

E-News for Florida Child Passenger Safety Professionals

Fall 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 upcoming webinars, CPST/I retention survey results, hurricane preparedness, heatstroke prevention, Child Passenger Safety week, and more. Learn about you can get involved in the Florida CPS community below!

NOTE: The newsletter is best viewed through NEW Outlook.

Hosting a CPS Event?

Event



Calendar

Submit 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.

[Submit an Event](#)

Upcoming Vehicle Safety Webinar



Join National Safety Council for an engaging session on the importance and benefits of motor vehicle crash testing, education, and innovation. We'll also highlight new resources and programs designed to support safety for everyone in motor vehicles. We will be meeting **Fri. September 3rd at 2:30PM EST.**

*NOTE: This webinar is a community education webinar
(Does not provide a CPST CEU).*

Speakers include:

- Dr. Emily Thomas, Consumer Reports
- Dr. Julie Mansfield (The Ohio State University) and Jalaj Maheshwari (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia)
- Lonny Haschel, National Safety Council

[Register](#)

Upcoming NDCF Webinar



In our last issue, CPS instructors were invited to participate in a research study about challenges and successes with using the National Digital Check Form (NDCF) to record car seat check information. Amy Artuso is sharing the outcomes of her research in a webinar during CPS week on **Tues. September 23rd at 2PM EST.** This presentation covers a brief historical overview of CPS advancements in the US and an opportunity to provide feedback for future CPS resource development.

[Register](#)

Supporting Law Enforcement



T2 staff distributed safety education materials to law enforcement partners and supported them at the annual Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge, which recognizes law enforcement agencies for outstanding traffic safety programs.

Congratulations to all the agencies who work hard to keep Florida roadways safe. We appreciate you!

CPST/I Retention Survey Results



The OPRC **surveyed 178 CPST/Is** across Florida to better understand retention and recertification challenges.

- **92%** of respondents understand renewal requirements and **89%** plan to be recertified
- **Barriers to recertification:**
 - Instructor/proxy access
 - Job or responsibility changes
 - Limited CEU availability
- **Suggestions for improvement:**
 - Foster a sense of local community

- Increase access to proxies and instructors
- Include CEU opportunities alongside seat check sign offs
- **Common event hosting challenges:**
 - Low caregiver and volunteer turnout
 - Language barriers
 - Limited access to resources (especially in rural areas)

Despite the challenges, the state ranks **4th in total recertifications in the nation**. To support technicians recertification efforts, we promote local events and CEU opportunities, host monthly webinars, connect technicians to mentors, and provide scholarship and stipends. Check out the full results at [CPS Surveys](#).

Hurricane Preparedness



As hurricane season approaches, we're reminding everyone to prepare their homes and vehicles in case of an emergency.

Remember to...

- Check your go-bags for non-perishables, water, first-aid, medication, lights, clothing, toiletries, and important documents.
 - Include car seat essentials such as a copy of the car seat manual, label with child's name, emergency contact, and medical info attached to seat, and a trash bag to protect the car seat from water.
 - Check car seat expiration dates and car seat condition post-storm for any potential damage.
 - Bring the car seat with you! Often times caregivers overlook this in their evacuation plans.
-

Heatstroke Prevention

In 2025, **at least 21 children have died** from being left in hot cars. Even on a mild day, the temperature inside of a vehicle can be deadly within minutes.

We're promoting the [Children in Hot Cars Tip Card](#) so you can

remind everyone to be more cognizant of their children and pets in and around hot cars. Learn more about children in hot car education at [Child Passenger Safety Learning Portal](#)



Order
Now!

Child Passenger Safety Week



Child Passenger Safety Week is one of our biggest opportunities of the year to raise awareness, engage families, and make a lasting impact on child passenger safety. Let's work together to make sure every child is riding safe — every ride, every time.

All Week (**September 21-27th**): CPS Awareness

- Share safety tips on social media, in your community, or with partner agencies
- Host a community event or join one already planned in your area
- Educate parents and caregivers on proper seat selection, installation, and harness use

Saturday (**September 27th**): Seat Check Saturday

- Participate in local check events or inspection stations
- Offer hands-on, one-on-one education for parents and caregivers
- Reinforce best practices and provide resources to encourage ongoing seat checks

Order these resources today to help support your CPS week efforts!

- [Child Passenger Safety Event Yard Sign](#)
- [Car Seat Installation Checklist \(Eng/Span\) Flyer](#)
- [Car Seat Recommendations 1-Sided Flyer](#)

- [W.H.A.L.E \(We Have a Little Emergency\) Information Sticker](#)

October Is Pedestrian Safety Month!



It's school season, which means more children are walking to and from school. Include pedestrian safety in your outreach efforts to make the roads safer for everyone, especially for the kids in your life.

Order these today to get your outreach started!

- [Pedestrian Signs, Signals, and Markings Brochure](#)
- [Pedestrian Crash Prevention Tips for Children Flyer](#)
- [Crosswalk Types Tip Card](#)

Upcoming Events

Sept - Nov



Events

September 3

[NSC Vehicle Research Webinar](#)

September 9

[Car Seat Checkup - High Springs](#)

September 10

[Car Seat Checkup - Kissimmee](#)

September 21-27

[CPS Week](#)

September 23
[NDCF Research Review Webinar](#)

September 23-27
[CPS Course - Ft. Lauderdale](#)

October 21-24
[CPS Course - Jacksonville](#)

November 10-12
[International Safety Village Conference - Orlando](#)

Scheduled times are listed in Eastern Time Zone.

We want to hear from you!

Watch and share this campaign video by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration!



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 suggestion box.

**Suggestion
Box**

[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?

[Scholarship and Car Seat Funding has been expended.](#)

Check back in October for more information.

[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?

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