



Alabama's children need you!

Why become a nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST)?

You can join thousands of other nationally certified Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Technicians help parents and caregivers properly secure their children in the correct restraint with hands-on help or quality presentations.

Have you heard about events where folks get one-on-one personalized instruction on how to properly use their child's car seat? Join the team of over 33,000 nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPST) and be that community advocate or resource in your community!

As a CPS technician, you will put your knowledge to work through a variety of activities, including community presentations and/or child safety seat checks where parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance with the proper use of child restraint systems and seat belts. A majority of parents still misuse their child restraints and need help to get it right.

During the course, (developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, certified through Safe Kids Worldwide and monitored by the Child Passenger Safety Board) you will learn about crash dynamics, injury prevention strategies, child restraint selection and installation and vehicle occupant protection. The course, is held over a three day period, is taught through a combination of hands-on activities, lectures and discussion with a wide variety of child restraint and vehicle belt systems. The course is quick paced and interactive, be ready to dive right in and learn.

The question about liability is frequently asked and may drive someone into the course. Provided a CPST practices within the scope of their certification and uses a well-designed checklist with appropriate documentation, the exposure to liability is very, very small. In the unlikely event an incident should occur, the CPST community and national organizations stand ready to help. As far as we know, and with well over 1 million seats checks, there have been no lawsuits. Additionally, some states provide statutory immunity, in certain circumstances, to a CPST when installing, adjusting or educating about child safety seats.

In addition, there is a high level of professionalism associated with certification and acknowledgement of expertise. The specialized problem solving and emphasis on community education during the course serves a community well. **The risk to kids is too great not to get specially trained and certified and then use this to serve the caregivers in your community.**

If you are interested in joining over 33,000 technicians in being a resource for your community, attend a national CPS Certification course. To see what courses are available in your neighborhood, go to www.cpsalabama.org.