2018 American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines for Car Seat Use

The American Academy of Pediatrics published a revision of their Child Passenger Safety Policy Statement and accompanying Technical Report in Pediatrics (Volume 142, number 5 November 2018:e20182460). A significant change in the revised statement is the recommendation that children remain rear-facing as long as possible, up to the maximum rear-facing weight and height allowed by the child’s car seat. Transition to forward-facing is based on the child’s size and the maximum weight and height of the car seat. It is important to note, nearly all:

- Rear-facing only car seats can accommodate children to 30 pounds, and
- Rear-facing convertible and 3-n-1 car seats can accommodate children to 40 pounds.

Almost all children younger than 2 years of age and many children up to 4 years of age can be accommodated rear-facing with the car seats currently available. This does not mean that all children must stay rear-facing until 4 years of age, but rather a recommendation to delay transition for as long as possible. This revised recommendation on selection and use will have a minimal impact on parent selection of an appropriate car seat.

Summary of Evidence-Based Best Practice Recommendations

- All infants and toddlers should ride in a rear-facing child safety seat until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat's manufacturer.
- Children who have outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their child safety seat, should use a forward-facing child safety seat with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed by their car safety seat's manufacturer.
- All children whose weight or height is above the forward-facing limit for their child safety seat should use a belt-positioning booster seat until the vehicle lap and shoulder seat belt fits properly, typically when they have reached 4 feet 9 inches in height and are between 8 and 12 years of age.
- When children are old enough and large enough to use the vehicle seat belt alone, they should use a lap and shoulder belt.
- All children younger than 13 should be restrained in the rear seat of the vehicle.

Why the Change?
The most dangerous daily activity for United States children is riding in a car. Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death for children 4 years of age and older. Using the correct car seat or booster seat can help decrease the risk of death or serious injury by over 70%. As all evidence continues to show the relative superiority of rear-facing, the American Academy of Pediatrics continues to recommend that all children ride in a rear-facing car safety seat as long as possible, up to the manufacturer’s stated weight and length limits. Currently, no manufacturer allows for any child under 12 months to ride forward-facing, and several require all children under 2 years to ride rear-facing.

The Child Passenger Safety Policy Statement can be viewed at: [http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/142/5/e20182460.full](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/142/5/e20182460.full)

The Technical Report can be viewed at: [http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/142/5/e20182461](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/142/5/e20182461)
Children In Autonomous Vehicles
Blue Ribbon Panel Discussion

With self-driving cars poised to revolutionize America's roadways, autonomous vehicles (AVs) must be designed to protect the unique needs of child passengers. Safety experts are calling upon original and non-original equipment manufacturers, designers of component systems such as Lidar or satellite manufacturers and others building key components of autonomous or self-driving vehicles to take immediate action to protect the safety of child passengers.

The Children in Autonomous Vehicles Blue Ribbon Panel brought together automobile and technology representatives, consumer advocacy groups, research institutes and pediatrics organizations. The panel is asking developers to commit to the following actions:

- **Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS):** Support modifications that ensure child safety systems can be used at all stages of vehicle development, recognizing that changes to the cabin design may significantly impact child passenger safety restraints and testing that is only conducted in a forward-facing vehicle seat orientation.

- **Usability Testing:** Include families transporting more than one child and consider the needs of children at different ages and development.

- **Inclusive Design:** Product development and design to ensure the safety needs of all children.

- **Appropriate Supervision:** Conduct research to determine best practices recommendations regarding the appropriate level of supervision for children and at what age a child can ride alone. Current vehicles and laws require an attentive driver.
  - At a minimum, the following scenarios should be considered. What if:
    1. No one is at the destination to meet the child?
    2. The AV breaks down or is routed to an alternate location?
    3. The child cannot communicate that there is a problem with the AV?
    4. The child becomes ill or injured?
    5. A child attempts to leave the vehicle before arriving at the destination?
    6. The adult is sleeping or impaired?
    7. There is a crash?

