is at the BOTTOM.
Traffic is merging.

Swapping these in your head is the exam's favorite trap. On the real road, "Ends" means oncoming traffic is about to run directly beside you with zero physical separation.

Pavement Markings: The 2x2 Grid

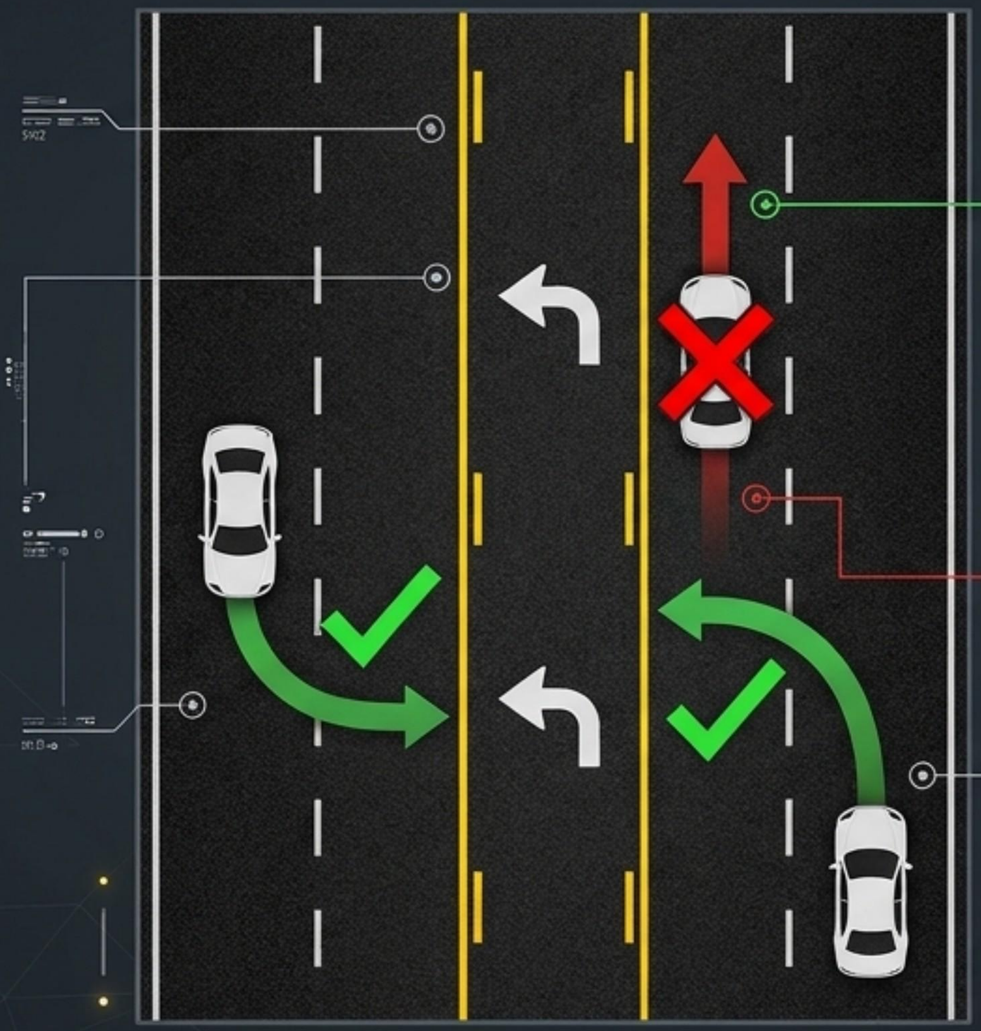
White separates friends; yellow separates opponents.

	White Color	Yellow Color
Broken Line	 Same direction. May cross to change lanes.	 Opposite directions. Passing allowed from either side.
Solid Line	 Same direction edge/boundary. Crossing discouraged. (Marks the right fog line).	 Opposite directions. No passing from your lane.



Double Solid Yellow: No passing either way. May cross ONLY to turn left into/out of a driveway or side street.

