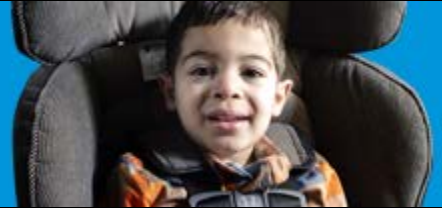


We don't want you to miss out on the latest edition of the **CPS Express!**
Please add cps.certification@safekids.org to your address book or safe list today.

When was the last time you checked the information in your CPS online profile?
Please do it now! This newsletter is available as a [PDF](#).

CPS Express

E-News for CPS Technicians



April 2014

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Build Your Course Kit

New "course set" of training dolls now available. Check them out, along with course signs, CPST gear and apparel at www.SafeKidsWebinars.org!

Advertise With Us

Learn More About [CPS Express Ad Space](#)

Announcements and Notices

Read About the Buckle Recalls

- [Graco](#)
- [Evenflo](#)

Announcements and Notices

Are you teaching a Cert Course in May?

Fantastic! All registered Certification courses in May will automatically be entered in the drawing for CPST Instructor polo shirts, courtesy of [KS Image Solutions](#), for the entire instructor teaching team.

We will also be sending out four \$50 gift cards (one randomly course from each week) as a prize. They

won't go out until June but you'll be able to use it for an upcoming course.

Lead Instructors for May Certification courses will be sent limited edition CPST Month 2014 pins for their team.

Why May? May was selected because it is the month with the most courses offered. We are piggy-backing on the popular course month.

Thank you for all you do every month and every day to keep kids safe...and for educating new technicians.

Join the National CPS Board

Are you interested in joining the Board? The National CPS Board is looking for hard working, team players who share a passion for Child Passenger Safety. The 2014 Board Membership Application is now online and applications will be accepted until Friday, June 13, 2014.

At this time, the Board is seeking applicants for the following three positions:

- CPS Advocate - Candidate must be a CPS Technician or Instructor representing the CPS community. Candidate will serve on the Board as an individual- not representing his/her employer.
- Injury Prevention - Public Health- Candidate must be involved in coordinating injury prevention programs within the public health community. Candidate should have a background in public health or work for a public health entity.
- Public Safety/Law Enforcement - Candidate must be an active or retired Law Enforcement professional. Selected applicants will serve a three-year term beginning January 2015.

For more information on how to apply or to see the 2014 online application, visit the CPS Board [website](#).

Submitted by Jennifer Booge, Membership Committee Chair, National CPS Board (Park Rapids, MN)

2013 Certification Program: We did a ton of great work!

Last year, over 1600 instructors taught almost 800 courses and over 11,000 techs recertified. Here are just a few highlights:

- 651 Certification courses were held in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Qatar and Germany.
- There were 143 Renewal Courses held in 37 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam and Puerto Rico.
- We welcomed 8,553 new technicians.
- Just over 1,000 technicians from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and Israel were selected to be [CEU audited](#). None failed.
- Almost 3,400 techs joined us for live webinars sponsored by State Farm.

Check out the [2013 Program Report](#) to get the scoop on courses, certifications, recertification, audits and outreach. You may also see a quote from someone you know!

New Child Restraint Labeling

The FMVSS 213 Amendment went in to effect February 27. The amendment requires child restraint manufacturers to change their labeling to help parents know when it is the right time to stop using the lower attachments and switch to seat belts to secure harnessed CRs. A combination of the child's weight and the child restraint's weight cannot exceed 65 lbs. to use lower anchors. The purpose of the new label is to reduce consumer confusion about using lower anchor attachments to ensure that forces generated by the child and car seat in most crash conditions do not exceed the lower anchor design limits. The new rule does not address a limit on the child weight for the use of the tether. Technicians will continue to recommend use of the tether according to the vehicle and child restraint manufacturer instructions. **You do not have to weigh any child restraints!**

Benefits of New Labeling

- Consumers will have convenient, clear and consistent access to facts about the child weight limit for lower anchor use.
- CR label would be more effective than putting it in the vehicle manual alone which caregivers consult only 14% of the time for information about installing CRs.
- Reduces the possibility of field failure of lower anchorages. Although there have been no reported anchorage failures, the risk of anchorage failure exists. Each year caregivers are encouraged to keep heavier children harnessed longer by NHTSA and other advocacy groups and more seats are being manufactured with higher weight limits.

Will every child restraint have a label?

- Labeling is not required on rear facing only child restraints or belt positioning boosters.

What else is covered in the amendment?

- The amendment expands coverage to CRs for children up to 80 lbs.
- The "10-year-old child" dummy is the latest addition to the agency's family of test dummies and is the best tool currently available for measuring the risk of injury to a child using a higher-weight child restraint system in the event of a vehicle crash.

Child restraint manufacturers are not required to perform CR testing with lower anchors for CRs with the new dummy (10 yr. old) with any child restraints serving kids over 65 lbs. They will use the lap and shoulder belt to secure the child restraint.

Compliance Dates

Child restraints manufactured on or after February 27, 2014 until February 26, 2015, may comply with a label specified in the February 27, 2012 final rule or as amended by Feb. 27, 2014 final rule. CRs manufactured on or after February 27, 2015 must meet the amended Feb. 27, 2014 final rule. Labeling required on or after Feb. 27, 2015 will have an installation Diagram showing the CR installed in a seating position equipped with lower anchors with a statement about child weight.

What does this mean to the curbside technician?

- Don't weigh the car seat
- Read the labels, read the instructions
- Advise the caregiver when to switch from the lower attachments to the seat belt

The document is published in the Federal Register and available [online](#).

Submitted by Kim Herrmann, Safe Kids Worldwide (Ft. Myers, FL)

REMINDER: Are you going to Lifesavers in Nashville?

Stop by the Certification booth in the exhibit hall, show us your wallet card (a print out or an image on your phone or tablet) and pick up a thank you from Team Cert. We appreciate how hard you work in your communities!

Need a wallet card? Here's [how to print one up](#).

Hands-Free is Not Risk-Free

Drivers cannot rely on hands-free devices for safety. Beyond where a driver's hands and eyes are, where the driver's mind is also matters. The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) naturalistic driving study continue to show that distracted driving is a tangible threat. The study, entitled [The Impact of Hand-Held and Hands-Free Cell Phone Use on Driving Performance and Safety Critical Event Risk](#), shows that engaging in visual-manual subtasks (such as reaching for a phone, dialing and texting) associated with the use of hand-held phones and other portable devices increased the risk of getting into a crash by three times. The data were collected by VTTI and Westat with NHTSA.

This study found:

- Text messaging, browsing and dialing resulted in the longest duration of drivers taking their eyes off the road.
- Text messaging increased the risk of a crash or near-crash by two times and resulted in drivers taking their eyes off the road for an average of 23 seconds total.
- Activities performed when completing a phone call (reaching for a phone, looking up a contact and dialing the number) increased crash risk by three times.

This is a direct excerpt from the [Virginia Tech Transportation Institute website](#).

Want to read more? NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts: [Report at Driver Electronic Device Use in 2012](#)

Two New National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA) Reports

Occupant Restraint Use in 2012: Results from the National Occupant Protection Use Survey Controlled Intersection Study

This [report](#) presents results from the 2012 National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS) Controlled Intersection Study. NOPUS is the only nationwide probability-based occupant restraint use survey. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's NCSA conducts this survey annually. The 2012 NOPUS found that male seat belt use increased significantly (up to 84 percent in 2012 from 81 percent in 2011) and that female seat belt use increased significantly (up to 88 percent in 2012 from 86 percent in 2011). Seat belt use among occupants age 25-69 years old increased significantly (up to 87 percent in 2012 from 84 percent in 2011). Restraint use for children in vans and SUVs decreased significantly down to 94 percent in 2012 from 97 percent in 2011. Seat belt use in rear seats stood at 75 percent in 2012.

