



Booster Seat Law Chart (38 states and DC)

February 24, 2007

	AR	AL	CA	CO	CT	DE	DC
Is the child restraint law comprehensive up to age 16?	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
BOOSTER SEAT LAWS							
Up to what age must children be restrained?	6	6	6	6	7	7	8
Age "AND" weight/height or age "OR" weight/height?	"AND"	"AND"	"OR"	"AND"	"OR"	"AND"	N/A
Up to what weight must children be restrained?	60 lbs.	40 lbs.	60 lbs.	N/A	60 lbs.	60 lbs.	N/A
Up to what standing height must children be restrained?	N/A	N/A	N/A	55"	N/A	N/A	N/A
Which terms were used?							
appropriate child restraint system (or similar)	X	X	X		X		
booster seats or equivalent (or similar)				X	X	X	X
Is the booster seat law primary enforcement?	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
What is the penalty?	\$25-\$100	\$25 for first offense	\$100 for 1st offense, \$250 for 2nd	\$56	\$15 for 1st offense, \$199 for 2nd, Class A misdemeanor for 3rd or subsequent	\$28.75 max.	2 points on record plus \$75 or a \$25 CPS class for 1st offense; both for 2nd; \$125 for 3rd; \$150 for 4th
May the ticket be dismissed or fine reduced if a seat is bought?	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES, for 1st off.
Must free or low-cost seats be offered to low-income families?	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES
Are educational programs or materials required?	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
Are the booster seats required to meet FMVSS standard?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Which vehicles (if any) are exempt?	for hire and emergency vehicles	N/A	emergency vehicles	commercial vehicles	emergency, rural USPS, and student transport vehicles; cars w/o shoulder belts	motorbuses, limousines or taxicabs	N/A
When was this law enacted?	2/28/2001	2/26/2006	9/24/2000	6/4/2002	6/2/2005	5/9/2002	8/26/2002
When does this law take effect?	8/1/2001	7/1/2006	1/1/2002	8/1/2003	10/1/2005	1/1/2003	10/16/2002

	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS
Is the child restraint law comprehensive up to age 16?	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
BOOSTER SEAT LAWS							
Up to what age must children be restrained?	6	8	7	8	8	6	7
Age "AND" weight/height or age "OR" weight/height?	N/A	AND	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	OR
Up to what weight must children be restrained?	N/A	40lbs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	80lbs
Up to what standing height must children be restrained?	57"	57"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	57"
Which terms were used?							
appropriate child restraint system (or similar)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
booster seats or equivalent (or similar)				X			
Is the booster seat law primary enforcement?	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
What is the penalty?	\$50 for 1st offense, \$100 for 2nd	100 for 1st offense	\$27.50	\$50 Max. for 1st offense, \$100 for 2nd or subsequent	\$25	\$25	\$60
May the ticket be dismissed or fine reduced if a seat is bought?	YES, for 1st off.	NO	NO	YES	YES, for 1st off.	YES, for 1st off.	YES
Must free or low-cost seats be offered to low-income families?	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Are educational programs or materials required?	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Are the booster seats required to meet FMVSS standard?	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES
Which vehicles (if any) are exempt?	Taxis, busses, cars without shoulder belts	emergency, commercial, and mass transit	commercial vehicle, vehicles mode before 1966	commercial motor vehicles or when driver was not given seat by parent/guardian	Buses, taxis, Postal vehicles, Motorcycles, emergency vehicles, antique vehicles	Vehicles made before 1966, Emergency, police cars, rear of motor homes	N/A
When was this law enacted?	5/13/2004	6/6/2006	3/30/2005	7/3/2003	3/17/2004	7/1/2004	3/27/2006
When does this law take effect?	7/1/2004	1/1/2007	7/1/2005	1/1/2004	7/1/2005	1/1/2006	7/1/2006

