



Frequently asked questions (FAQ):



#1 Question asked by participants:

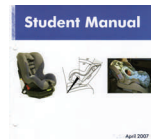
1. Why does it take 3 or more days to learn about car seats?

The answer will be clear at the end of training, after taking in account all that must be learned about belt systems, vehicle and car seat manufacturers and other unique issues that must be understood. At the end of the course, many students actually feel that 3 days is too short.



2. When and where are the classes? A few weeks prior to class a confirmation letter will be mailed to all registered participants with class logistics including location address, time of the class, hotel information and a map. Please call if you need the information prior to the letter's arrival. (715-346-0055)

3. Will a workbook be sent to me? You will receive a workbook on the first day of class. Remember to bring your workbook to class every day. It will decrease the need for you to take detailed notes. Click on the course outline to read the chapters on-line.



4. What is appropriate attire for the class? Please dress in comfortable clothing that can adapt to unpredictable weather. Be prepared for long days working in and around vehicles. Uniforms are not required. We occasionally must work outdoors in bad weather - be prepared for "seasonal surprises".

5. Why do I need to bring my own vehicle? Bring your vehicle for the hands-on portion of training if possible. (The class mixes lecture and hands-on skills to properly install child safety seats. When you arrive at class, you will be asked if your vehicle can be utilized during the hands-on lessons for students to practice installing child restraints. We hope you will allow your vehicle to be used during class, but if for some reason you do not want to make your vehicle available, please inform us as soon as possible, preferably before the course starts. The hands-on exercises will take longer to complete if we do not have a vehicle for each student. Please try to bring a vehicle we can use during the training. Municipal vehicles and squad cars without a functional rear seat are not appropriate for the class).



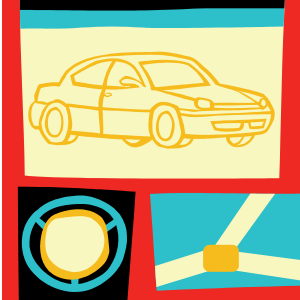
6. Can someone with a disability, injury or pregnant take the class? This is a physically demanding class that will require you to climb in and out of cars, apply weight into child restraints and manually adjust seat belts. If you have physical limitations that may prevent you from completing a child restraint installation, please contact me at (715-346-0055) to discuss your situation. Though physically demanding, persons with disabilities, injuries and pregnant have completed the course. The purpose of becoming a CPS Technician is to be able to explain to parents and other care givers the elements of correct car seat installation. Therefore, the ability to talk someone through an installation is more critical than the ability to do an installation.



7. What is the attendance policy? There are no excused absences from the class. Leave beepers and phones outside the classroom. There are breaks throughout the day when you can make phone calls and retrieve messages. Medical appointments, jury duty, court appointments, child care issues and other requests for class exemption cannot be honored without jeopardizing certification eligibility.

8. Are meals included? Generally, lunch is provided in the classroom, there are a few exceptions. We have found that the day goes by much more smoothly when we do not leave the site for meals. Please contact us if you have special dietary needs.





9. What does the course involve? This class could also be called “CAR SEATS 101” because it deals with basics of child restraints and proper vehicle installation. Highly technical, unusual situations are not covered in great detail. The nationally standardized training course is intended to provide a minimum level of understanding about child passenger safety (CPS). Once everyone has the same minimum level of understanding we can build on that. Know too, that you must remain current in this field by working on your own. Attend car seat checkups, provide education programs in your community, read every new article through nationally recognized newsletters and journals, and maintain active networks with other CPS technicians and instructors in your state and region. Information in the CPS field can be highly technical and rapidly changing. The safety of the families that you advise and your own liability is dependent upon keeping up-to-date. Maintaining your skills by reading, searching the Internet, attending CRS checkups is also essential in order to be prepared for re-certification. If you don’t use your knowledge, you’re sure to lose it.

The course is composed of 14 Chapters. There are also several “hands-on” activities daily. Our feedback from previous classes tells us that this is the part most technicians like the best. Hands-on practice involves getting to know all types of car seats; identifying and using many kinds of car safety belt systems; recognizing which child restraint is right for which child; choosing the correct seating position in the vehicle; and then actually getting a tight fit with the seat belt. Putting all those skills together as practice or in real life can be a daunting task. There is a HUGE sense of accomplishment when you have successfully completed all the steps in the training course that prepare you for certification as a CPS technician.

10. Will there be an opportunity to apply & practice my new skills? Yes, the final process in the training course involves required participation in a CRS checkup event attended by the public and staffed by checkup teams consisting of course participants and instructors. Your attendance is mandatory in becoming a certified technician. If you cannot attend the event planned for the class, you are responsible for making arrangements to attend another event, with the approval of the classroom instructor.

We will have plenty of experienced CPS technicians and instructors in attendance during the course so that you will have lots of individual attention throughout the workshop. The instructor team is there to help you learn the required information and guide you through the practice sessions. Interaction during class lecture and discussions as well as active participation in the practice sessions and checkup event is critical to your success. Your ability to use the critical thinking processes needed in real life CPS situations will be demonstrated in the quizzes and in hands-on skills evaluation.



11. Will I be ready to host an inspection event? Many questions surface about what certification means to the CPS technician. In order to be certified as a CPS Technician, you must complete the course, pass your quizzes, skills evaluation & attend the inspection event. Your comfort and competency level at a CRS checkup event is usually determined by the amount of time and experience that



you have “under your belt” in checkup situations. If this is the first formal child passenger safety training you have received, you may want to attend a few checkup events with some more experienced technicians before attempting to sponsor your own event. Once you have successfully completed the class, you are able to not only attend and work at CRS checkups, but can also provide education and training programs to many groups (e.g. parents, community programs, offender classes, children, police, etc.). If you are comfortable, you can, and should, teach as many people in your community as possible.



12. My certification will be good for two years - then what? To stay certified you must stay current and be able to prove it. Documented attendance at refresher or update classes and working a child safety seat checks where an instructor is present are all required to qualify for the recertification exam. You can start the recertification process as soon as you receive your initial certification. Materials covered in the refreshers are not the same as the certification class, they address common problems and new technologies not covered in the standardized class. Documentation of car seat checks must be done by a CPS instructor or their designee and must take place in a child safety seat check situation where your education of the parent is evaluated as well as your installation/inspection skills. There are 5 required installations for recertification and we can only sign off on two per event. You can re-certify

up to 4 months before your certification expires. Taking the test early will not move up your recertification date.