

“Family Safety in the Car” Program

Fact Sheet

The “Family Safety in the Car” education program for violators of child restraint laws complements programs that provide low-cost car seats and education to the community. Developed by SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A., the award-winning program...

- Eliminates the need to “reinvent the wheel.” The curriculum, forms, procedures, and reference materials are provided by SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A., the national non-profit organization dedicated to child passenger safety since 1980.
- Has been proven effective. According to a study by University of California, Irvine, violators were more likely to have an appropriate child restraint available for the child and use it correctly if they participated in the program, based on actual observation of behavior.
- Is the most experienced education program for violators of restraint laws in the United States. More than 50,000 students have completed classes in English or Spanish since 1991.
- Was recognized with the top national award from Nationwide Insurance as an “exemplary and innovative” highway safety program in 1996.
- Has provided classroom checkups for more than 25,000 used car seats, 60% of which were adjusted or “fixed” at the class to make them safe for the child.
- Provides participants with missing instruction booklets and replacement parts for recalled car seats at no cost.
- Is a totally self-sufficient program that uses no fine money, grants, or taxpayer dollars. Class fees paid by violators cover program costs.
- Invites other community members to attend the class and have their car seats checked without paying the class fee.
- Satisfies requirements for court-mandated programs per California Vehicle Code Sections 27360, 27360.5, and 15620 (Kaitlyn’s Law).
- Supports and complements car seat distribution and education programs provided by grants or city and county health departments. The courts are encouraged to support local programs by imposing the full fine unless the violator shows proof of economic disadvantage.

<p>SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003 www.carseat.org 310/318-5111, 800/745-SAFE (English), 800/747-SANO (Spanish)</p>

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