



# AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY PROGRAM

Indiana University School of Medicine

## CAR SEAT INSPECTIONS IMPACT CAREGIVERS

In 2016, Safe Kids Worldwide replicated a 2005 study on the effect of Safe Kids Buckle Up (SKBU) inspections on caregiver knowledge, confidence, and skills. A convenience sample of 236 caregivers participated in the study, returning six weeks after an



initial inspection and pre-test to complete a post-test and to demonstrate installation and use of their car seat.

Five questions determined caregiver knowledge: what restraint is after a forward-facing seat with a harness; how

is tight installation determined; what is the most important criteria to consider when changing seat type; how is harness snugness determined; and when is a tether used. The results of the study showed a statistically significant change from the initial car seat inspection pre-test to follow-up post-test for every question except, "What restraint is after a forward-facing seat with a harness?"

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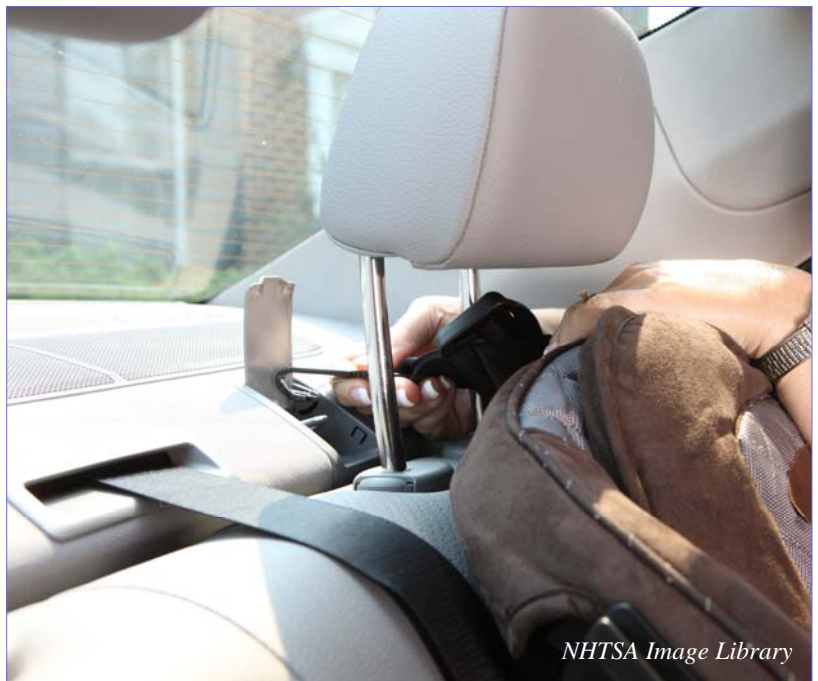
# CAR SEAT INSPECTIONS

## IMPACT CAREGIVERS, CONT.

The 2016 study measured caregiver confidence levels based upon how confident the caregiver felt about correctly installing their child's car seat without the help of another person. The percentage of individuals who felt very confident at baseline was 16%. At follow-up, 54% of caregivers indicated they felt very confident with their ability to install their child's car seat.

Safe Kids determined caregiver skill by observing how accurately the caregiver installed and used their car seat, based on a score of 100 points. At the initial inspection, caregivers scored an average of 62/100. The caregiver skill level increased at the follow-up inspection with the average score of 88/100.

The study also recommended areas for improvement. At baseline, fewer than half of the caregivers were using top tethers with forward-facing car seats. This number is similar to that of the original 2005 study, suggesting that little progress has been made on educating families about top tether use. Understanding the risks with using second hand car seats was another area identified for improvement.



The 2016 study confirmed the impact made by hands-on education from child passenger safety technicians in increasing caregiver knowledge, confidence, and skills.

