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E-News for Florida Child Passenger Safety Professionals

Spring 2025



Welcome

Welcome to the Florida Child Passenger Safety (CPS) e-news where we bring you the latest information on training opportunities, resources, and activities. In this edition, we cover recertification requirements, instructor stipends, the Click It or Ticket campaign, conference announcements, a summer training opportunity, Lifesavers conference recap, national CPS award nominations, an updated analysis of Florida's National Digital Car Seat Check Form (NDCF) data, hot car death resources, and upcoming events. Learn about how you can be involved your local CPS community below!

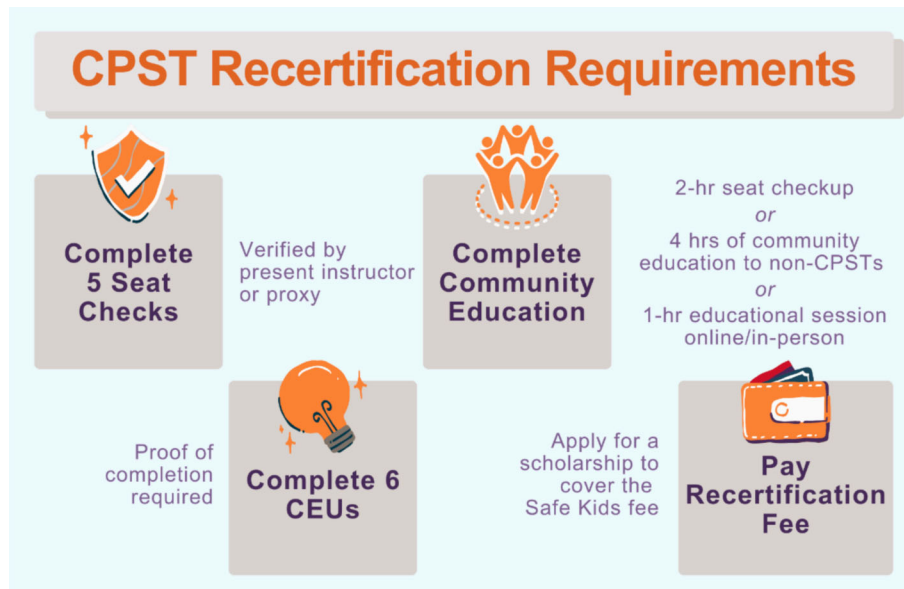
NOTE: The newsletter is best viewed through NEW Outlook.

Hosting a CPS Event?

Share upcoming CPS events in your community! We want to help get the word out about safety fairs, volunteer opportunities, CEU trainings, and instructor sign-off events. This is a great way to promote your local CPS event on the OPRC website.

[Share an Event](#)

Maintain Your Certification!



In 2024, around 50% of technicians (8,774) recertified. Florida's recertification rate fell below the national average at 47%. Is your certification expiring in 2025? Are you connected with an instructor or proxy to help with sign offs? You should know:

- 232 Technicians will expire between May and August 2025
- 40% of OPRC scholarship funds remain

Resources for recertification:

1. [Apply for scholarships](#) while funding lasts! Scholarships are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis.
2. Earn 1 CEU with the latest edition of the LATCH manual. Take the [2025 LATCH Manual Quiz – Safe Ride News](#)
 - Technicians must provide completed quiz with a passing grade of 80 percent.
 - One CEU (at maximum) can be obtained per completed quiz.

Check out these opportunities for growth:

- Interested in becoming a Tech Proxy? Watch this [Tech Proxy Town Hall](#) to learn more.
- Interested in teaching? [Become a Certified Instructor | National CPS Certification](#)

CPS Instructor Stipends

Florida's OPRC provides stipends to Child Passenger Safety (CPS) instructors certified through Safe Kids Worldwide. **In order to promote child passenger safety in all of Florida's communities, starting in October, instructor stipends will only be available for courses taught in priority counties identified as those with the greatest need for additional Child Passenger Safety Technicians. A list of priority counties will be shared in the next E-News and is available by request.**

Eligibility: The Nationally Certified CPS Instructor or Instructor-Candidate who resides in Florida and will meet the following:

- Teach on their own time during the certification course
- Submit all reporting requirements for materials ordered
- Submit stipend application
- Receive a Notice to Proceed (NTP) prior to rendering services
- Teach the full-length course and be at the course from beginning to end

Stipends will **not** be considered for any of the following:

- Applications received after funds are depleted (**58% of OPRC stipend funds remain**)
- Courses with a local fee
- Companies/organizations

Be sure to apply at least six weeks in advance to allow time for processing!