- **Marketing Standards:** Advertising includes families riding in AVs following best practice.

In addition, the panel identified recommendations in anticipation of changes in orientation of vehicle seating, restraints, and other safety mechanisms. To view the full report: Go to [www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/children_in_av-brp-report-2018.pdf](http://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/children_in_av-brp-report-2018.pdf)
AAP Policy Statement
The Teen Driver

Updated policy statement reviews the latest research and provides guidance for physicians and families on teen driving risks

Teen driving fatalities appear to be on the rise after years of decline, prompting the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to update recommendations for physicians and parents to address risks that include inexperience, speed and distracted driving.

The policy statement outlines the unique risks faced by teen drivers and passengers that contribute to motor vehicle crashes, describe promising interventions to curb this significant public health risk, and provide recommendations to guide pediatricians in counseling teenagers and families.

The risk factors addressed in the statement include inexperience, teen passengers, speed and risky driving, distraction, impairment, and drowsy and nighttime driving.

In its policy statement, “The Teen Driver,” the AAP states that any policy or design enhancement used to improve safety for all drivers provides the greatest benefit to drivers at the greatest risk. Laws and policies regarding seat belt use, distracted and aggressive driving may be particularly important for young drivers. A teen driver’s high-risk, young age, and inexperience may need additional special polices.

Parents are a powerful role model for their children. Using a seat belt on every trip, safe driving behavior, and responsible use of technology will shape the driving behavior of their teen driver. The Teen Driver Policy Statement can be found at: http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/142/4/e20182163.

Child Passenger Safety and Ride-Share Vehicles

Parents would like to be able to transport their children safely when using ride-share vehicles, but traveling with young children can be a challenge. Most Uber or Lyft vehicles do not generally come equipped with a car seat, and only certain cities have an option to request a car seat. Parents can provide their car seat, but many rear-facing only and convertible car seats are bulky and heavy, making this an unmanageable option for vacations or extended travel.

The researchers at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute and Texas A&M Transportation Institute analyzed the child restraint laws nationwide and conducted focus groups with parents and ride-share drivers to determine the safety attitudes and practices of parents who use ride-share vehicles with their children, and to identify barriers that exist for appropriate car seat use.

The study found the following:
- More than a third of parents in the study utilized ride-share services with their children.
- Up to half of parents reported not providing appropriate child safety seats while riding in an Uber, Lyft, or other ride-share vehicle with their families.
- Three quarters of drivers in the focus groups had given rides to young children. Among these drivers, only half of them recounted car seat usage.
- Overall, parents were interested in using car seats in ride-shares, but often felt deterred by the lack of car seat options and uncertainty surrounding the rules.
- With the goal of increasing the safe transport of children, a website has been created.
- The website, www.kidsridesafe.org, provides caregivers and ride-share drivers with accessible, user-friendly information.

CPS Certification Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Service</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>As of Jan. 1, 2019</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certification Course</td>
<td>$85</td>
<td>$95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Certified Technician/ IC Recertification</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Instructor Recertification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renewal Testing Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bounced Check Fee</td>
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</tr>
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* Approved Instructor Candidates needing to recertify must recertify as technicians to retain Instructor Candidate status.

CERTIFICATION FEE CHANGE

The fees for CPS certification, CPS Recertification, and other services will go up as of January 1, 2019. Please be aware of the changes (highlighted in yellow). For more information visit the recertification website.
## Child Passenger Safety Trainings

The **CPS Certification** course provides the training necessary to become a certified CPS technician. This four-day course establishes CPS certification for a two-year cycle. The fee is $95. To register, go to [cert.safekids.org](http://cert.safekids.org).

The **CPS Renewal** course is for CPS technicians with an expired certification. The one-day course allows re-certification for a two-year cycle. The fee is $95. To register, go to [cert.safekids.org](http://cert.safekids.org).

The **TIPP CPS Technical Update** class has been pre-approved for 6 CEUs towards re-certification. Please contact TIPP if you are interested in hosting an Update class for CPS technicians in your area.