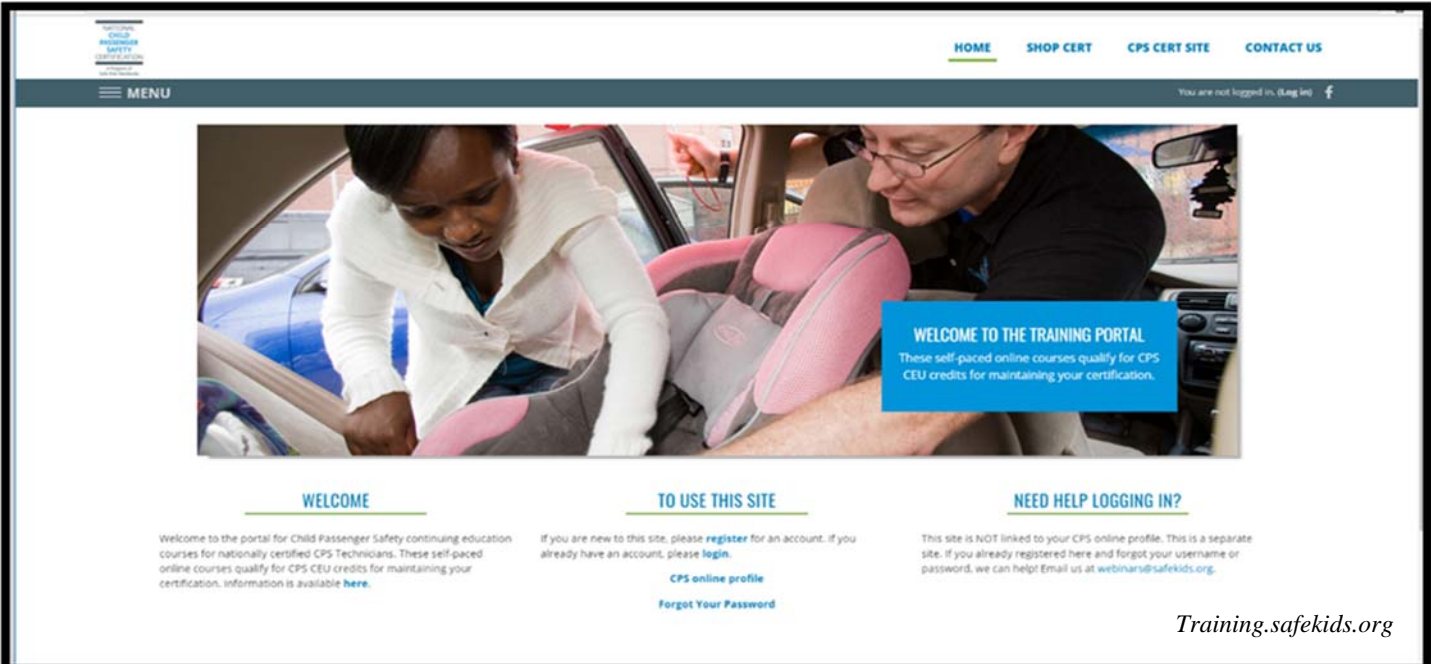
The complete study can be found at: <https://www.safekids.org/research-report/child-passenger-safety-impact-safe-kids-buckle-inspection-caregiver-knowledge>

# RECERTIFICATION TOOLS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Many Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs) struggle to complete all the steps needed to recertify. However, there are many tools available online to assist with the recertification process. While many CPSTs are familiar with the <http://cert.safekids.org>, there are additional resources available to CPSTs to assist with meeting their recertification requirements.

One of the most time consuming portions of recertification is the CEU requirement. In order to recertify, CPSTs must complete 6 CEUs with documentation. In January, Safe Kids launched a new online training portal where CPSTs can earn CEUs. CPSTs can choose from five different courses and can access their completed CEU certificates. In order to access the trainings, CPSTs will need to create a new account. The site is located at <https://training.safekids.org/>.