The Center Left-Turn-Only Lane

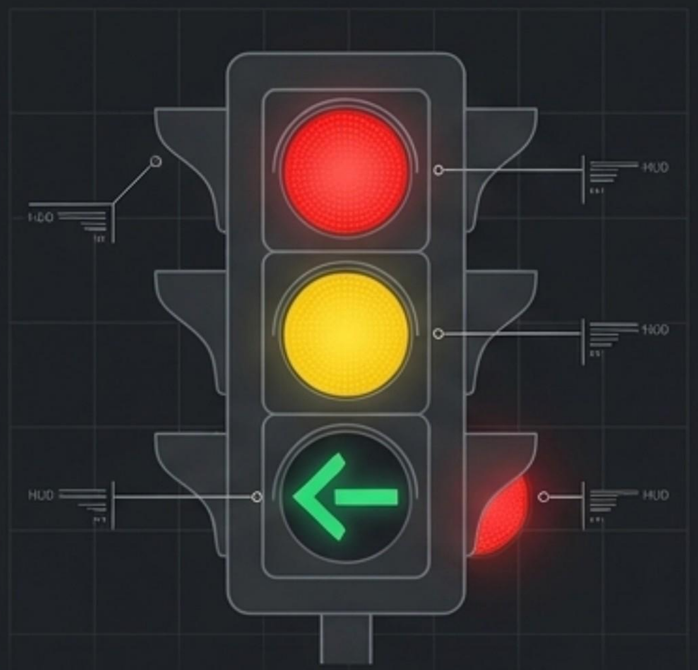


Shared by both directions for left turns only.

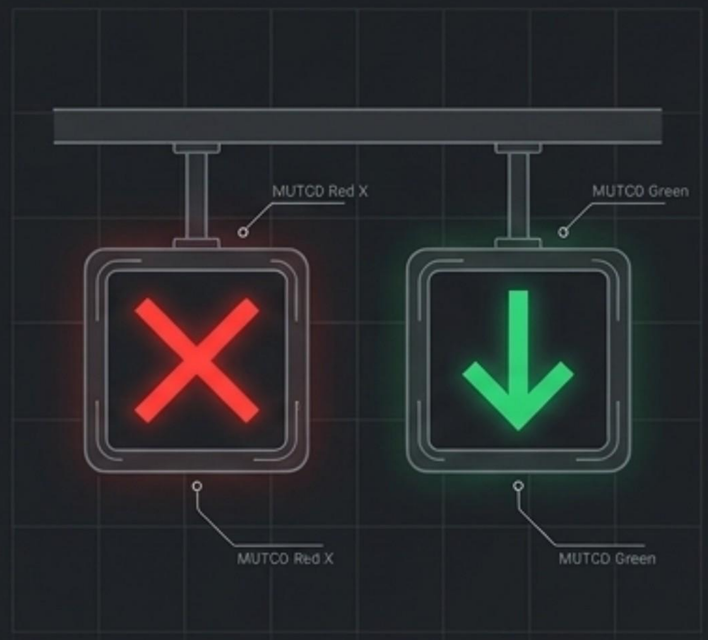
NEVER use this lane for passing.

NEVER use it as a continuous travel lane.

Signals & Lane Control



- **Steady Red**: Stop. Right on red allowed (unless signed). Left on red ONLY from one-way to one-way.
- **Steady Yellow**: Light is turning red. Stop if safe; do not speed up to beat it.
- **Green Arrow** + **Red Light**: Turn in arrow's direction, yielding as required.

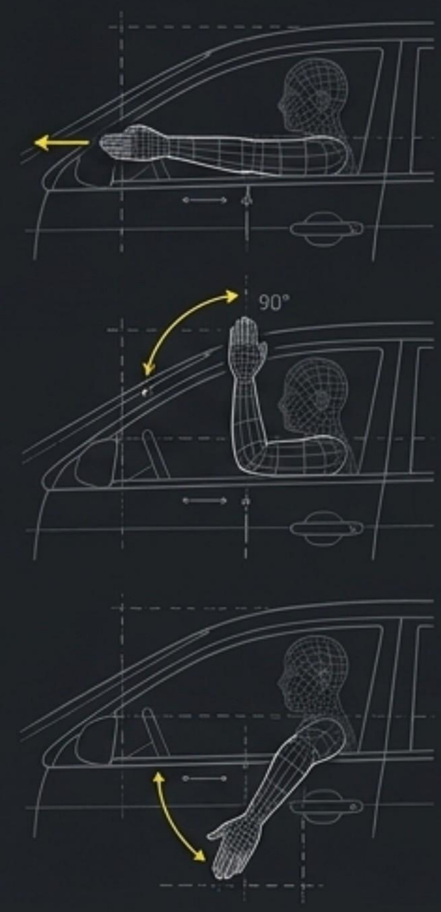


Lane-Use (Reversible Lanes):

- **Red X** = Lane closed. Never drive in it.
- **Green Arrow** = Lane open to you.

