

NATIONAL  
CHILD  
PASSENGER  
SAFETY  
CERTIFICATION

A Program of  
Safe Kids Worldwide

# CPS Express

OCTOBER 2025



## CERTIFICATION UPDATES

### Why Timelines Are Important for Applications

Along with the new updated forms on the National CPS Certification website, are the deadlines for submissions! These forms include the applications for Instructor Candidacy, Technician Proxy, the evaluation for Instructor Candidacy, the CEU pre-approval form and the application for student Nursing Contact Hours.

All forms are sent directly to [training@safekids.org](mailto:training@safekids.org), a dedicated email to receive your applications and evaluations. With each application comes a deadline to submit. And here's why....

The application for Instructor Candidacy documentation must be received by the Safe Kids Worldwide at least six weeks prior to the registered course that you wish to participate in as an instructor candidate. This allows sufficient time for the application to be reviewed and processed, and for instructor materials to be shipped to and studied by the Instructor Candidate, prior to the class start date.

To become a Technician Proxy a technician can only apply after at least six months of CPST certification and working many events to gain extensive hands-on experience. The pre-approval application form for CEUs must be submitted at least 2 weeks before the event to allow adequate time for review. Applications will be reviewed, and a response will usually be provided within three (3) business days by email.

The Lead Instructor must notify Safe Kids about intent to provide CNE with date of course, course ID number, course total hours and Lead Instructor name **(at least 3 weeks in advance)** – Safe Kids will confirm eligibility. The course will provide 24.0 contact hours of CNE. Course must be at least 30 hours.

Forms below are available at:

**[Becoming an Instructor or Technician Proxy | National CPS Certification](#)**

[Application for Instructor Candidacy](#) - ver. 8/2025

[Instructor Candidate Evaluation](#)- ver.8/2025

[Application to be a Technician Proxy](#) - ver. 8/2025

Form below is available at:

**[Recertification | National CPS Certification](#)**

[CPS CEU Preapproval Request Form](#) - ver. 8/2025

Form below is available at:

**[Course Administration | National CPS Certification](#)**

[Application for CNE](#) – ver. 8/2025

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## Policy and Procedures Highlights

If you have a question about recertifying, becoming an instructor, or how you should handle various aspects of the certification course, the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Policies and Procedures Manual is here to help!

In this section of CPS Express, we will highlight a portion of the Policies and Procedures manual each month. To access the manual in its entirety please go to:

<https://cert.safekids.org/policy-and-procedure-manual>

This month's spotlight is **Logging Seat Check Activity** for recertification.

*As a part of the recertification process, all technicians and instructors are required to have a currently certified instructor or technician proxy witness and verify a correct installation in a vehicle with accurate technical information and quality communication with a caregiver for each of the following configurations during that particular certification period:*

- *Rear-facing only child safety seat*
- *Rear-facing convertible child safety seat*
- *Forward-facing child safety seat with harness*
- *Booster seat*
- *Installation with LATCH: LATCH requires a harnessed CR, used following manufacturer's instructions. A RF CR secured correctly using the lower anchors only would count. A tether must be used if it is required for a correct LATCH installation.*

**All seat checks are for the way the child restraint left.** *If the child arrives in a rear-facing only CR, and leaves in a RF convertible, it may be used as a RF convertible seat check.*

*All required seat check verifications must be logged into the online system and verified online by the instructor or technician proxy prior to registering for recertification.*

*To log your required seats, after logging into your Online Profile, scroll down to the RECERTIFICATION-ENTER INFORMATION AND PAY FEE section. Click on ADD/SUBMIT SEAT CHECKS. On the VIEW SUMMARY page, you can see the status of any previously reported activity for your current certification period. Click on the ADD SEAT CHECKS button. In the appropriate row (by seat type), enter the date of the check and enter the instructor's name for each check. When you start typing the name, select the instructor from the list of choices. Once the information is entered, click on SUBMIT.*

*Once a seat check is logged, the verifying instructor/technician proxy will be sent an e-mail notification of the pending verification. Check your profile regularly. You can view the status of submitted seat checks by clicking on VIEW SUMMARY in your online profile.*

## INSTRUCTOR UPDATES

### **Instructors: Take Rotating Car Seats for a Spin During CPST Certification Training**

Rotation as a car seat feature has burst into popularity these days, with the majority of car seat brands selling one or more rotating models. But, as instructors know, rotation is not introduced in the CPST curriculum's technician/instructor guides, unlike safety features such as load legs, lock-offs, and anti-rebound bars, to name a few. As a pure convenience feature, this makes sense.

