Kids Need A Boost!

Safety Seats & Booster Seats are the LAW

NYS Law Requires **ALL children under the age of 8** to be restrained in an appropriate child restraint system

It is safer for **ALL children** to ride in the **back seat** of any vehicle

**In passenger vehicles:**

- The driver and all front-seat passengers **must wear seat belts**, one person per belt
- Children less than 4 years old must be restrained in a **child safety seat**
- Children less than 4 years old who weigh more than 40 pounds **may** be restrained in a **booster seat** with a combination lap and shoulder belt
- Children ages 4, 5, 6 and 7 must be properly restrained in an appropriate **child restraint system** that meets the child's height and weight recommendations according to the child restraint manufacturer
- Depending on the size of the child, **the necessary restraint may be a safety seat or a booster seat** – don’t assume you know!
- **Back seat passengers up to age 16 must be properly restrained**, either in the appropriate child restraint system or by the seat belt if at least age eight
- All children ages 12 and under should ride in the **back seat** properly restrained

**NOTE:** It is not illegal for a child passenger to ride in the front seat of a vehicle that has a passenger air bag, but it is **VERY dangerous**. Studies show that air bags can cause serious or fatal injuries to infants, children or small adults that sit in the passenger-side front seat.

**In other vehicles:**

- **Children less than 4 years old** must be restrained in a **child safety seat when riding in a school bus**.
- Some school districts may require seat belt use on school buses.
- Liveries, taxis, public transportation buses, and emergency vehicles **are exempt** from the occupant restraint law.