Additional options for earning CEUs, as well online options to complete the community event requirement for recertification, are available on the CPS Board's website: <http://cpsboard.org/>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Training Portal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, SHOP CERT, CPS CERT SITE, and CONTACT US. Below this is a dark green header with a MENU icon on the left and a login status "You are not logged in. (Log In)" on the right. The main content area features a large image of two people, a woman and a man, working on a child's car seat inside a vehicle. A blue callout box over the image reads "WELCOME TO THE TRAINING PORTAL" and "These self-paced online courses qualify for CPS CEU credits for maintaining your certification." Below the image are three columns of text: "WELCOME" with a link to "here", "TO USE THIS SITE" with links for "register", "login", "CPS online profile", and "Forgot Your Password", and "NEED HELP LOGGING IN?" with a link to "webinar@safekids.org". The footer of the page includes the URL "Training.safekids.org".

# TECH TIDBITS!

## Evenflo's Safety Advocate Site

Evenflo has a new Safety Advocate website to assist Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs). The website, Safety Made Easier, provides current Evenflo product information, installation tips, news and other

resources. The site also has information on institutional sales, CEU's for CPSTs, featured CPST stories, and additional resources including links to current research in the child passenger safety field. The website can be accessed at: <http://www.safetymadeeasier.com/>



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## May Is Child Passenger Safety Technician Month

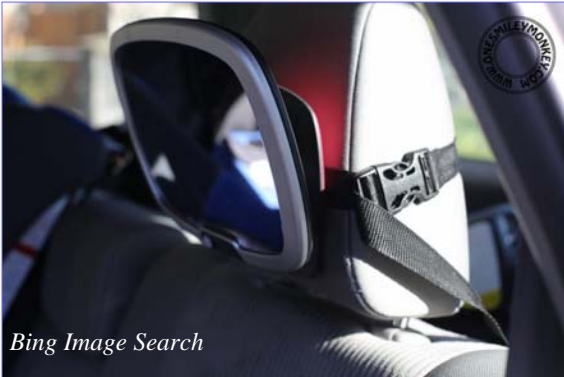
May 1<sup>st</sup> marks the start of the fourth annual Child Passenger Safety Technician Month. Child Passenger Safety Technician Month celebrates the over 41,000

technicians who serve their communities. During Child Passenger Safety Technician Month, organizations are encouraged to hold National Child Passenger Safety Technician Courses throughout the country. This year's national goal is 100 courses. Last year, Indiana received special recognition, along with New Jersey, for hosting five courses during the month of May.



# TECH TIDBITS!

## Viral Video Shows Baby Mirror Burning Car Seat



Baby mirrors tend to be a popular, non-regulated accessory purchased by caregivers. While CPSTs encourage parents not to use any non-regulated mirrors, many families still use them to observe their rear-facing child. Recently, a video on Facebook went viral. The video shows a non-regulated mirror reflecting light onto a Britax car seat, causing the fabric to smoke.

Britax issued the following response: "*Direct sunlight reflecting off shiny objects in a car can be dangerous. The federal government requires all car seats and the interior of vehicles to meet flame retardant standards. In this incident the flame retardants in the car seat did their job. As always, parents and caregivers should exercise caution when using any after-market car seat accessories, including back seat mirrors.*"

More information on the story can be found at: <https://www.abc15.com/news/national/mom-claims-car-seat-began-to-burn-from-reflection-from-mirror>

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## Timon and Pumbaa Promote Safe Travel for Children

A new program, supported by UL, the Walt Disney Company and Health World, Inc. promotes safe travel for children.

*Safety Smart: On the Go* follows Timon and Pumbaa as they travel and teach children how to travel safely, regardless of transportation mode. During the lesson, students learn four Safety Smart points: slow down, pay attention, use proper equipment, and don't distract. The program also discusses the dangers of texting while walking and talking on the phone

while riding a bike. In addition, the lesson allows students to identify safe behaviors when traveling by foot or vehicle. The program is recommended for grades K-3, is free and is available at: <https://safetysmart.healthworldeducation.org/>



<https://disneywildaboutsafety.com/>

# TECH TIDBITS!

## Not Wearing Seatbelt Continues to Be an Issue in Traffic Fatalities

The New York Times recently wrote an editorial regarding traffic fatalities and Americans not wearing seatbelts. Approximately 48-51% of Americans killed in motor vehicle crashes were not wearing their seatbelt. While seatbelt use has increased overall, the number of Americans not buckling up continues to be a public safety issue. Approximately 15% of American drivers do not wear their seatbelt, as compared to fewer than 5% in several European countries.