HUD

Manual Override (Hand Signals)

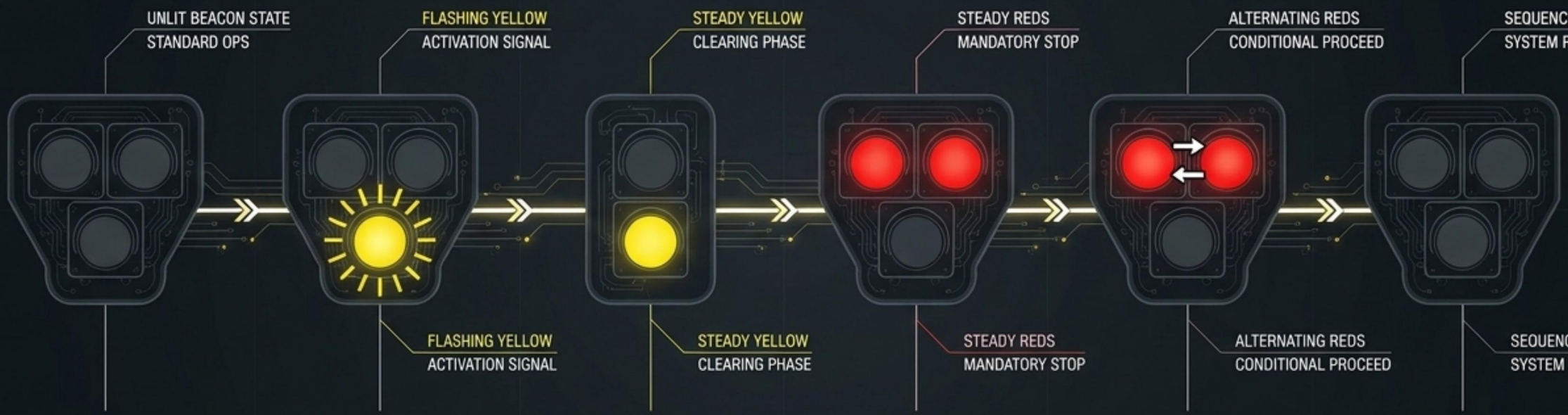


Left

Right

Stop/Slow

The Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (HAWK) Sequence



Phase 1:
Normal operation.
(Dark)

Phase 2:
Pedestrian activated.
Prepare to stop.
(Flashing Yellow)

Phase 3:
Clear the intersection.
(Solid Yellow)

