

DELAWARE'S CHILD RESTRAINT LAW HAS CHANGED

As of June 30, 2024, Delaware's Child Restraint Law regarding the use of car seats for children has changed. Please follow the guidelines below to ensure that your child is safe and that you are obeying the law.



Infants and Toddlers (children under age 2 and 30 pounds)

- Always ride in a rear-facing car seat.*
- Always ride in the back seat.
- Must be in a size-appropriate infant or convertible seat.
- Must have the harness straps pulled snug against the body, and the straps should come through slots that are located at or below the shoulders.

*Note: Never place a rear-facing car seat in front of an active air bag.



Young Kids (children under age 4 and 40 pounds)

- Always ride in the back seat.
- Always ride in a car seat with a harness.



Older Kids (children under 12)

- Always ride in the back seat.
- Remain in booster seats until they reach the height and weight maximum listed by the booster seat manufacturer. Although height maximums may vary, it will never be lower than 4'4".
- Must be secured by both lap and shoulder belts when riding in a booster seat or using the seat belt alone.
- Wear the lap belt on the hips, not the stomach.
- Wear the shoulder belt on the shoulder, not the neck, and never put the shoulder belt behind the back or under the arm.



QUICK CHECKLIST FOR VISIBLE ERRORS

- Child under 4' 4" without a booster seat
- Child riding unrestrained or sharing a belt
- Child under 12 riding in the front seat
- Small infant riding forward-facing
- Rear-facing child in front of an air bag
- Harness loose or not on shoulders
- Chest clip on stomach instead of chest
- Safety seat not installed tightly
- Shoulder belt under arm or behind back
- Shoulder belt close to child's face (needs booster seat)

OHS FITTING STATIONS

To schedule a **FREE** car seat check, please contact one of our fitting station coordinators:

New Castle County: Shawn Rohe

Email: Shawn.Rohe@Delaware.gov

Phone: 302-256-1123

Kent County: Aubrey Klick

Email: Aubrey.Klick@Delaware.gov

Phone: 302-387-2324

Sussex County: Nita Smith

Email: Juanita.Huey-Smith@Delaware.gov

Phone: 302-242-7107

HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT US.

OHS General Contact Information:

Email: DSHS_OHS@Delaware.gov

Phone: 302-744-2740

Scan for more info:

