Important Changes
Car Safety Seat Law

Children under age 8 must be properly buckled into a car seat or booster in the back seat.

Children age 8 or older, or who are 4’9” or taller, may use the vehicle seat belt if it fits properly with the lap belt low on the hips, touching the upper thighs, and the shoulder belt crossing the center of the chest. If children are not tall enough for proper belt fit, they must ride in a booster or car seat.

Everyone in the car must be properly buckled up. For each child under 16 who is not properly secured, parents (if in the car) or drivers can be fined more than $475 and get a point on their driving records.

Note: Backless booster seats cost as low as $15; high-back booster seats cost between $20 and $150.

Keep your children safe. It’s the law!

For answers to your child safety seat questions, contact your local health department or visit cdph.ca.gov/vosp