

HIGHWAY SAFETY



Program

Buckle Up Express

FEATURING WYOMING'S CPS TEAM

VOLUME 31

WINTER 2008

WYDOT Highway Safety Program and Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Injury Prevention

Upcoming Classes in Wyoming

- **NHTSA Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician Training**

Jan 13, 14, 15, 16, 2009

Application deadline: December 22, 2008

**WCA McMurry Training Center / 2220 N. Bryan Stock Trail
Casper, WY 82601**

- **Renewal Course / For Expired Technicians**

January 12, 2009 / 9:00-5:00pm

**WCA McMurry Training Center / 2220 North Bryan Stock Trail
Casper, WY 82601**

- **Renewal Course / For Expired Technicians**

January 29, 2009 / 9:00-5:00pm

**Sweetwater County Fire District #1
3010 College Drive / Rock Springs, WY 82901**

- **Certification Update Course / For 6 CEUs**

January 30, 2009 / 9:00-5:00pm

**Sweetwater County Fire District #1
3010 College Drive / Rock Springs, WY 82901**

***To receive registration forms for any of these classes, please contact:
Stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org or 307-633-7525***

Wyoming's Technician Re-certification Rate

Curriculum's Two Year Anniversary Heralds Changes in CEUs

Effective April 1, 2009, technicians will no longer be allowed to claim CEUs for observing a CPS Certification Course. The April date is the two year mark for the updated curriculum. The goal of CEUs is to increase the CPS technical knowledge. With the curriculum having been out for two years, techs should go to updated sources for information.

The steps for re-certification are not as complicated as they may seem and we need to all try to complete them to maintain our certification. Follow these simple steps below, start early and you will not loose your certification.

You will need your username and password to be able to enter all your information into your profile at: <http://www.safekids.org/certification/>. Call 877-366-8154, if you do not have that information.

1) Five seat checks approved by a certified instructor or proxy. If needing a proxy in your area, contact stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org

2) Community education (Have a certificate of proof in case of auditing)

OPTION 1: Two-hour check up event with at least one other CPS Technician at which you serve families using any standardized checklist to provide documentation, if needed. Visit safekidswyoming.org

OPTION 2: Provide at least four hours of community education. Examples include presenting to parents, educators, kids, organizations (PTAs, law enforcement). These are presentations to non-CPSTs. You are welcome to combine smaller events for the requirement.

3) Minimum of six hours of CPS technical continuing education units (See below)

CEUs are self-certified and are subject to random auditing.

Remember to print the proof of your CEUs in case of auditing.

4) Register and pay the re-certification fee **before your certification expiration date**

Easy ways to get all 6 CEUs !

Newsletter Category/Max 3 CEUs in this Category

1 CEU—Every Wyoming Technician is credited one CEU for receiving the Safe Ride News Publication. Contact nancy@saferidenews.com for Proof of Purchase

1 CEU— Take the LATCH Manual Quiz. Go to saferidenews.com to learn more

1 CEU—Take the CR Manufacturer's Quiz. Go to carseat.org to learn more

1 CEUs—Reading the Tech Update and taking quizzes at www.cpsboard.org

Online/Web Sessions Category/Max 5 CEUs in this Category

3 CEUs— Three presentations and Quizzes on the www.cpsboard.org Website

4 CEUs—View the Web Streaming and associated quizzes at <http://www.buckleupillinois.org/>

2 CEUs-- Presentation on School Buses <http://www.safekidswebinars.org/>

In-person Session Category/Max 6 CEUs in this Category

The update course for 6 CEUs may be taught by a technician. For more information on the course, contact: Stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org.

Informative Websites:

- Safekidswyoming.org
Safe Kids Wyoming
- www.nhtsa.dot.gov
National Hwy Traffic Safety Administration
- www.safekids.org
Safe Kids Worldwide
- www.carseat.org
SafetyBeltSafe USA
- www.cpsboard.org
National Child Passenger Safety Board
- <http://wydotweb.state.wy.us>
Wyoming Department of Transportation
- www.carseatdata.org/
Car seat Compatibility List
- www.hsrec.unc.edu
Car Seat Recall List
- www.kidsncars.org
Kids Safe In and Around Cars

Why use the internet? The NHTSA website offers you the newest recalls, program information, and free materials. The CPS Board site provides Technician Update Reports on new products, techniques and recertification answers.

Quick Thoughts To Consider

BUCKLE UP KIDS \$150.00 GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Buckle Up Kids Grant is once again able to offer (5) \$150.00 grants available through the WYDOT Highway Safety Program to be used on child passenger safety training for Community Short Courses.

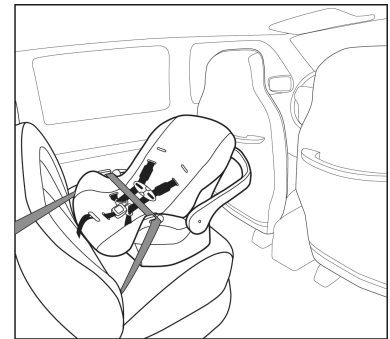
The Course must be a 2-4 hour course regarding child passenger safety. The curriculum should cover the important aspects of child passenger safety. It must be taught by a certified CPS technician. It must be taught to any community agency/group that will utilize the information. The funds are reimbursement funds. The money must be used for the class needs (Food, location, supplies, etc) and receipts are needed for the supplies. It does not mean you have to have a check-up event, just a workshop on information.

For further information on the grants please call (307-633-7525) or e-mail at stephanie.heitsch@crmcwy.org. Once the application is approved and the event is held, a final copy of the application, a list of attendees and receipts are sent in for reimbursement.

Many of you are doing these events in your communities already and so here is just an added incentive. Don't let the money go to waste.

Partners for Child Passenger Safety Educational Illustrations

The Center for Injury Research and Prevention at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia received a number of requests for accurate illustrations (line drawings) of proper car seat use for educators to include in handouts. PCPS has created a series of 37 educational illustrations, along with descriptions in both English and Spanish, to help demonstrate proper restraint use for a variety of ages, sizes, vehicle types, and restraint types. Use these illustrations to enhance presentations, fact sheets, and brochures with accurate depictions of vehicle safety features, restraint types, and correct vs. incorrect restraint use. Most illustrations are available in both JPG and EPS formats. Download the Illustrations Index to help you select your images. To view the files below, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader.



http://stokes.chop.edu/programs/injury/educational_advocacy/educational_illustrations.php

AIRBAGS AND KIDS

I am always telling people to keep their kids in the back seat as it is safer. I have been asked the question at what age is it safe for a child to sit in front of an air bag- does anyone know the answer to this? For boosters we have height and weight recommendations- anything like this for airbags?

A study by Newgard et al indicated that air bag interaction variability appears to have to do with bone development, not height or weight. Their recommendation is age 15. We like that because it ties in with the time that teens seriously begin to learn to drive, which usually occurs at about that age. The CHOP/Partners study doesn't report increased safety by riding in back for 13-15 year olds. And most recommend that if a youngster must ride in front, to choose the one best restrained, farthest from the air bag, and that is often a child in a safety seat with a harness--one of the youngest group. In most vehicles, the person in front is closer to the most common, serious crashes--frontals- as well as the less frequent but highly fatal side impacts. In addition, one is dealing with a perceived "honor" or "reinforcing treat" for a child to sit in front. Recently, a mother opined that despite the large size of her elementary school child, it might not be wise to put him in front because he might become a "role model" for his peers, most of whom are much, much smaller. She understood the risks, she found, more than HER peers and didn't want to start a reduction of protection in her community.

Stephanie Tombrello, SafetyBeltSafe

HIGHWAY SAFETY



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Booster Seats Are Not One-Size-Fits-All

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Response to the IIHS Booster Seat/ Belt Fit Report

On Wednesday October 1, 2008, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) released results of its study that examined the ability of booster seats to position seat belts appropriately on child occupants. The research suggests that booster seats vary in positioning seat belts; some are more likely to provide good fit, while others are less likely to do so.

Parents should not interpret these findings to mean that booster seats are ineffective. In real world crashes, booster seats are extremely effective in reducing injuries, especially injuries to the abdomen, spine and neck. According to research conducted by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) involving children in real world crashes from 1999 through 2002, using a booster seat in the rear seat reduces a child's risk of injury by almost 60 percent, compared with using a seat belt alone (Durbin et al, Journal of the American Medical Association, 2003). A recent update of this analysis with data through 2007 confirmed this finding.

What should parents do in response to this study? Before purchasing a booster seat, parents should check to see if it appropriately fits their child and vehicle. Children and vehicles come in all shapes and sizes. Parents should refer to the latest booster fit guidelines at www.chop.edu/carseat before deciding on a purchase.

In summary, this study raises awareness of a booster seat's primary job – to position the seat belt appropriately on the child using it. By drawing attention to this issue, more parents will be armed with the correct information to make the best child vehicle restraint choice and booster seat manufacturers will be encouraged to further optimize an already proven effective restraint.