

Occupant Protection for Children Track Workshops (as of January 22, 2015)

1. Curbside Law Enforcement Training Opportunities

This session is designed to help local law enforcement agencies improve their child passenger safety knowledge base through non-certification short course training opportunities. Join us and hear about ways to enhance your curbside skills and increase support to your community.

2. Lower Connectors and Tethers for Children Update

There are currently efforts underway to improve correct use of lower connectors and tethers including rulemaking, design changes and education efforts. This session is intended to provide information from the vehicle manufacturers', the child restraint manufacturers' and NHTSA perspective. The new FMVSS 213 rule will require a label on harnessed car seats that indicates the maximum child weight for using lower connectors to secure the seat to the vehicle. The purpose of the label is to reduce consumer confusion to assure that the combined weight of the child and CR do not exceed the lower connector design limits. Top tethers are not included in the new rule. Join us as we clarify the changes soon to be seen by consumers.

3. Serving Rural Families: Understanding Issues, Implementing Solutions

Rural areas can pose tremendous occupant protection challenges. This workshop will share valuable data driven information on rural and tribal communities that have limited occupant protection resources and tools. Learn how they address vehicle passenger safety by tailoring programs to meet community needs. See how they keep their CPS technicians active and informed and then use those technicians to do outreach. Hear about a well designed Technician Proxy program that meets specific needs and results in increased state technician retention rates.

4. Making the Most of Your State Highway Safety Office

Have you heard about MAP-21 and still wonder about how it relates to you and your program? Is a BUY AMERICA requirement limiting the seats and tools you need to do your job or build your training kit? Would you like to know more about successful statewide car seat distribution programs? If you answered YES to any of these questions, this workshop is for you! State Highway Safety Offices (SHSO) have a vested interest in promoting proven, data-driven traffic safety programs. Our presenters will share how they work with their SHSO to build and manage programs through grant management, strategic planning, maintainable distribution and evaluation efforts.

5. CR Manufacturers' Latest Technology Panel, Part 1

The first half of this popular workshop enables attendees to hear a very brief presentation from 7 CR manufacturers as they highlight technology changes to their products. Attendees gain 1.5 CEUs from this session. An additional CEU (a maximum of 3 CEUs are earned by attending Part 1 and 2 of the panel and an additional 1 CEU is earned by visiting exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall for a total of 4 CEUs) helps technicians meet recertification requirements. Attendees receive their "passports" at the end of the session and keep passports in the event of a re-certification audit.

6. CR Manufacturers' Latest Technology Panel, Part 2

The second half of this popular workshop enables attendees to hear a very brief presentation from 7 different manufacturers as they highlight technology changes to their products. Attendees gain 1.5 CEUs from this session. An additional CEU (a maximum of 3 CEUs are earned by attending Part 1 and 2 of the panel and an additional 1 CEU is earned by visiting exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall for a total of 4 CEUs) helps technicians meet recertification requirements. Attendees receive their "passports" at the end of the session and keep passports in the event of a re-certification audit.

7. Reducing Liability at Your Community Event

Each year thousands of public community events are held across the United States as trained, often certified professionals educate families about an aspect of traffic safety. It may be a car seat inspection, a bike rodeo, a teen driving activity or another creative program designed to share knowledge or enhance skills. This session looks to reduce personal and agency liability through planning, training, quality assurance measures and for documentation. This session is a "must" for those who worry about their risks as public educators.

8. Habla Espanol? Effectively Engaging Hispanic Families

Is it hard to reach and maintain your Hispanic communities involved in child passenger safety? As CPS advocates, let's network and share the experiences we have faced within these communities.

9. Addressing the Transportation Needs of Infants and Children with Special Needs

A variety of situations face health care professionals as they meet the needs of children with both short and long term special transportation needs. One in ten (about 6 million) ambulance transports involve a child yet standardized care is not always available.

Practitioners face frequent challenges when caring for children with special needs and case study presentations will enable you to be part of the hospital discharge planning and solutions. Additionally, babies today often spend long hours sleeping in car seats that can compromise health. This session updates your exposure to medical situations involving compromised children.

10. What's New in OPC Research

Wondering what new research this year has found about child occupant protection? Find out what pediatricians know about child passenger safety and AAP recommendations, how vehicle back seats are holding up in crashes and what teens passengers report about their seat belt practices, how they handle drivers who scare them and thoughts about texting.

11. New School Based Safety/Educational Programs: Getting Your Foot in the Door

Everyone wants access to students through schools but it often seems impossible as testing, standards and restrictions keep us out! How do you get your message heard above the rest and have a chance to work with students and parents through the school network? Come hear from some people who have been successful in accessing students through schools.

12. The OPC Mix: Daycare, Boosters and Community Education

Research shows that parents have great interest in selecting a car seat for a newborn but as kids age they spend less time thinking about and requiring restraint use for the older child. Divide your thinking in this workshop as we look at a Kansas training specific to transporting kids in childcare. Our second presenter will discuss using social marketing to increase booster seat use for parents with low education attainment and finally we will look at kids 4-7 and how they are considered "forgotten children" as they do not use recommended booster seats.

13. Court Education Programs and CPS: What Works?

Education, enforcement and adjudication take another road to ensure CPS law offenders learn how to protect their children. Court systems in North Carolina and Illinois are using CPS technicians in permanent fitting stations with the next steps to keep young passengers buckled up on every ride, every time.