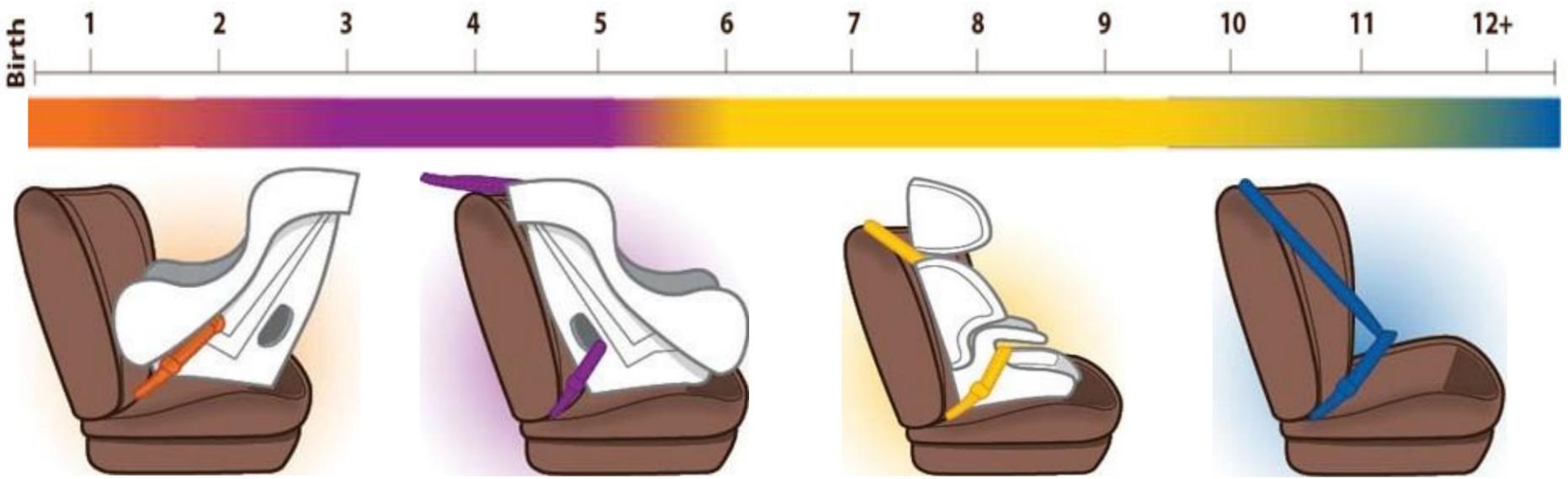


# New York State's Child Restraint Law - *Child Passenger Restraints Are Not An Option, They Are The Law!*

All children must be restrained in an appropriate child restraint system while riding in a motor vehicle, **until they reach their 8th birthday.**

An appropriate child restraint system is one that meets the child's size and weight recommended by the manufacturer.



*\*Recommended age ranges for each seat type vary to account for differences in child development, growth and height/weight limits of child passenger seats and booster seats. Use the child passenger seat or booster seat owner's manual to check installation and the seat height/weight limits, and proper seat use. If the child is eight years old and is under 4'9" tall or weighs less than 100 lbs, it is recommended that you continue to use a child restraint system.*

## REAR-FACING

### Child Passenger Seat

Birth up to at least Age 2\*

Child rides rear-facing in the back seat using the harness until age 2 or until they reach the upper weight or height limit of that child passenger seat.

(convertible seats can be used both rear and forward facing)

#### Rear - Facing Harness Position

Harness straps at or below shoulders

Harness clip position is on chest between armpits

Lower harness should ride on hips, not stomach

## FORWARD-FACING

### Child Passenger Seat

Age 2 up to at least age 5\*

When child outgrows the rear-facing seat or rear facing seat position they should ride in the back seat forward-facing using the harness until at least age 5 or until they reach the upper weight or height limit of that child passenger seat.

(convertible seats can be used both rear and forward facing/ combination seats are a combination of forward facing with harness and booster)

#### Forward- Facing Harness Position

Harness strap position at or above shoulders.

Harness clip position is on chest between armpits

Lower harness should ride on hips, not stomach

## BOOSTER SEAT

4 - 7 Years\*

It is recommended that child rides in back seat using a forward-facing child passenger seat with a harness until child reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the seat's manufacturer.

When child outgrows the forward-facing child passenger seat with a harness, move them into a booster seat, riding in the back seat of vehicle.

(Combination seats are a combination of forward facing with harness and booster)

#### Booster Seat Belt Position:

1. The shoulder belt lies snug across the shoulder and chest and not across the neck or face.
2. The lap belt lies across the upper thighs (not the stomach).

## SEAT BELT

8 - 12 Years+\*

The safety belt in your vehicle is not designed for children. Best practices indicate that children are safer if use a booster seat until the seat belt fits properly.

#### Seat Belts Fit Properly when:

1. The shoulder belt lies snug across the shoulder and chest and not across the neck or face.
2. The lap belt lies across the upper thighs (not the stomach).
3. Children should be tall enough to comfortably bend their knees over the edge of the backseat with their back against the vehicle seat.

It is highly recommended that all children age 12 and under ride properly restrained in the back seat.

### Installation\*

Rear-Facing child passenger seat must be attached to the vehicle's seat with either the vehicle's seat belt or the lower anchors.

Properly installed child passenger seats should not move more than one inch side to side and front to back.

Never place child passenger seat in front of an active air bag.

### Installation\*

Forward-Facing child passenger seat must be attached to the vehicle seat with either the vehicle's seat belt or the lower anchors and tether, if available.

Properly installed child passenger seats should not move more than one inch side to side and front to back.

Never place child passenger seat in front of an active air bag.

### Installation\*

Booster seats use the seat belt to restrain child and help guide the belt off of the child's neck and face and lift the child to a position that keeps the lap belt off of the stomach.

If there is a tether on the booster seat attach it to the vehicle.

In the front seat, the driver and each passenger must wear a seat belt, one person per belt. The driver and front-seat passengers aged 16 or older can be fined up to \$50 each for failure to wear a seat belt.

Every occupant, regardless of age or seating position must be restrained by a safety restraint. Each passenger under age 16 must wear a seat belt or use an appropriate child safety restraint system. The driver must make sure that each passenger under age 16 obeys the law. The driver can be fined \$25 to \$100 and receive three driver license penalty points for each violation.

TS.CPS.2018. English. CPS Seat Chart Flyer 11 x 17

Child passenger seat recommendations: American Academy of Pediatrics Safety Committee. Graphic design: adapted from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. This flyer was modified Aug 2017 by Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees with recommendations from the New York State Governors Traffic Committee. Translations provided by **Tone** at tonetranslate.com a division of Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees. This project is made possible through the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees' Child Passenger Safety program funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a grant from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.

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