

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY NEWS



December 2025

Greetings from Cesi Velez, Project Manager

As we come to the end of 2025, I want to thank all of you for working hard to keep Washington's young passengers safe. The work you do in this ever-changing industry is challenging and takes commitment to stay current on the many variations in child restraints and vehicles. I continue to enjoy this opportunity I have to assist in your local efforts. Let's make 2026 even safer on the roads!



NEW SALES TAX REQUIREMENTS IN WASHINGTON STATE

Washington passed a sales tax requirement ESSB5814 which requires the collecting of sales tax on certain services. This affects what is considered a "live presentation" when performed for a business that do not have a reseller permit.

If you are providing any services to support Washington's child passenger safety activities, be sure to visit <https://wacarseats.com/mini-grants/> and watch the webinar for service providers. There is also a helpful tool provided for your convenience.

2026 WASHINGTON CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SUMMIT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 16 Instructor Enrichment
June 17 Instructor and Technician Support
June 18 Car seat check event with seat sign-offs!
Wenatchee Convention Center

We need your input!

What would you like to see on the agenda for the CPST Instructor Enrichment?

What would you like repeated or included to support technicians?

Send your recommendations to velezc@cobl.us

Watch soon for registration and lodging information.

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BENEFITS OF VIRTUAL CAR SEAT CHECKS

Virtual car seat checks offer **convenience and accessibility**, letting caregivers get expert guidance from certified technicians via video (Zoom, FaceTime) without travel, improving proper installation and usage, especially for remote families or during health concerns.

If you have wondered how effective a virtual check is versus an in-person; the American Academy of Pediatrics conducted a study which showed that caregiver installation of car seats with the virtual CPSTs was not worse when compared with caregiver installation with the in-person CPSTs.

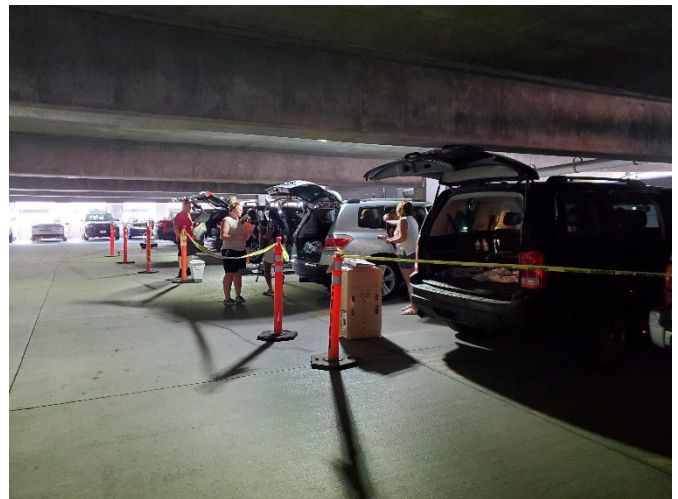
[Virtual Car Seat Checks and the Potential to Drive Down Pediatric Car Crash Injuries | AAP](#)

Interested in offering virtual checks? Contact Cesi Velez, velezc@cobl.us

TOOL FOR PLANNING A SEAT CHECK EVENT

Whether you are a new Tech or seasoned pro, the Child Passenger Safety Checkup Events and Inspection Stations Planning Guide is a helpful resource to running an effective inspection station. Find it here:

<https://www.cpsboard.org/resource-center/>



CHECK FOR RECALLS ON EVERY CAR SEAT AND BOOSTER SEAT

Be sure to always check for any car seat recalls when conducting a seat check. Find the most recent list at:

<https://www.saferidenews.com/resources/tools-for-cpsts/recalls/>

VEHICLES HAVE RECALLS TOO!

Vehicle recalls are also important to a child's safety. Educate caregivers on each seat checked.

RIGHT NOW 50 MILLION
VEHICLES ON THE ROAD HAVE OPEN SAFETY RECALLS

Is yours one of them?

CHECK TO PROTECT
CheckToProtect.org for vehicle recalls

TARGET ZERO
www.wacarsafety.com

Protect yourself and the ones you love.

Use the QR code to visit CheckToProtect.org.
Enter your vehicle's license plate or VIN to check for safety recalls.
If you find an open safety recall, make an appointment ASAP at an authorized dealer. Repairs are FREE.

Check To Protect
nsc
National Safety Council

(these cards can be ordered through the state printer)

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There is only **ONE** car seat check form used in Washington for seat checks in order to receive support from the CPS Program. It is the **National Digital Check Form V9**.

You can find this form on the website at <https://wacarseats.com/technicians-resources/> in English and Spanish. You can also order pre-printed forms from the State Printer; just set up an account and place your order at myprint.wa.gov.

As a child passenger safety technician, if using a hard copy during a seat check, you must input the information into the [National Digital Check Form](#) to record your activity.

As a nationally certified child passenger safety technician, you should have an account in the NDCF system. Create a user account and have a copy of your CPST certification card to submit. Each time you recertify, you will need to upload your certification card into the NDCF system. If you are struggling with getting used to the NDCF format, visit <https://www.cpsboard.org/ndcf/tutorial-videos/>. It has numerous tutorials that will help you with setting up an account, adding your agency, and much more.

Your new NDCF account/profile is initially blocked until it is reviewed and approved. You then will receive an automated email. In this email is a link to click on to access your account and reset your password. Your name and technician number will not populate on the NDCF until you have completed this step.

TIMELY input of your seat checks is critical to gathering data and activity reports. Many of you utilize a tablet for direct input into the system; while others prefer to use a hard copy then enter the data on your desktop. BOTH methods work and are acceptable. Ensure your data is uploaded to the system regularly to meet the following:

NDCF SEAT CHECKS	ALL DATA DUE TO SYSTEM
October, November, December	January 10th
January, February, March	April 10th
April, May, June	July 10th
July, August, September	October 10th

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IMPORTANT SAFE KIDS WORLDWIDE CONTACTS

The Safe Kids team is available to help you with recertification, course management, CEU audits and any other certification-related issues.

- Technical content and questions, understanding Certification policies and procedures

Cass Herring, certadvisor@safekids.org

- Recertification, managing a course, or paying a fee (roster issues)

Wardell Bonner or Theresa Jean, cpscert@safekids.org, or 202-875-6330

- Pre-approvals for CEUs, technician proxy applications, instructor candidacy applications, Nursing Continuing Education credits

Stephanie Heitsch, sheitsch@safekids.org

- Audit questions

Franki Algarin, cpsaudit@safekids.org

- Questions related to training.safekids.org

Matt Louzon, mlouzon@safekids.org

UPCOMING NATIONAL CONFERENCES

LIFESAVERS 2026

Now in its 44th year, the Lifesavers Conference will take place April 19-21, 2026 in Baltimore, MD. The conference provides a national platform with approximately 80 workshops in ten tracks, plenary sessions, and an extensive exhibit hall.

KIDS IN MOTION (KIM)

KIDZ IN MOTION, Inc. was formed in 2003 with one purpose: to foster child passenger safety through education, best practices and technological advancements through an annual networking conference. It is planned for AUGUST 26 - 28, 2026 at Wilmington Convention Center - Wilmington, North Carolina.