Currently, the United States has the most dangerous roads in the industrialized world and vehicle deaths have continued to rise. While many states have implemented seat belt laws, most states have secondary laws that do not allow police to pull over individuals for not using seatbelts. (Indiana is one of the few states with a primary seatbelt law.) The Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety recently reported that motor vehicle fatalities rival the opioid crisis as the biggest public health concern in the United States.

The original article can be found at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/24/opinion/russia-investigation-nunes-memo.html>

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## Jasper Joins Crash Test Dummy Family



The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) has introduced a new test dummy designed specifically for booster seat crash testing. Jasper is a 3-D printed dummy designed to allow better positioning of lap belts and measurement devices. Because Jasper is a 3-D printed dummy, he is more

affordable for manufacturers to use during testing to identify issues with seatbelt fit and in preparation for the IIHS Booster Seat Ratings. More information on Jasper, as well as a video introducing him, can be accessed at: <http://briengineering.com/iihs-introduces-new-dummy-for-booster-seat-testing/>

# TECH TIDBITS!

## Laws Promote Rear-Facing Longer

More states are adopting laws that support the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) recommendation that children ride rear facing until at least two years of age. New York, South Carolina, Oregon, and Rhode Island all passed laws in 2017 that require children to travel rear facing until age two. These states join California, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania, making a total of nine states that mandate children under two ride

rear facing.

The Governors Highway Safety Association monitors laws related to child passenger safety. Their website, which provides additional information on individual state laws, can be accessed at: <https://www.ghsa.org/state-laws/issues/Child-Passenger-Safety>



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## Children in Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Survey

Safe Kids Worldwide released a nine-question survey soliciting Child Passenger Safety Technicians' thoughts about AV and the safety of children. As a result of the survey, Safe Kids will convene a panel of experts to serve on a Blue Ribbon Panel to help guide AV developers about child passenger safety as the field evolves. Recommendations will be announced in the next few months.



# TECH TIDBITS!

## Hyundai Launches Back Seat Alert System

Every year, children die from being left in a hot vehicle. Hyundai has announced a new rear occupant alert aimed to reduce the risk of children left in vehicles. The system monitors the rear seats using an ultrasonic sensor that helps detect the movements of children. The system reminds drivers to check the rear seats when exiting the vehicle with a message on the dash. If



the system detects movement in the rear seats after the driver leaves the vehicle, the vehicle will honk its horn, flash lights, and send a message to the driver's phone. The alert system will be adopted in 2019 model year vehicles. More information on the system can be found at: <https://www.hyundainews.com/en-us/releases/2383>

# RESEARCH

## State Strategies to Reduce Highway and Traffic Fatalities and Injuries

The 2016 increase in traffic fatalities continues to concern safety advocates. As a result, the National Governors Association launched a report encouraging governors and legislators to take initiatives to improve existing efforts as well as adopt new strategies to reduce traffic fatalities. The report, *State Strategies to Reduce Highway and Traffic Fatalities and Injuries: A Road Map*, is designed as a policy development tool. The full report can be accessed at: [https://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/2018/HSPS/2018.NGA.Traffic\\_Safety\\_Roadmap.web.v7.pdf](https://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/2018/HSPS/2018.NGA.Traffic_Safety_Roadmap.web.v7.pdf)



# RESEARCH

## Summary of Indiana Child Passenger Safety Observational Surveys

Recently, the Automotive Safety Program compiled a summary of ten years (2006-2015) of child passenger safety observational survey data. The study included a driver survey and observational survey of child passengers conducted by child passenger safety technicians at 25 statewide locations, .

