



## 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.