Nonetheless, instructors should not allow technician candidates to be blind-sided by a feature as significant as rotation. With a wide array of available models, including some that are relatively affordable, it's likely that a CPST will encounter these car seats in the field, perhaps even during their Skills 4 (Car Seat Check) exam. Therefore, instructors would be wise to ensure their tech candidates are made aware that some car seat models rotate by including one or more models in hands-on activities.

Of course, instructors needn't go into detail about specific rotating models during certification training. As with any model, techs can explore those instructions as they work in the field, and learn more by taking advantage of other manufacturer resources, like posted videos and webinars.

But do let candidates know that the CR owner's manual will describe how and when to use the rotating feature. In addition, here are few key messages about rotating car seats that are appropriate to share during training so that candidates are set up for success:

- Don't allow a rotating feature to distract from the basics of proper car seat use. The same principles of selection, direction, location, adjustment, and installation apply to rotating car seats, like any other model.
- Always reinforce with caregivers this warning found in every rotating car seat

manual: The car seat must be locked in the appropriate position (RF or FF) for the entire ride. Despite these owner’s manual warnings, many caregivers wrongly believe that rotation is a convenience they can activate during travel—and often they want to be able to turn the child sideways to face a caregiver seated in the rear. Although most models have a safe-for-travel indicator to help correct this misperception, no model (to date) has lock-out technology to fully prevent this dangerous misuse.

- Be aware that manufacturers’ instructions say to return a rotating car seat to a travel position after unloading the child rather than leave it in the side-facing position between uses.

— Denise Donaldson, CPST-I, *Safe Ride News Publications*

## TECHNICIAN UPDATES

### What to Do After You Completed a CEU Event

When you have attended a certified CEU event for recertification, make sure to follow the checklist :

1. Keep a record of the certificate of attendance.
2. Enter the correct CEU information on your Safe Kids Certification portal for the correct recertification cycle.
3. Follow up if needed. If you don’t receive a certificate within a reasonable timeframe, contact the organizer promptly to request one.

Records should be kept for at least 3 months after you have recertified. If you have attended an in- person CEU event, the same checklist applies. All in-person CEU events will give you a certificate of attendance. Consider keeping a digital or physical folder for all CEU documents. This can save time when preparing for recertification or audit requests. Should any questions arise about audits, please visit the policies & procedures manual [National CPS Certification Policies & Procedures Manual](#) or email [cpsaudit@safekids.org](mailto:cpsaudit@safekids.org).

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### Eventflo Revolve360 Slim Voluntary Recall

Eventflo has announced a voluntary recall of certain Revolve360 Slim model car seats

sold in the United States and Canada. Specifically, models that start with model number 3681. According to Evenflo, “the issue arises when a child seated in the product can reach behind the cushion, pick, and dislodge the foam from the headrest. While the foam itself is non-toxic, it can pose a potential choking hazard if placed in the child’s mouth”.

Evenflo is working to address and resolve the issue. Free recall repair kits will be shipped in early November to all customers for whom Evenflo has contact information. For more questions, contact Evenflo’s ParentLink Consumer Care team at 1-800-233-5921 (US) and 1-800-265-0749 (Canada) or email [parentlink@evenflo.com](mailto:parentlink@evenflo.com).

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## **Technical Resource Highlight: HealthyChildren.org**

[HealthyChildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org) is a bilingual website for families and advocates from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). It highlights evidence-based resources and explanations for families, breaking down AAP positions and policies in ways that can be understood and used by people without extensive medical training. The AAP and its 67,000 board-certified member pediatricians dedicate their efforts and resources to attain optimal physical, mental and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents and young adults. Member physicians practice mainly in the United States, Canada and Mexico, but some members serve the needs of families in other countries.