Over the ten-year period, 7031 drivers participated in the survey. The driver survey assessed driver knowledge about Indiana law, front seat occupancy, rear facing longer, vehicle features, and resources for drivers and families.



*Observational Report*

A total of 11,257 child passengers 15 and younger were observed during the survey period. Observations included overall restraint use by age, restraint type by age, front seat occupancy by children under 13 years old, car seat installation, and harness use.

The final results of the observational survey indicate an increase in overall driver knowledge regarding aspects of the law, rear-seat occupancy, tethers and lower anchors, and rear-facing longer recommendations. Overall restraint use by child passengers was over 90% in all age groups and most children rode in restraints consistent with NHTSA's recommendations. There was an increase in the number of children over a year old riding rear facing and the majority of children under 13 years rode

in the back seat.

On average, 67% of car seats installed with seat belts appeared snug while 87% of those installed with lower anchors appeared snug. Although the majority of car seats with harnesses were installed with seat belts, car seats installed with lower anchors increased over time. In addition, tether use increased when forward-facing car seats were installed with lower anchors (57%) instead of seat belts (17%).

Recommendations from the study include updating the Indiana Child Passenger Law, increasing fines for violations of the law, improving education on using top tethers and on proper harness use.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact Judith Talty at [jtalty@iu.edu](mailto:jtalty@iu.edu).

# NEW PRODUCTS



*Essentialsbybritax.com*

## Essentials by Britax: Allegiance

### Convertible Seat

- Less expensive seat brings Britax brand to large retailers in rural areas
- Rear Facing: 5-40 lbs. and 9-16.75" seated shoulder height
- Forward Facing: 20-65 lbs. and 12-16.75" seated shoulder height
- Standing height 49" or less
- No rethread harness with ten positions
- Two crotch buckle positions
- Seat belt lock-off
- MSRP: \$199.99
- <https://essentialsbybritax.com>

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## Essentials by Britax: Emblem

### Convertible Seat

- Less expensive seat brings Britax brand to large retailers in rural areas
- Rear Facing: 5-40 lbs. and 9-16.75" seated shoulder height
- Forward Facing: 20-65 lbs. and 12-16.75" seated shoulder height
- Standing height 49" or less
- No rethread harness with ten positions
- Two crotch buckle positions
- Seat belt lock-off
- MSRP: \$239.99
- <https://essentialsbybritax.com>



*Essentialsbybritax.com*

# NEW PRODUCTS

## Cyber Sirona M Convertible Seat

- Rear Facing: 5-40 lbs.
- Forward Facing: 20-65 lbs.
- Seat belt lock-off
- Magnetic holders to keep buckle tongues out of the way when loading child
- Infant insert for children weighing less than 11 lbs.
- No rethread harness with 12 positions and three crotch buckle positions
- Ten recline levels
- Sensor Safe Technology
- MSRP: \$349



*Cybex-online.com*

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## Chicco MyFit Combination Seat

- Harness Mode: 25-65 lbs. and 54" or less
- Booster Mode: 40-100 lbs. and 38-57" tall
- Seat belt lock-off
- Push button lower anchor connectors
- Four recline positions
- Two crotch buckle positions
- No rethread harness with nine headrest positions
- MSRP: \$199.99 & \$249.99 (MyFit LE)



*Chiccousa.com*

# NEW PRODUCTS

## Graco TurboBooster TakeAlong High Back Booster Seat

- High back or backless booster
- 40-100 lbs.
- 6 height positions on high back
- Backless folds to half its size and stores in carry bag
- Space saving cup holders swivel in and out
- MSRP: \$99



## Graco Platinum Series

- Graco has introduced the Platinum Series for the 4Ever Extend2Fit, Extend2Fit, and Sequence 65.
- EZ Tight Latch Technology features push on connectors with a retractor system
- All other features will be the same as the non-platinum versions on market
- 4Ever Extend2Fit Platinum MSRP: \$349
- Extend2Fit Platinum MSRP: \$249
- Sequence 65 Platinum MSRP: \$199