Updated Estimates of Fatality Reduction by Curtain and Side Air Bags in Side Impacts and Preliminary Analyses of Rollover Curtains ([DOT HS 811 882](#))

The four types of curtain and side air bags each significantly reduce fatality risk in near-side impacts of cars and LTVs: curtains plus torso bags by an estimated 31 percent, combination head/torso bags by 25 percent, curtains alone by 16 percent, and torso bags alone by 8 percent. Curtains that deploy in rollovers reduce fatality risk in first-event rollovers by an estimated 41 percent.

Policy and Procedures Manual Updates

[Policies and Procedures Manual](#) (ver. 4/2014) - Only minor formatting update.

Program Reminders | [Top](#)

Child Passenger Safety Technician [Code of Conduct](#)

Recertification

Recertification Reminder

- Recertification Details >> [Learn More](#)
- Recertification FAQs >> [Learn More](#)

You may recertify up to four months before your certification expiration date without losing any time.

Avoid problems--don't delay!

Basic recertification requirements and deadlines:

1. [Five seat checks](#) approved by a certified instructor (you may use the technician proxy option). You can do the checks at any time during your certification cycle as long as they are entered online and a certified instructor approves them before your recertification date.
2. [Community education](#) (choose one):
 - Participation in at least one two-hour checkup event with at least one other CPS technician using any standardized checklist to provide documentation, if needed
 - Provide at least four hours of community education. Examples include making presentations to parents, educators, kids, organizations (such as PTAs or law enforcement), or other stakeholders who are not technicians.
3. A minimum of six hours of [CPS technical continuing education units](#) earned and reported during a current two-year certification cycle.
 - You cannot carry over CEUs from one period to the next, even if you have accumulated more CEUs than are required
 - Because your certification cycle stays the same, any CEUs obtained after you recertify but before the first day of your new certification cycle may not be applied to the new cycle
 - You can record CEUs at any time during your certification cycle, but they must fit into one of the five approved categories and meet content requirements.
4. [Register and pay the recertification](#) fee before your certification expiration date. You can register up to 4 months in advance of your certification expiration date. You will NOT lose any time--your dates stay the same.

To get to the payment screen, you must have:

- Completed all five seat checks (entered and CPSTI approved)
- Entered at least six CEUs
- Entered your community event information

Once all three are done and you are within 4 months of your certification expiration date, you will see a "Click

Here to Continue" button that will take you to the payment screens. Once your registration is complete, your recertification will be processed in no more than two days.

- PPTs/PDFs with step by step instructions and screen shots >> **Check out the Resources tab and look at the [How To](#) page**

CPS Customer Service Survey Available

Safe Kids is interested in your experiences with our CPS customer service. If you have contacted the customer service representatives by calling the toll-free number (877-366-8154) or by e-mailing them at cps.certification@safekids.org, please take a few minutes to complete the online survey under [Contact Us](#) on the Certification Web site.

This [survey](#) should take no more than two minutes to complete. There is no limit to the number of times you can share your opinions with us.

Thank you for helping us improve our customer service!

[General](#) | [Top](#)

By the Numbers

Children Alone in Vehicles

Deaths of children left in hot cars

- 2013: 43
- 2012: 34
- 2011: 33
- 2010: 49

Details are available at <http://ggweather.com/heat>

CPS Recertification

- 2014: 54.4 percent (January-March)
- 2013: 58.4 percent
- 2012: 54.7 percent

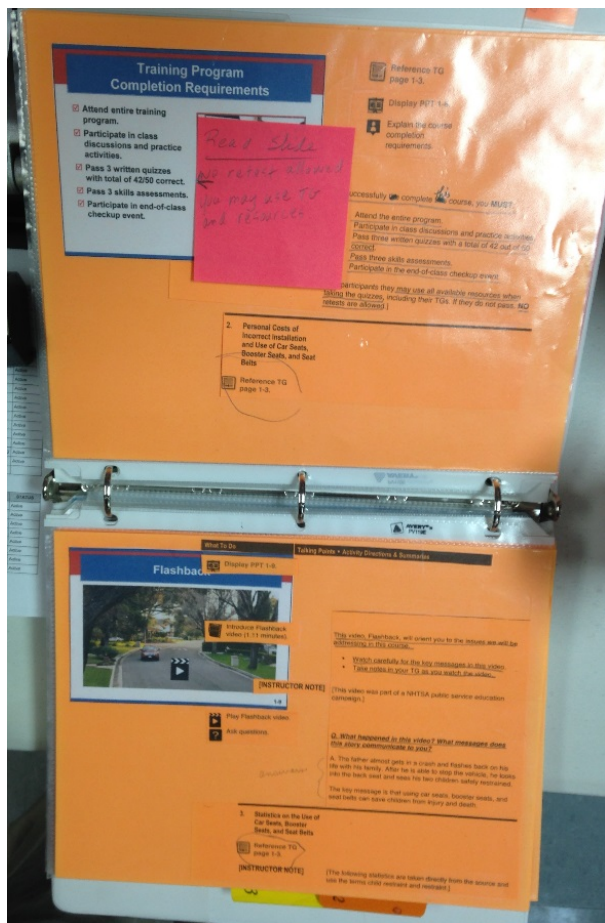
Auditor Alcove: Making Your Manual Your Own

By now, all of you have had a chance to open your new Instructor Guide, smell the shiny pages, and go through to see immediately that there are changes. While it is hard to let go of the old, you must. It will be difficult, I know it was for me, but ditch your old manual. Your notes. Your supplemental information. Recycle it. Start new and fresh. As I stood over the recycle bin with a significant stack of printed pages, laminated vehicle markers, and what I could now look at as years of cumulative effort, I looked back at my past as a CPSTI. I became a CPST in 2003 under one curriculum. I became a CPSTI in 2006 under another. I felt comfortable with my teaching and there was another. Now, 11 years later, I hold in my hands further proof that CPS is an ever-changing field.

We all have our own unique ways of preparing for a course. I like to read my modules while flipping through the

slides, acting out the section in my head. Yes, I have already taught the update – in my head. My kids could pass the quizzes, I am sure, because I have been teaching the modules in my “spare time.” My instructor guide is starting to turn into a reflection of my personality: colorful, full of notes, and an organized chaos. That works for me. Probably won’t work for everyone. I presented two instructor development sessions in March. I was amazed at the creative things others have done to their Instructor Guides to make them work for them. Some have cut and pasted (literally), some have used page flags and written triggers, and some just printed out the slides and glued them on the pages. **Figure out what will work for you and make it happen.**

Here is an example of an Instructor Guide that amazed me:



Have you found something that works for you? Please share your ideas! If you have any questions about recertification, CEUs, what documentation is required, or audits, please email me at cpsaudit@safekids.org.

Submitted by Jami Revesz, CPSTI and Safe Kids Quality Assurance Specialist (Trenton, MI)

Featured FAQ: What is a Course Administrator?

Anyone can apply to be a Course Administrator (CA). This is someone who wants to be able to [Add Courses](#) online. The CA is, by default, whoever adds the course online. They can do anything the Lead Instructor can do except finalize the course. They also do not get emailed notifications of registration requests for controlled courses. Those go to the Lead Instructor.

Certified Instructors are already able to add courses. This is an option for non-instructors. Check out the simple [application](#).

Fact or Fiction: Seat checks for recertification must be done at a big event.