[Car Seats: Information for Families](#) This comprehensive page goes through the AAP car seat selection guidance, summarizing the recommended car seat selection guidance from the Academy. CPSTs often work with families who don’t understand why extended rear-facing is recommended, why delaying transitions among modes of use is important, that booster seats are important transitional car seats, or when a child is truly ready for a vehicle belt alone. The page from an authoritative source goes through the related guidance, including the “whys,” and also highlights the pros and cons of each car seat type. Not only that, but it addresses common questions that caregivers ask and provides correct use tips for educated decisions.

## **[Car Seats: Product Listing for 2025](#)**

With so many car seat models available, families are often overwhelmed

when choosing the right car seat for their child’s needs and their family budget. This page highlights core characteristics of each current or recent car seat model, including weight, height and age requirements for each mode of use, additional safety features like load legs, whether forward-facing recline is available for medical or comfort needs, and even the manufacturer’s recommended model price. This information allows a family to narrow their search to more manageable subset, and can be the first resource a family consults when asking “what’s the best seat.”

### [Additional CPS Resources on HealthyChildren.org](#)

While HealthyChildren.org has similar resources for many other health, safety and care issues, this link focuses on children “On the Go.” It includes separate educational tools for proper rear-facing, forward-facing, belt-positioning booster and seat belt use. Articles are available on airbag safety, school bus safety, specific child restraint needs like those of obese children or cold climates, and more. There are even articles on related topics like preventing hot car deaths. Again, all articles are based on peer-reviewed evidence and are published by a credible source.

— Joe Colella, CPSTI  
Baby Safety Alliance

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Conferences

#### [Safe Kids Worldwide’s](#)

#### [PREVCON: Childhood Injury Prevention Convention](#)

October 15-18, 2025

National Harbor, MD



#### [Lifesavers Conference](#) (2026)

April 19-21, 2026

(with auxiliary trainings April 18, 2026)

Baltimore, MD



# MACPS Calendar of State, Regional, and National CPS Conferences

## **AZ: October 1**

**AZ CEU Update** (Scottsdale); Yomaira Castillo, yomaira.diaz@azdhs.gov

## **IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI: October 21-22**

**Minnesota TZD Conference** (Prior Lake, MN); Sheila Denton, sheila.denton@scmnems.org

## **NV: October 21-23**

**Nevada Traffic Safety Summit** (Las Vegas); Johnean Morrison, jjmorrison@dps.state.nv.us

## **DE, D.C., MD, NJ, PA, VA: October 28**

**Delaware Child Passenger Safety Conference** (Rehoboth Beach, DE); Juanita Huey-Smith, juanita.huey-smith@delaware.gov

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## Observances

### **National School Bus Safety Week | October 20-24, 2025**

Millions of children across the nation ride a school bus every day - that's why school bus safety is important in every community. Use National School Bus Safety Week as an opportunity to increase messaging across all platforms. Many assets are available in English and Spanish.

[Get Materials Here](#)

On behalf of the NHTSA team, thanks for your proactive support of school bus safety.

## CEU AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION RESOURCES

Visit [training.safekids.org](https://training.safekids.org) to see updates to the CEU platform and look for new CEUs coming soon. For assistance with login or certificates please contact

[mlouzon@safekids.org](mailto:mlouzon@safekids.org)

## CERTIFICATION WEBSITE

### **Alert: Stop Spinning**

If you are in your CPS online profile and the page won't load (spinning circle), it is probably because you are using Internet Explorer for the browser. Internet Explorer is

not compatible with some web pages because it is no longer supported/updated.

The solution is to use a different browser such as Chrome, Safari, Firefox or Edge.

## SAFE KIDS' TEAM CERT IS HERE TO HELP!

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](mailto:certadvisor@safekids.org)**
- Recertification, managing a course, or paying a fee (roster issues)  
**Wardell Bonner or Theresa Jean, [cpscert@safekids.org](mailto: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](mailto:sheitsch@safekids.org)**
- Audit questions  
**Franki Algarin, [cpsaudit@safekids.org](mailto:cpsaudit@safekids.org)**
- Questions related to training.safekids.org  
**Matt Louzon, [mlouzon@safekids.org](mailto:mlouzon@safekids.org)**



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