

Child Passenger Safety Laws in Connecticut

LAW: Infants must remain rear-facing until they are a minimum of both 20 pounds and one year old.

Further recommended: Babies should be kept rear-facing until they are 2 years old or meet the maximum height or weight limit for their car seat when it is rear-facing.

LAW: Toddlers must be in a car seat.

Further recommended: Children should remain in a car seat until they reach the weight or height limit of their car seat (usually 40 pounds or more). Additionally, don't use a car seat that has been in a crash or has expired.

LAW: Children should ride in a car seat or booster seat until they reach 7 years old AND 60 pounds (they must meet both requirements). Children who ride in a booster seat must use a lap and shoulder belt.

Further recommended: Children should continue to ride in a booster seat until the seat belt fits properly (fitting on their collar bone and hip bones, not on their neck and stomach).

LAW: Children, tweens and teens must be in a seat belt wherever they ride in the vehicle.

Further recommended: Children should ride in the back seat until they are 13 years old. All people and objects should be properly restrained wherever they are in the vehicle.

Violators of the Connecticut car seat law must pay a fine and attend a 2-hour educational car seat class at the Department of Motor Vehicles

For more information, please contact Safe Kids Connecticut at www.ctsafekids.org or 860-545-9988.

or your local Safe Kids:

Chatham 860-365-0884

Fairfield County 203-247-1614

Greater Naugatuck Valley 203-732-1337

Greater New Haven 203-946-8186

Greater Waterbury 203-346-3908

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