FICTION: [Seat checks](#) for recertification require that you work with an Instructor or [Tech Proxy](#). They don't have to be done at large event but they do require observation of your technical and communication skills. The seat checks can be at an inspection station, public event or by appointment. At the discretion of the Instructor or Proxy, they could even be [mock scenarios](#) (in real vehicles, though).

This is just one myth. You can find concrete answers [online](#) and in the [Policies and Procedures](#). If something sounds not quite right, stop and look it up. We have a number of [Seat Check FAQs](#).

If you can't find the answer, [ask us!](#)

Fact or Fiction: Any tether attachment strap may be used on any child restraint that permits rear-face tethering.

FICTION: Use only the tether attachment with a specific manufacturer and only with the models specified by the manufacturer. Select a fixed location on the inboard vehicle seat track or other mounting structure that is bolted to the floor of the vehicle and that the tether attachment strap can be wrapped around. Contact the vehicle manufacturer for an approved location. Using an accessory or parts from another manufacturer could alter the performance of the seat. Example: You cannot use a Diono tether attachment on a BRITAX car seat.

Submitted by Kim Herrmann, Safe Kids Worldwide (Ft. Myers, FL)

Notes from the [CPS Board](#): Getting to Know Your Board

Each month, learn a little about a Child Passenger Safety Board member here in the CPS Express.

Suzanne Grace (Windham, ME)

Injury Prevention/Public Health

- **How long have you been a member of the Board?** I have been on the Board for 2 years, starting in January 2012.
- **How long have you been a technician/instructor?** I became a CPST in 2001 and a CPSTI in 2002.
- **Why did you decide to become a CPS advocate?** When I learned about the high misuse rates from information on the Internet, I realized my own children's car seats were not correct. It started me on my path to become a technician and then an instructor so that I could help other families transport their children safely.
- **Who taught your first certification course?** My instructors were Corey Perreault, Terry Goan, Terri Gilpatrick and Mark Waltz. I quickly discovered that true learning takes place in the field, helping families. I also learned how important it was to stay up-to-date and involved with CPS on a national level.
- **Advice for the field:** Stay current and active! Attend and participate in as many checkups as possible. Listen to parents - Do not judge or criticize. Educate and advocate for the safe transportation of all children.
- **What are your hobbies:** I love to go camping and boating, to travel to new places, to work in my vegetable garden and to spend time with my family and friends. I'm a vegan and am involved with health awareness outreach and animal welfare issues.
- **Tell us about your family:** I have been married since 2009 to my husband Trent. I have 6 children: Kirstin (23), Cody (21), Kaylin (19), Cameron (18), Kira (16) and Kimberly (14) and three step-children: Bill (30), Ashley (25) and Corey (20). We also have two canine-kids: a yellow lab named Dawson and a black lab Sammi. They get along great with our feline-kid, Nadia. I have a large extended family and the

best in-laws anyone could ever ask for!

Just For Instructors | [Top](#)

Top Course Tips

1. **Save the DVD to your hard drive.** The PPT files are huge and will run much smoother from your computer than off the DVD.
2. **Run through the PPTs** at least once after you have saved them to your hard drive. It seems that the videos run more quickly after the first run through.
3. **Do not use a highlighter!** Highlighters do not work well on the glossy pages - they often make the pages stick together. Instead, **instructors suggest using sticky notes** or tabs to mark your material.
4. Be sure to **meet with your instructor team well in advance and more than once!** The materials are all new and we will need time to become familiar with them.
5. Schedule **extra time** for your first few courses as you get comfortable with the new format and flow. Better to have extra hands-on time than to rush through to make through before the checkup event.
6. Hands-on **exercises take more time** than indicated in the modules. Plan for it!
7. **Skills Assessment 1, Vehicle 5** is missing "Side air bag in assigned seating position?" Don't fret. It is the last one so they should understand the question. Participants still need to answer that part.

Do you have a tip to share? Send it to secretariat@cpsboard.org.

