

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



July 2014

In This Edition

- [Announcements and Notices](#)
- [Program Reminders](#)
- [General](#)
- [Just For Instructors](#)
- [CEU Corner](#)

CPS Training Seat - Custom-built training seats for CPS classes

Seats include a variety of seat belt systems, forward and rear facing anchor points and LATCH. Seats are mounted on an aluminum box with a locking storage compartment, 5" wheels for easy transport. For more information, contact Steve at steve@anyconcept.com or 301-960-4426 and check out the [FLYER](#).

Advertise With Us

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

Announcements and Notices

Lifesaver Conference Session Ideas Wanted

[Lifesavers Conference](#) for 2015 (March 15-17, 2015, Chicago, IL) will be upon us very quickly and now is the time to get your ideas for workshops on the books! Workshop sessions are only as strong as the ideas from you in the field that are provided to the planning committee. We count on you to improve our conference.

If you have an idea about a workshop that addresses a timely issue, a research report you think is worth reporting, or a plenary speaker who has enhanced your work in Occupant Protection for Children (OPC), please submit your idea, name, email address and phone number.

The OPC committee will consider every submission. We generally have 13 workshops in addition to conference pre-sessions. No idea is too big or small. Please submit your request by [email](#) by August 10, 2014.

Submitted by Lorrie Walker, Safe Kids Worldwide (Deerfield Beach, FL)

Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities: The Decline for Six Years in a Row from 2005 to 2011

For six years in a row, the overall number of motor vehicle fatalities in the United States declined, from 43,510 in 2005 to 32,367 in 2011, a drop of 26 percent. During this time period, the number of passenger car (PC) occupant fatalities declined every year, from 18,512 in 2005 to 11,981 in 2011, a drop of 35 percent, and the number of light truck/van (LTV) occupant fatalities declined every year, from 13,037 in 2005 to 9,272 in 2011, a drop of 29 percent. This report examines data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System. Passenger vehicles (PVs) consist of PCs and LTVs.

>> [READ MORE](#) <<

Almost One-Third of Children Who Died in Crashes Unbuckled

As CPS Techs, we know that motor vehicle crashes are a leading killer and we work to help caregivers use car seats correctly. Did you know that 31 percent of children ages 8 and under who died in motor vehicle crashes in 2012 were unrestrained? Safe Kids tracks the latest statistics and research to compile into one easy-to-use resource. Check out the [Safe Kids motor vehicle fact sheet](#) for more information on motor vehicle traffic injuries and the effectiveness of proven interventions like child safety seats and booster seats.

Submitted by Rennie Ferguson, Safe Kids Worldwide (Washington, DC)

Policy and Procedures Manual Updates

[Policies and Procedures Manual](#) (ver. 4/2014) - No updates in June

Program Reminders | [Top](#)

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

Recertification

Recertification Reminder

- o Recertification Details >> [Learn More](#)
- o 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):
 - o 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
 - o 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.
 - o You cannot carry over CEUs from one period to the next, even if you have accumulated more CEUs than are required
 - o 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
 - o 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

- 2014: 13

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

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

CPS Recertification

- 2014: 54.7 percent (January-June)
- 2013: 58.4 percent
- 2012: 54.7 percent

Saving Lives, Saving the Environment: What is our role?

As car seat technicians, we work hard to make sure kids are safe and parents are educated. We play a major role in saving lives and that is an awesome responsibility. We do this because we have a passion for saving lives, keeping kids safe and educating caregivers.

In 2009, I realized that I had a bigger role to play. As I was keeping kids safe by working with parents and caregivers to use their new car seats, what was happening to the old and un-useable car seats? In Utah, they were going to the landfill. Later, I learned that some of the plastics used in car seats take up to 1,000 years to decompose. I now had a new mission. I was going to keep kids safe and keep their environment safe as well.

Things begin through an idea or a sense of obligation in what is right. My commitment to keeping our environment and planet safe spurred the Safe Kids Car Seat Recycling Initiative.

As I researched the plastics in, it became apparent to me that they could be recycled. 100% recyclable.

How did I begin? Finding the right recycling company is key. Safe Kids Salt Lake County recycles car seats. The process is collecting the car seats after safety checks, taking them to the recycle business and they truck them out to the recycle company. The car seat is made into shreds, sort of a plastic flake that is baled and shipped to the East where they use it to make pipes for oil, water and sewer systems. It is kept domestic. The metal is always a premium and is usually sold to companies. The fabric is picked up by moms where they make unique [blankets](#), [backpacks](#), [purses](#), [books](#). Safe Kids Salt Lake has six locations where parents can drop-off their car seats by tossing them into a shed. These sheds are painted with Safe Kids logo, colors and are very colorful. We receive approximately 90 car seats per month at 5 of our locations.

Safe Kids Salt Lake County is an environmentally responsible organization committed to keeping the environment free from car seat plastics by encouraging the recycling of car seats. We are keeping recyclable car seats out of landfills and providing a cleaner environment.

