



Child Safety Seat

RESOURCE CENTER

Free Clackamas County Car Seat Check Up Events

To find out when the next FREE event is in your area visit:
OregonImpact.org

For questions or private appointments contact us at the
Car Seat Resource Center 503-899-2220 or
oregoncarseatsafety@gmail.com

FREE Check-Up Events

It is recommended that expectant parents have car seat(s) checked **one to three months prior to due date**

Events throughout Oregon provide an opportunity to ensure that child safety seats are used correctly. Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPST's) work with families educating them on correct adjustment of the seat to their child and installation of the seat in their vehicle. They check for recalls and size and age appropriateness. It is helpful to install your car seat to the best of your ability BEFORE the event. Please bring car seat instructions and vehicle owner's manual. Know your child's height and weight and bring them if possible. You may want to bring another adult along to help watch your child. Be prepared to learn, not just watch the CPST install the car seat. They are trained to teach you, not to do it for you. Check-up events are hosted on a first-come, first-served basis and are primarily staffed with community volunteers. Each car seat check takes about 30 minutes - multiple seats require additional time. Expect a wait when cars are lined up.

Our website also lists options of car seat assistance program for families in need. These resources are listed by county. To view these resources, and for our calendar of events, visit at OregonImpact.org

The Child Safety Seat Resource Center offers free educational materials online, in English and other languages that you can print and use to promote child passenger safety through presentations, events, and more.

Additional Car Seat Check Appointment Resources

Note: these appointments are scheduled from 4-6 weeks out depending on requests.

Clackamas American Medical Response 503-736-3460

Doernbecher Children's Hospital 503-494-3735

Randall Children's Hospital 503-413-4005

Car Seat Recommendations for Children

“Best Practice” for Safer Travel

*Children should ride properly restrained on **every trip** in every type of transportation.*

- Infants and toddlers under 2 years of age should ride in a rear facing car seat.
- Toddlers should ride in a forward-facing car seat only after they outgrow the rear facing limits on the car seat.
- Older children should ride in a belt-positioning booster seat after they outgrow the harness on the car seat.
- All children should ride in the back seat until they are 13 years old.
- All passengers should be safely restrained in a lap and shoulder safety belt.

Parents often look forward to transitioning from one stage to the next, but these transitions should generally be delayed until they are necessary - when the child outgrows the limits for their current stage.

Additional Safety Tips

Rear Facing: Never place a rear facing child in front of an active frontal air bag.

Forward Facing: Use the top tether when the anchor is available or have an anchor installed.

Booster: Have your older child use a booster seat until the lap and shoulder belt fit properly – even if age 8 or older or taller than 4’9” in height.

Attend a check-up event or meet with a Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Technician to make sure children are riding safely. Call or visit www.childsafetyseat.org for a calendar of check-up events.

Refer to the child safety seat manufacturer’s manual and the car seat information in your vehicle owner’s manual for specific details.



When is my child ready to ride in a safety belt?

1. Is the child tall enough to sit with their back against the vehicle seat back?
2. Do the child’s knees bend comfortably at the edge of the vehicle seat?
3. Does the belt cross the shoulder over the collarbone?
4. Is the lap belt low, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the entire trip?

A “No” answer means the child should continue riding in a booster seat for best protection.

Oregon Occupant Protection Laws

Child Restraints: Child passengers must be restrained in approved child safety seats until they weigh 40 pounds or reach the upper weight limit for the car seat in use. Infants must ride rear facing until they reach two years of age.

Booster Seats: Children over 40 pounds **and** who have reached the upper weight limit of their car seat’s harness system, must use a booster seat until they are 4’9” tall **and** age 8.

Safety Belts: A child taller than 4’9” **and** age 8 or older must be properly secured with the vehicle’s safety belt. The child is properly secured if the lap belt is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.

Failure to properly use safety belts or child restraints is a Class D traffic violation with a \$110.00 fine. (ORS 811.210 and ORS 815.055)