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TECHNICIAN TRAININGS

**March 29, 30, April 6, 7, 2018** Franklin Co.

Margaret Mary Hospital  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Robert Duckworth,  
Robert.duckworth@comcast.net

**April 10, 16, 24, 2018** Vanderburgh Co.

St. Vincent Medical Arts Building  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Teresa Cooper, tacooper@ascension.org

**April 12, 13, 16, 17, 2018** Harrison Co.

Harrison County Hospital  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Danielle Brown, dbrown@schneckmed.org

**April 12, 13, 16, 17, 2018** Delaware Co.

Delaware County Emergency Medical Service  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: April Brooks, April\_Brooks1@hotmail.com

**April 19, 20, 26, 27, 2018** Allen Co.

Dupont Hospital  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Stephanie Good, steph.rnbsn@yahoo.com

**April 19, 20, 26, 27, 2018** Miami Co.

Dukes Memorial Hospital  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Erin Kuroiwa, erinkuroiwa@outlook.com

**April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2018** Vigo Co.

Chances and Services for Youth  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Jessica Murphy, Jmurphy@casyonline.org

**April 26, 27, May 3, 5, 2018** St. Joseph Co.

Bacon Children's Hospital  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Wendy Nash, wendals2226@yahoo.com

**May 3, 4, 7, 8, 2018** Marion Co.

Riley Hospital for Children  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Michelle Chappelow, mchappel@iuhealth.org

**May 14, 16, 18, 2018** Knox Co.

Good Samaritan Hospital  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Teresa Cooper, tacooper@ascension.org

**June 7, 13, 21, 2018** Vanderburgh Co.

St. Vincent Hospital for Women and Children  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Teresa Cooper, tacooper@ascension.org

*Bing Image Search*



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR CONT.

## CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TECHNICIAN TRAININGS CONT.

**June 21, 22, 25, 26, 2018** Marion Co.  
Riley Hospital for Children  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Michelle Chappelow, mchappel@iuhealth.org

**September 20, 21, 24, 25, 2018** Marion Co.  
Riley Hospital for Children  
Registration Fee: \$85  
Contact: Michelle Chappelow, mchappel@iuhealth.org

## WEBINAR & CEU OPPORTUNITIES

### **2018 Heatstroke Campaign - Town Hall**

This webinar does not provide new technical information and will not provide a CEU. It does count towards your Community Education credit for recertification.

Monday, April 2, 2018

2:00 PM-2:45 PM ET

[Register now](#)

### **Car Seat Manufacturer Update: Britax and Safe Traffic System**

Thursday, April 5, 2018

2:00 PM-3:00 PM EST

[Register now](#)

## WEBINAR & CEU OPPORTUNITIES CONT.

### **Car Seat Manufacturer Update: Chicco**

Thursday, May 17, 2018

2:00 PM-3:00 PM EST

[Register now](#)

### **Recreational Vehicles and Child Occupants**

Thursday, June 14, 2018

2:00 PM-3:00 PM EST

[Register now](#)

## CONFERENCES

### **Lifesavers 2018 Conference**

April 22-14, 2018

San Antonio, TX

[www.lifesaversconference.org](http://www.lifesaversconference.org)

### **Indiana Child Passenger Safety Conference**

May 9-10, 2018

Crane Bay Event Center

Indianapolis, IN

[www.preventinjury.org](http://www.preventinjury.org)

Contact: Marsha French, [mwheatcr@iu.edu](mailto:mwheatcr@iu.edu)

### **Kidz in Motion Conference**

August 29-September 4, 2018

Broomfield, CO

[www.kidzinmotion.org](http://www.kidzinmotion.org)

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**The Automotive Safety Program is dedicated to ensuring that all vehicle occupants in Indiana are transported safely.**

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