My hope is that we all begin to recycle car seats. It does take some time and commitment, but the reward is to keep our planet safe for future generations. To quote a local reporter who wrote "Want to keep kids safe while "out-greening" your eco-conscious friends and neighbors. Recycle your car seats".

Submitted by May Romo, Safe Kids Salt Lake County (Murray, UT)

Auditor Alcove: One Hour Every Four Months

CPS is an ever-changing field. In order to remain certified, CPSTs must complete a minimum of six CEUs during their two year cycle. That comes out to one hour every four months. Does not seem like much when you break it

down, does it?

All categories of CEUs must meet the content requirements of improving CPS technical knowledge. This is to make sure that CPSTs stay current in the field. With so many new products and technologies, it is necessary to keep informed to ensure a quality educational experience for every caregiver who attends a car seat check.

Some of you may have encountered a CPST at an event or fitting station who may not be current on the latest recommendations. What should you do if you hear a CPST tell a caregiver outdated information? What if you have a caregiver come to you after receiving outdated information from another CPST? Your first step should be to approach the CPST to inquire. Working with fellow CPSTs is something we should all strive for. Be sure that the issue is technical and not just a difference in communication or education style. Utilize your technician guide for verification and support. You should use the Learn, Practice, Explain mantra while being nonjudgmental. If you did not observe the CPST, a phone call or email inquiry may shed some light on the situation. Often, caregivers are overwhelmed and the misinformation may have been a misunderstanding.

For more information about what to do if you are concerned about the skills of another CPST, refer to this [FAQ](#).

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

[Featured FAQ: My certification expiration date is 4 months away and I already recertified. Can I earn CEUs now for my new certification cycle?](#)

Are you thinking about recertifying but have a very hectic schedule? Don't worry, as a Technician or Instructor, you can recertify up to 4 months prior to your certification expiration date. Knowing that your work schedule is ever changing, this option provides flexibility as to when you complete the recertification process. Don't wait until it's too late. Recertify early and cross off one item from your To Do list.

The CEUs you earn can only be applied if they occur within your current certification cycle. If you recertify early, the month and day of your certification cycle will not change.

For example, your certification ends on 12/01/12 and you decide to recertify early on 10/01/12. Your new cert cycle will be 12/02/12 – 12/01/14. Any CEUs earned between 10/01/11 and 12/01/11 will not count towards your new 2011 - 2013 cycle and you will not be able to enter them into your CPS online profile.

[Fact or Fiction: NHTSA only regulates and recalls car seats.](#)

FICTION: NHTSA is responsible for regulating car seats, motor vehicle and related equipment and tires. Read more at recalls.gov.

[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.

Angela Brown (Nashville, TN)
Diversity Representative

- **How long have you been a member of the Board?** I have been on the Board since January 2014.
- **How long have you been a technician/instructor?** It's been a great 10 years!
- **Why did you decide to become a CPS advocate?** I always tell people that this field choose me I didn't choose it...I just needed a job fresh out of college! My first day on the job with Safe Kids Mississippi was at the CPST training, so if I didn't pass the course...I didn't have the job. No pressure, right! Fortunately I passed the training and fell in love with CPS!! And now I'm hooked like many of you!

- **Who taught your first certification course?** Oh my goodness...(Grenada, MS).. Lori Bezada (my mentor and friend-and the only bilingual tech/instructor in Mississippi at the time...Brad Williams... and Cynthia Huff. I have not seen them in years and I don't know if they are still in the field but they were great instructors!
 - **Advice for the field:** Having a second pair of eyes is always best practice no matter how long you've been in the field.
 - **What are your hobbies:** I love playing tennis, reading, and I love collecting good movies...speaking of collecting (as it relates to CPS) I collect uniform patches from the officers/firemen/emergency personnel I train....I've trained thousands over the years so I have tons of patches-it's my pride and joy.
 - **Tell us about your family:** My mom and dad are deceased. I am expecting! IT'S A BOY (due in October) and I've already picked out my new car seat! I have five brothers and 13 nieces/nephews...who often tell me..."You're my favorite auntie!" Who are they kidding? I'm their only auntie!
-

[Just For Instructors](#) | [Top](#)

Check it! Be sure to Update your DVD

All Instructors and Instructor Candidates should have the March 2014 curriculum DVD from NHTSA. Be sure you have made all the [necessary corrections](#) and have the latest updates.

All information is available for you at the CPS Board [website](#).

[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)

Kidz in Motion

Location: Santa Ana Pueblo (Albuquerque), NM

Dates: August 25-28, 2014

For more information: www.kidzinmotion.org

Lifesavers Conference

Location: Chicago, IL

Dates: March 15-17, 2015

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

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: CR Manufacturer Product Update: Dorel

July 23, 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/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?

Safe Kids Worldwide

CPS Certification

1301 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 1000

Washington, DC 20004

kchausmer@safekids.org

Phone: 877-366-8154 (toll free)

Fax: 202-393-2072

Visit Our [Web site](#) | Join Us on [Facebook](#) | [Log-in](#) to Manage Your Account | [Contact Us](#)

All Rights Reserved CPS Certification and Safe Kids Worldwide © 2014



Program Partners



Program Sponsor