Apply for a Stipend

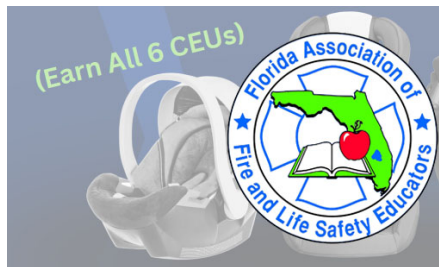
Click It or Ticket

From **May 12 to June 1**, Florida law enforcement agencies join NHTSA and law enforcement agencies nationwide for the 2025 [Click It or Ticket enforcement mobilization](#). They will be out in full force, cracking down on safety belt violations, issuing citations to anyone caught traveling without a buckled safety belt or transporting unrestrained children. The Click It or Ticket campaign focuses on safety education, strong laws and law enforcement to save lives. We are determined to get the message across: Safety belts save lives.

[Visit our store](#) for seat belt safety materials.



Conference Announcements



Mon, Jun. 2: More Than Just a Click

More Than Just a Click is a seat sign-off and technician update event presented by FAFLE and the Florida Occupant Protection Coalition at Lake Buena Vista. Technicians will have the opportunity to earn all 6 CEUs. Full conference registration includes this event (\$475 for non-members).

To register for this event individually (\$75),

1. Scroll to the bottom of the [conference registration page](#) and register.
2. Select item 1Q under ticket type.

Please email mclellan@sancarlosfire.org if you have any questions.



Wed - Fri, Aug. 13-15: Kidz in Motion International CPS Conference

The only international conference focused specifically on child passenger safety is quickly approaching! Get access to manufacturers, latest product updates and CPS resources, research, best practices, and local, state, national and international programming. Hear from seasoned experts during specialized pre-conference sessions, in-depth learning, skills, and knowledge building all while earning your CPS CEUs.

- Aug. 13-15, 2025
- Monona Terrace - Madison, Wisconsin

Summer Training Opportunity



Mon - Tues, Jun. 16 - 17: Safe Travel for All Children (STAC) Enrichment Trainings

Safe Travel for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Healthcare Needs (STAC) enrichment course is being offered in the Sarasota area, **June 16th and 17th, 2025**.

This two-day training combines classroom lecture, discussion and hands-on exercises to introduce medical conditions and their impact on transportation needs and the use of adaptive restraints. **The cost is \$200 per person.**

[Register for Training](#)

Upcoming Events

May - Jun



Events

May 5 at 9:30 AM

[CPST Orientation](#)

June 2 at 8 AM

[More Than Just a Click Update](#)

June 5 at 2 PM

[NDCF - Let Your Data Do the Talking](#)

June 6 at 9:30 AM

[CPST Orientation](#)

June 16-17

[Safe Travel for All Children Training](#)

June 16 at 11 AM

[NDCF - Take it for a Test Drive](#)

June 17 at 12 PM

[NDCF - Town Hall Q&A](#)

June 23 at 1 PM

[NDCF - Live Form Guide](#)

Jul - Aug



Events

July 14 at 9:30AM

[CPST Orientation](#)

August 13-15

[Kidz In Motion International CPS Conference](#)

August 18th at 9:30AM

[CPST Orientation](#)

Scheduled times are listed in Eastern Time Zone.

NDCF - National Digital Check Form



**Prepare for National CPS Week
Sept 21-27!**

Lifesavers Recap



The Lifesavers Conference program is designed to engage federal, state and local government, law enforcement, public health, injury prevention, advocacy, and non-profit organization professionals in an exchange of ideas, strategies, and programs to reduce preventable injuries and deaths.

Tuesday March 11th at 9AM, National Safety Council's (NSC) Mobility Safety Roadway manager Jennifer Booge, NSC's Director of Mobility Safety Amy Artuso, and Evenflo Safety Advocacy Manager Sarah Haverstick presented *Car Seat Inspection Data is Making Waves* at Lifesavers to an audience of over 100 attendees. Their presentation covered a new interactive mapping tool for the National Digital Car Seat Check form. Listeners had this to say: "This is my favorite NDCF session yet!"

Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician Dr. Marilyn Bull moderated a panel concerning current research of adaptive restrains for children and infants with special medical needs. Attendees learned about resources for transporting children who require casts, have complex needs in car beds, and other restraints.

Be sure to keep an eye out on the [Lifesavers Archives](#) to later access the 2025 Plenary & Workshop recordings!



