



SAFE KIDS POLICIES AND PARTICIPANT INSTRUCTIONS

*Safe Kids Charlotte Mecklenburg Child Safety Seat Inspection Program
Free Car Seat Inspections by Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians*

The primary goal of the SAFE KIDS Child Passenger Safety Program is to instruct families on the proper use/installation of child restraints. For the best possible educational car seat inspection, these three criteria should be met: The family with the (1) child, in their (2) current car seat and their (3) most used vehicle would need to be present for a certified technician to teach the family to install the seat correctly.

Helpful information for having your child's car seat inspected

- The following are recommended or required for a certified technician to best teach the family to install the seat correctly. Bring:
 - Your child (recommended),
 - In their current car seat (required) and
 - Your most used vehicle (required)
- Arrive early! Some inspections require appointments, please schedule appropriately.
- Allow at least 20 minutes per seat and be prepared to learn to install the seat yourself! We are here to educate you on child safety seat installation.
- Staff services are provided free of charge by the participating organizations. **All organizations are public safety, and emergency response takes precedence over a car seat inspection. Thank you for understanding.**
- Donations are always welcome to re-supply our resources!

Car Seat Tips To Help You At Home

- A properly installed car seat will move less than 1 inch side to side at the seat belt path.
- Children under 1 year must be rear-facing in a car seat. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children stay rear-facing as long as possible. Most convertible seats can be used rear-facing up to 30 or 35 pounds.
- Effective January 1, 2005: NC Law states a child less than 8 years old and less than 80 lbs shall be properly secured in a weight-appropriate child passenger restraint system (child safety seat or booster seat).
- Children 12 and under should NEVER ride in front of an airbag.
- Car seats that were in use during a motor vehicle crash may need to be replaced. Seats involved in minor crashes may be re-used according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration criteria. Major crash-involved seats are no longer considered SAFE! Please visit our website for more information.
- NEVER purchase second-hand seats. They may have been involved in motor vehicle crashes previously, be missing pieces, be over 6 years old, or be under recall.

*****Safe Kids CAR SEAT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM*****

- The primary goal of the Safe Kids Child Passenger Safety Program is to instruct families on the proper use/installation of child restraints. **We are not a child safety seat retail or give-away center.**
- A limited number of car seats are available to families who can least afford them. A child safety seat cannot be given or replaced if the child is not present during the inspection. The child MUST be physically present to fit the seat. NO EXCEPTIONS. We cannot accommodate unborn children.
- **We are not a "free car seat program."** We are a "**free car seat inspection program.**"
- In the instance a car seat meeting our criteria needs distributed, replaced or exchanged, seats are \$25.00 with proof of financial assistance and proper identification, or our full replacement cost (price varies, depending on the type of seat) without proof of financial assistance and proper identification. Additional donations are always welcome.
- Seat distribution occurs only if we have an appropriate seat available.

Safe Kids Charlotte Mecklenburg is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to childhood injury prevention. Help save lives with your tax-deductible support.

441 Beaumont Ave Charlotte, NC 28204

Seats are not inspected at this location

704-336-SAFE

www.safekidscharmeck.org