For questions on how to create a personal profile or register for a class, please go to [http://cert.safekids.org/ResourcesFAQs/Howto.aspx](http://cert.safekids.org/ResourcesFAQs/Howto.aspx).

### Certification Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delaware County</td>
<td>PA20181003988</td>
<td>January 10, 11, 14, 15, 2019</td>
<td>8:30 am – 4:30 pm</td>
<td>99 Wanamaker Avenue, Essington, PA 19029</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>PA201812171220</td>
<td>May 7 – 10, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Kingston Twp. Municipal Bldg, 180 E Center Street, Shavertown, PA 18708</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allegheny County</td>
<td>PA201812071196</td>
<td>June 18 – 21, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Ohio Township Volunteer Fire Department, 1520 Roosevelt Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>PA201812181225</td>
<td>April 23 – 26, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Community Life Support, Inc., 1 Oakwood Drive, Scranton, PA 18508</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union County</td>
<td>IDPA201810191035</td>
<td>June 11 – 14, 2019</td>
<td>8:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Evangelical Community Hospital Westbranch Medical Center, Lewisburg, PA 17837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allegheny County</td>
<td>PA201812071196</td>
<td>June 18 – 21, 2019</td>
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<td>Ohio Township Volunteer Fire Department, 1520 Roosevelt Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren County</td>
<td>PA201812041180</td>
<td>February 20, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>McCarthy Tire Service, 340 Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercer County</td>
<td>PA201812041180</td>
<td>February 20, 2019</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>McCarthy Tire Service, 340 Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702</td>
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### Renewal Courses

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<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>PA201812111207</td>
<td>March 26, 2019</td>
<td>8:30 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1620 North Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union County</td>
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<td>June 11 – 14, 2019</td>
<td>8:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Evangelical Community Hospital Westbranch Medical Center, Lewisburg, PA 17837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union County</td>
<td>IDPA201810191035</td>
<td>June 11 – 14, 2019</td>
<td>8:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Evangelical Community Hospital Westbranch Medical Center, Lewisburg, PA 17837</td>
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<td>Blair County</td>
<td>PA201812111207</td>
<td>March 26, 2019</td>
<td>8:30 am – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1620 North Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Update Courses: Please RSVP if planning to attend. Class earns 6 CEUs toward CPS Recertification

- **Allegheny County**
  - Date: January 11, 2019
  - Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
  - Location: McCandless Franklin Park Ambulance Authority, 9925 Grubbs Road, Wexford, PA 15090
  - Contact: Kristen Urso
  - Phone: 412-885-0266
  - Email: kurso@paaap.org

- **Lancaster County**
  - Date: March 26, 2019
  - Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
  - Location: Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center, 101 Champ Boulevard, Manheim, PA 17545
  - Contact: Teresa DeSantis
  - Phone: 484-446-3078
  - Email: tdesantis@paaap.org

- **Warren County**
  - Date: April 18, 2019
  - Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
  - Location: Youngsville Police Department, 101 Champ Boulevard, Youngsville, PA 16371
  - Contact: Mary Lakari
  - Phone: 814-838-9971
  - Email: mlakari@paaap.org

- **Mercer County**
  - Date: May 16, 2019
  - Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
  - Location: Mercer State Health Center, 25 McQuiston Drive, Jackson, PA 16133
  - Contact: Mary Lakari
  - Phone: 814-838-9971
  - Email: mlakari@paaap.org

### 2018 CPS Technical Update:

- CPS Technical Update class is available upon request. Contact your TIPP regional coordinator to schedule a presentation in your region. Participation will earn 6 CEUs toward recertification.
- The Municipal Police Officers’ Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) has approved the CPS Technical Update provides 6 Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE) credit hours.

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*Traffic Injury Prevention Project*

Pennsylvania

![Traffic Injury Prevention Project](image)

*For questions on how to create a personal profile or register for a class, please go to [http://cert.safekids.org/ResourcesFAQs/Howto.aspx](http://cert.safekids.org/ResourcesFAQs/Howto.aspx)*