Tuesday morning audience of Car Seat Data is Making Waves



*Amy Artuso and Sarah Haverstick networking with
Dr. Marilyn Bull*



Amy Artuso and Sarah Haverstick at Evenflo booth

2026 National CPS Awards



Coalitions and advocacy groups are encouraged to submit nominations for the 2026 National Child Passenger Safety Awards for Technician, Instructor, and Team of the Year. The National Child Passenger Safety Board presents awards each spring at the annual Lifesavers Conference on Roadway Safety. Nominations are open through **August 31st**.

Congrats to our FL instructor nominee Melanie Brocato for doing incredible work this year! Who will take the torch next? Think about your most passionate instructor from your class and consider putting them in the running!

[Nominate for Awards](#)

National Digital Check Form

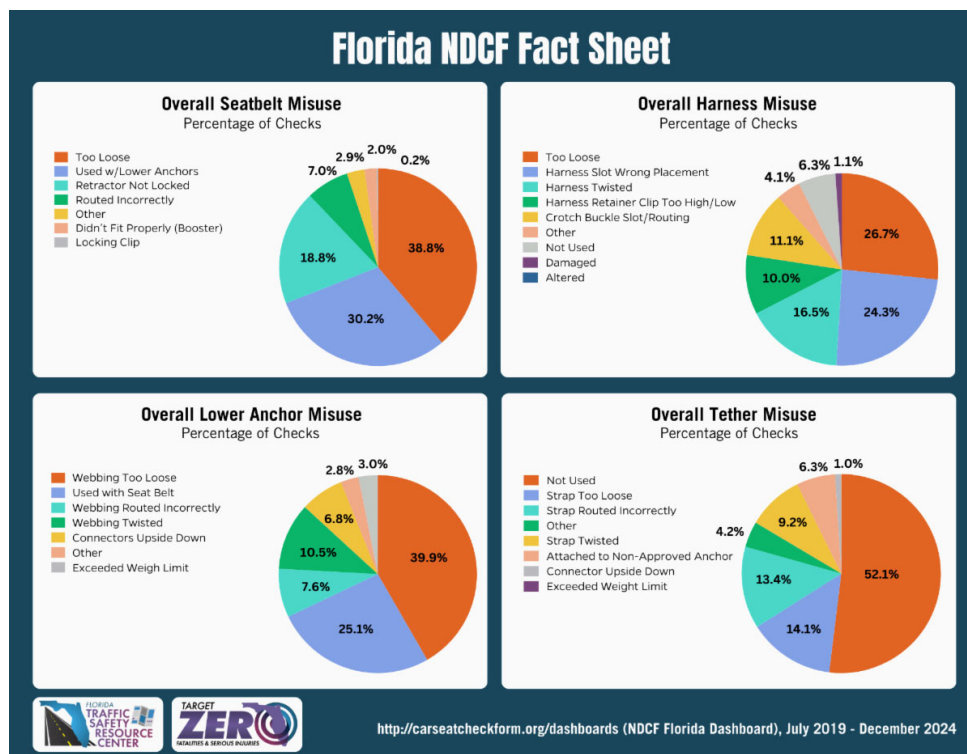
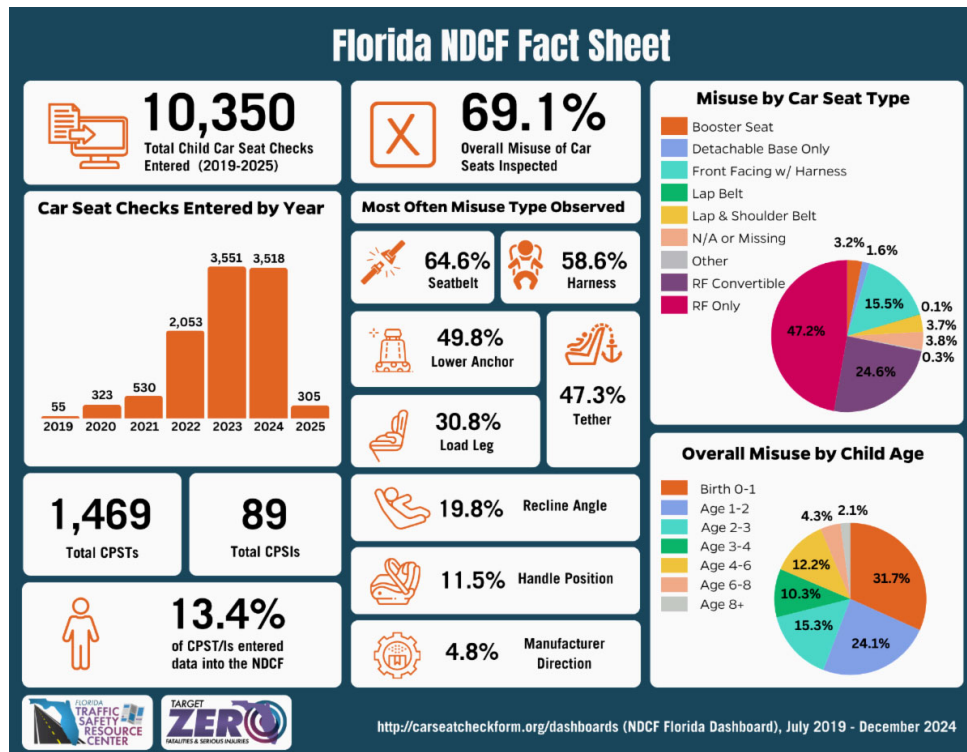
The NDCF collects standardized data allowing stakeholders to identify patterns that can help reduce child passenger injuries and fatalities. This edition contains an analysis of Florida's NDCF car seat data. Since 2019, Florida's CPSTs have entered nearly 10,000 car seat checks, representing - % of all CPSTs. The overall misuse rate is 73.4%, with seatbelts and harness use identified as the most often misused. Most misuse was seen with caregivers using rear facing car seats.