Submitted by the Curriculum Committee, National Child Passenger Safety Board

Don't have a DVD player? USB Available

Instructors and Instructor Candidates will be sent DVDs with their instructor manuals. The course content is also available for you to download from the 'Instructor Downloads (CPS Board)' link in your CPS online profile.

By request, instructors can choose to purchase an 8 GB USB drive with the new Certification and Renewal Testing Instructor DVD content preloaded (with video links corrected).

>> [Order Form](#) <<

REMINDER: Instructions and Tips for using the Curriculum PowerPoint Presentations

The National Child Passenger Safety Board has received several emails with questions about using the new curriculum PowerPoint (PPT) slides and videos. Please refer to the Instructor Preparation section of the Instructor Guide (IG), pages 20-21, for more information about this topic. Detailed instructions can also be found on the [website](#).

If Instructors do not copy-and-paste the folders correctly, the videos will separate from the PPT slides and they will need to reconnect them. However, there are a few things we would like to highlight.

You are not able to edit the DVD so you must save all materials on your computer first.

- Module 4, WMV version, last slide 4-23: The correct video needs to be inserted, as this slide is linked to the wrong video.
- Module 9, PPT MP4: Instructors need to relink the videos. Don't want to do that? Then, you can use the WMV PPT instead, or minimize the PPT slide and play the video file separate from the slide.

- Module 10: Close the "Master" view and link videos.

More details [instructions](#) available.

Submitted by the Curriculum Committee, National Child Passenger Safety Board

CEU Corner | [Top](#)

This section provides information on nationally available continuing education opportunities.

We are not able to include information on state or local conferences, training or other technical updates if they cannot be made available nationally.

This information is provided as a resource only. Events and activities listed here are not endorsed by Safe Kids unless otherwise noted.

CPS Express CEU Corner Submissions: Please e-mail the necessary information (in the format below) to [Kerry Chausmer](#).

Online Courses

A variety of webinars are available online and free of charge. [Learn more](#)

Conferences (includes pre-conference dates)

BuckleUp NC Conference

Location: Raleigh, NC

Dates: March 24-26, 2014

For more information: www.buckleupnc.org

Lifesavers Conference

Location: Nashville, TN

Dates: April 26-29, 2014

For more information: <http://lifesaversconference.org/index.html>

**Show us a copy of your wallet card (print out or on your phone or tablet) and pick up a thank you from Certification in the exhibit hall.

KIDZ IN MOTION (KIM)

Location: Santa Ana Pueblo (Albuquerque), NM

Dates: August 25-28, 2014

For more information: www.kidzinmotion.org

Live Webinars

Test your connection now! Go to <http://bit.ly/testGTM> and click on JOIN LIVE MEETING. If you have problems, you can talk with their customer support for assistance.

Can I get credit for watching a webinar with a group? [Read more](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Safe Kids and State Farm present: Child Restraint Manufacturer: Diono

May 15, 2014 from 2 pm - 3 pm ET (East Coast/NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 1 (CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Register now: <http://bit.ly/May15web>

Safe Kids and State Farm present: CR Manufacturer Product Update: Cybex

June 11, 2014 from 2 pm - 3 pm ET (East Coast/NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 1 (CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Register now: <http://bit.ly/June11Cybex>

Safe Kids and State Farm present: Vehicle Manufacturer Panel Discussion

June 18, 2014 from 2 pm - 3 pm ET (East Coast/NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 1 (CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Register now: <http://bit.ly/June18veh>

Safe Kids and State Farm present: Child Restraint Manufacturer Update: Dorel

July 23, 2014 from 2 om -3 pm ET (East Coast/NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 1 (CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Register now: <http://bit.ly/July23Dorel>

More webinars coming soon! Mid-month updates posted at www.Facebook.com/CPScert

Ideas and Article Submissions

Advocates and manufacturers are welcome to submit articles, or suggestions for articles, to the CPS Express!

Send your ideas and submissions to kchausmer@safekids.org

. All submissions will be edited for content and length.

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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