

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Vehicle Occupant Safety Program (VOSP)

Spring 2021 • e-Newsletter for California's Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Community

This quarterly e-Newsletter provides a summary of CPS laws and programmatic support for the California community of local health departments, instructors, technicians, and advocates.

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I. How Do I Recertify (Technician/Instructor) During COVID?

- ✓ **As an Instructor** – Safe Kids Worldwide has temporarily allowed alternatives for CPS Instructors to earn their teaching hours. [See the “Policy Addendum: CPST Recertification and COVID-19” and “FAQs”](#). Instructors can submit additional Community Education hours in place of teaching hours.
- ✓ **As a Technician** - Safe Kids Certification modified its process from the required in-person seat check offs for recertification to instead now acquiring an additional 5 CEUs. CPS Technicians will now need a total of 11 CEUs for recertification!

To find CEU's go to the CPS Board website – [CEU's available online](#)

II. Stand Up Sofia/Alejandro Height Chart Posters

Stand Up Sofia/Alejandro height chart posters (glossy, smooth and foldable) are here!! Please let us know how many (between 10-20), you want for local community partners to encourage booster seat use until children fit the vehicle seat belt properly. Please contact Kate Bernacki with your amount and address. Kate.Bernacki@cdph.ca.gov

III. Kaitlyn's Law – Revision to Provide Support

California's newest child passenger safety related law (Chau, AB2717, Chapter 352, September 2020), *effective January 1, 2021* exempt a person from civil liability and criminal liability for property damage or trespass to a motor vehicle if the property damage or trespass occurs while the person is rescuing a child who is 6 years of age or younger from a motor vehicle under circumstances that reasonably could cause suffering, disability, or death to the child, if certain steps are taken during the removal. This law establishes procedures that apply to a peace officer, firefighter, or emergency responder under those circumstances, including, but not limited to, arranging for the treatment and transport of the child according to existing policies of the local EMS agency. Great news for all of us in California!

IV. Kids' Plates Funding Opportunities

Kids' Plates funding opportunities are on the horizon! First will be an equipment funding opportunity, to be released in the next few months. Specifics with types of equipment and quantity will be determined based on feedback from the field. Second, a Request for Applications "RFA" will also be coming in Spring 2021 with two funding levels at \$50,000 and \$75,000 annually for a two-year cycle. Topic areas will focus on unintentional childhood injury prevention program interventions. If you are receiving this VOSP email, you will also receive notification of these funding opportunities. Stay tuned!

V. Conferences 2021

Upcoming conferences will include CPS Technician CEUs!

- ✓ LifeSavers 2021 Virtual Conference, April 25-27, 2021, <https://lifesaversconference.org/>
- ✓ Safe Kids Worldwide Prevention Virtual Conference, July 12-16, 2021, info@safekids.org

VI. We are here to support you!

Please contact VOSP staff if you have any CPS Technician Training requests or questions, need CPS educational materials, or want to be on the list to receive future VOSP e-Newsletters. We appreciate your efforts to improve vehicle occupant safety even during these trying and uncertain times. We will strive to provide you with the best customer service and support possible. Please reach out with any questions you may have.

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If you have any CPS programmatic questions, please contact Mitch Zehnder, the Office of Traffic Safety Occupant Protection and CPS State Coordinator, at (916) 509-3026 or Mitch.Zehnder@ots.ca.gov.

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