Florida CPSTs must use the NDCF for car seat checks when distributing OPRC car seats.

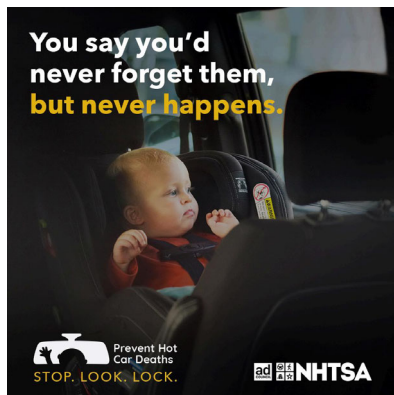
Check out these resources and webinars to help you navigate the NDCF:

1. Explore the National Child Passenger Safety Board [user guide](#) and [tutorials](#).
2. Attend a free online orientation session to learn how to use the NDCF.

- **Mon, May 12 (12 PM ET):** [NDCF - Let Your Data Do the Talking!](#)
- **Mon, May 12 (2 PM ET):** [NDCF - Take it for a Test Drive](#)
- **Tues, May 15 (4 PM ET):** [NDCF - Town Hall Q&A](#)
- **Thurs, May 22 (11 AM ET):** [NDCF - Live Form Guide](#)



Children in Hot Cars



With the summer approaching, it's crucial for everyone to understand that hot car tragedies can happen to anyone-- but are always preventable. Over the past 25 years, more than 1,000 children have died of heatstroke, because they were left or became trapped in a hot car.

NHTSA has [campaign material](#) that you can use to learn about child heatstroke prevention.

The OPRC has restocked the [Children in Hot Cars Brochure](#) to help increase awareness of vehicular heatstroke in your community.

Tips for Parents and Caregivers:

1. Never leave a child in a vehicle unattended for any length of time.
2. Make it a habit to check your entire vehicle before locking the doors.
3. Place a personal item like a purse or briefcase in the back seat, as another reminder to look before you lock.

[The Florida Vehicular Heatstroke Task Force \(FVHTE\)](#) focuses on advocating change to the Florida Unattended Child Law and increasing awareness about vehicular heatstroke risk and prevention through community outreach and education.

Please contact Alexis Kagilery at Alexis.Kagilery@nsc.org for more information and [apply to FVHTE](#).

Visit NHTSA

We want to hear from you!

Watch and share this campaign video by NHTSA!

We would love to hear your ideas for topics to feature in the next edition of Florida CPS e-news. Share your ideas with us by filling out our suggestions box.

Suggestions Box

Forward-Facing Car Seat Tips



Order Traffic Safety Resources

Interested in ordering free resources for your next CPS class or materials to distribute at your next car seat check event?

Apply for a Scholarship

Do you know someone who wants to become a CPS technician? Are you ready to recertify? Our scholarships cover Safe Kids fees!

Apply for a Stipend

Calling all Instructors! Did you know that the OPRC offers stipends to help cover the cost (travel, materials, etc.) of instructing a CPS course?

<https://www.floridaoprc.ce.ufl.edu>

UFTI-T2 Center | 2100 NE Waldo Road, Building 1604, Suite 106 | Gainesville, FL 32611 US

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