

## Car Seats for Children

The law in California requires that all children under the age of four (4) years old and under forty (40) pounds must be buckled in an approved safety seat when riding in a motor vehicle. If the child is not in a proper child safety seat the car's driver is subject to fines between \$136-\$270.



There are three types of safety seats, they are:

- **Infant Safety Seats:** Designed for infants from birth to twenty (20) pounds. Should face towards the rear of the car.
- **Convertible Seats:** Designed for infants from birth to forty (40) pounds. Should face towards the rear of the car during child's first year.
- **Safety Boosters:** Designed for children who have outgrown regular safety seats.

When buying a safety seat be sure that it meets federal requirements. Also be sure that it fits in your car properly and can be secured by your car's safety belt. Child safety seats can usually be purchased for as little as \$50.

If your car has passenger side air bags your child should be secured in their safety seat in the back seat of the car. Remember your child's life depends on you properly securing them in their safety seat every time they take a ride in a car.

### Resources:

**Safely on the Move** offers low cost car seats to low-income families.  
Phone: 619-594-0784 or 1-866-700-7686.

Website: <http://www.safelyonthemove.sdsu.edu>