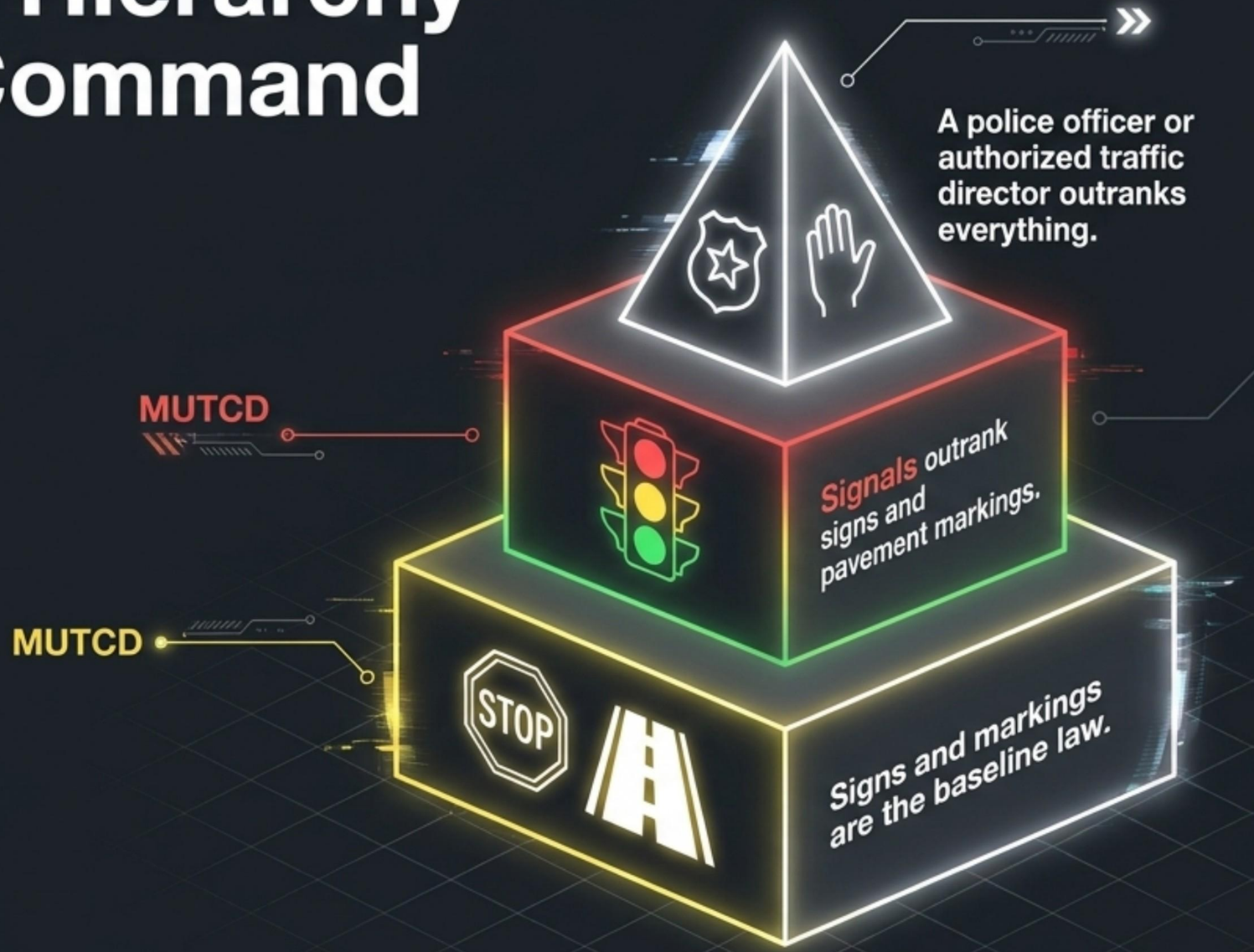
Phase 4: STOP.
Pedestrians are crossing.
(Solid Red)

Phase 5: Stop.
If crosswalk is clear, you may proceed.
(Alternating Flashing Red)

Phase 6:
Sequence resets.
(Dark)

SEQUENCE STATUS: ACTIVE

The Hierarchy of Command





System Failure Rule:
If a signal is completely dark (broken), treat the intersection as uncontrolled: Stop completely, and yield to vehicles already there (and to the right on a tie).

Flashing Red = treat as a stop sign.
Flashing Yellow = proceed with caution.

System Check: Evaluate Your Readiness

Question 1: A round sign and an X-shaped sign both concern the same hazard. What does each one mark?

Question 2: You are approaching an S-curve warning sign. How do you know which way the road bends first?

Question 3: The lane ahead carries a red X, while the crosswalk beacon beyond it shows alternating flashing red lights. What does each signal require of you?

Decryption Complete

Quiz Answers

- 1: Round = Railroad ahead. Crossbuck (X) = The crossing itself.
- 2: Read bottom to top. The first bend drawn is the first bend driven.
- 3: Red X = Lane closed (never drive in it). Flashing red beacon = Stop, then proceed if crosswalk is clear.

Data Log - Key Numbers	
10	Sign questions on Part One (Must get ALL 10 correct).
25 mph	Maximum speed for vehicles displaying the SMV triangle.
15 to 50 ft	Required stopping distance from the nearest railroad track.
8	Sides on a Stop Sign (the only octagon).

Keep practicing — free, no sign-up

Virginia Signs & Signals study guide, practice tests & flashcards:

drivinglicensetest.org/va