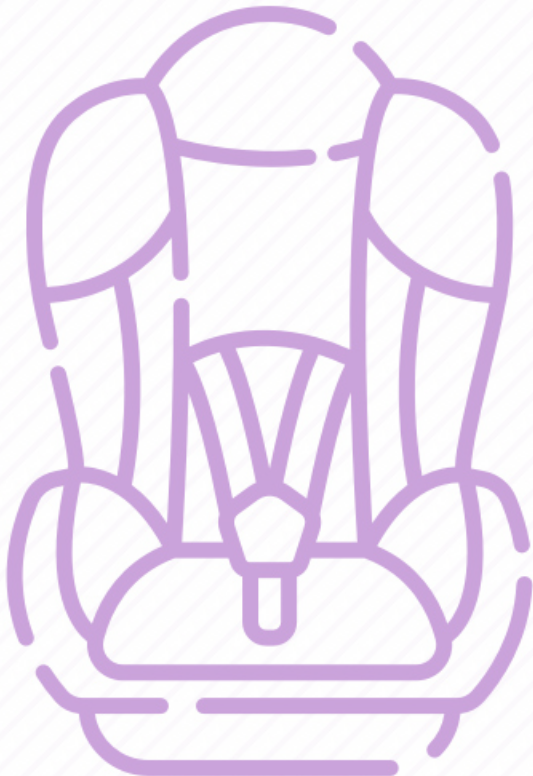


In the interest of the health and safety of the children in Harrison County, the Harrison County Home and Public Health Office developed a Child Passenger Safety Program.

It will provide education to the public on the importance of utilizing the proper child restraint system, demonstrate the correct fitting and installation of child safety seats, and provide child safety seats to residents of Harrison County. We have certified technicians in the office that are able to check your car seat for proper installation and fit, to be assured your precious cargo is safe ... and legal.

**Call for an appointment today!**  
**(712) 644-2220**



## HARRISON COUNTY Home & Public Health Department

**MISSION:** Promote physical and mental health and prevent disease, injury, and disability for the residents of Harrison County.

**VISION:** Healthy People in Healthy Communities



Rev. 08-15-19

Child Passenger Safety Program

## HARRISON COUNTY Home & Public Health Department



*Child Passenger  
Safety Program*

**Healthy People in  
Healthy Communities**

# Choosing the Right Seat

Birth 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



• **Best Practice:** This type of seat should be used from birth until your child reaches the seat's upper weight or height limit.

• Can be used up to 40 pounds, depending on the manufacturer.

• Rear-facing harness straps should be positioned at or below your child's shoulders.

• Rear-facing seats should be installed at the angle determined by the car seat manufacturer.

• Options include a rear-facing infant carrier or a rear-facing convertible seat.



• **Best Practice:** A forward-facing car seat with five-point harness should be used until a child reaches the seat's upper weight or height limit.

• Can be used up to 50-90 pounds, depending on the manufacturer.

• Forward-facing harness straps should be positioned at or above your child's shoulders.

• Make sure to connect your seat's top tether strap when installing your forward-facing seat.

• Options include a forward-facing convertible seat or a forward-facing-only seat.



• **Best Practice:** Use a booster seat when your child exceeds the weight or height limit of their forward-facing harness seat.

• You must use a high-back booster seat if your vehicle has low seatbacks and no headrest for your child.

• Minimum weight limits for booster seats vary depending on the manufacturer and the booster seat type (high-back or low-back).

• This type of seat must be used with a vehicle lap and shoulder belt system.



• **Best Practice:** Your child must pass the Belt Fit Test prior to discontinuing use of a booster seat:

• Your child should be able to sit with his or her back flat against the vehicle seat.

• Your child's knees should bend over the vehicle seat edge.

• Your child's feet should touch the floor.

• The lap portion of the vehicle seat belt should cross your child's upper thigh area and the shoulder belt portion of the vehicle seat belt should cross the child's collarbone area.

All children under the age of 13 should ride in the back seat.

## TIPS FOR REAR & FORWARD-FACING CAR SEATS

- Use the vehicle seat belt system OR the LATCH system to install your car seat - not both at the same time.
- Depending on your installation method, check your vehicle owner's manual to find your lower anchor weight limits OR how to lock your seat belt system.
- Be sure to use the correct belt or anchor path when installing your seat in either the rear facing or forward facing position.
- Make sure to secure your forward-facing car seat's top tether strap to its designated anchor point.
- Apply your weight to the car seat as you are pulling the slack out of the seat belt or LATCH strap webbing. The seat should not move more than 1" side to side or front to back.
- Height and weight limits can be found on a label adhered to your car seat or in the car seat manual.

## How can Harrison County Home & Public Health help?

- We have certified technicians located in our office that are able to check your car seat for proper installation and fit.
- We have a certified special needs technician in our office to assist with children who have medical, physical or mental disabilities.

Do not use your car seat if:

- it is secondhand - it is expired - it has been in a motor vehicle crash

CALL TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT: (712) 644-2220