	LA	ME	MD	MO	MT	NE	NV
Is the child restraint law comprehensive up to age 16?	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
BOOSTER SEAT LAWS							
Up to what age must children be restrained?	6	8	6	7	6	6	6
Age "AND" weight/height or age "OR" weight/height?	"OR"	"AND"	N/A	"AND"	"AND"	N/A	"AND"
Up to what weight must children be restrained?	60 lbs.	80 lbs.	N/A	80 lbs.	60 lbs.	N/A	60 lbs.
Up to what standing height must children be restrained?	N/A	N/A	N/A	57"	N/A	N/A	N/A
Which terms were used?							
appropriate child restraint system (or similar)	X			X	X	X	X
booster seats or equivalent (or similar)	X	X	X				X
Is the booster seat law primary enforcement?	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
What is the penalty?	1st offense: \$50; 2nd: \$100; 3rd: \$100+ court costs.	\$25-\$500	\$25	\$50; \$10 for violations involving children taller than 4'9" or who weigh 80 lbs.	\$100 max.	\$25	complete CRS training program and \$50-\$500 or 8-50 hours of comm. serv.
May the ticket be dismissed or fine reduced if a seat is bought?	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Must free or low-cost seats be offered to low-income families?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Are educational programs or materials required?	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO
Are the booster seats required to meet FMVSS standard?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Which vehicles (if any) are exempt?	emerg. vehicles, school buses, church buses, private buses, & commercial trucks, vans, or taxis	vehicles not req. by DOT to have seat belts	vehicles registered outside of MD and vehicles other than Class A, E, M vehicles	public carrier for hire; school bus	road construction machinery, motor vehicles used to apply fertilizer, & log loaders	taxicabs, pre-1963 without occ. protection systems, and emergency vehicles	public transportation, taxis, school buses, emergency vehicles
When was this law enacted?	7/7/2003	4/1/2002	5/6/2002	6/29/2006	4/17/2003	4/17/2002	6/9/2003
When does this law take effect?	1/1/2004	7/25/2002	10/1/2003	8/28/2006	10/1/2003	7/20/2002	6/1/2004

	NH	NJ	NM	NC	NY	ND	OK
Is the child restraint law comprehensive up to age 16?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
BOOSTER SEAT LAWS							
Up to what age must children be restrained?	6	8	7	8	7	7	6
Age "AND" weight/height or age "OR" weight/height?	"AND"	"AND"	"OR"	"AND"	N/A	"OR"	N/A
Up to what weight must children be restrained?	N/A	80 lbs.	60 lbs.	80 lbs.	N/A	80 lbs	N/A
Up to what standing height must children be restrained?	55"	N/A	N/A	N/A	57"	57"	N/A
Which terms were used?							
appropriate child restraint system (or similar)	X		X	X	X	X	X
booster seats or equivalent (or similar)		X	X				
Is the booster seat law primary enforcement?	YES	YES	YES		YES	NO	YES
What is the penalty?	\$25 for 1st offense, \$50 for 2nd or subsequent offense	\$10-\$25		\$25	\$25-\$100	\$25	\$10 + \$15 in court costs
May the ticket be dismissed or fine reduced if a seat is bought?	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES
Must free or low-cost seats be offered to low-income families?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Are educational programs or materials required?	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Are the booster seats required to meet FMVSS standard?	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
Which vehicles (if any) are exempt?	vehicles for hire, school buses, antique motor cars, parade vehicles	school buses	emergency vehicle, public transportation, school bus	Vehicles without shoulder belts	School busses and emergency vehicles	vehicles with out seat-belts when manufactured and in an emergency situation	Bus, taxi, moped, motorcycle, emergency vehicle
When was this law enacted?	5/20/2003	9/6/2001	4/7/2005	7/15/2005	10/1/2004	1/4/2005	3/31/2004
When does this law take effect?	1/1/2004	12/1/2001	6/17/2005	1/1/2005	4/1/2005	6/30/2005	4/1/2004

	OR	PA	RI	SC	TN	VT	VA
Is the child restraint law comprehensive up to age 16?	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
BOOSTER SEAT LAWS							
Up to what age must children be restrained?	6	8	7	6	9	8	8
Age "AND" weight/height or age "OR" weight/height?	"OR"	N/A	"AND"	"AND"	"AND"	N/A	N/A
Up to what weight must children be restrained?	60 lbs.	N/A	80 lbs.	80 lbs.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Up to what standing height must children be restrained?	N/A	N/A	54"	N/A	60"	N/A	N/A
Which terms were used?							
appropriate child restraint system (or similar)	X		X		X	X	X
booster seats or equivalent (or similar)		X		X	X		
Is the booster seat law primary enforcement?	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
What is the penalty?	\$75 max.	\$100 max.	\$50	\$25 max.	\$50 & potentially a CRS safety course	\$25 for 1st offense, \$50 for 2nd, \$100 for 3rd or subsequent offense	\$25
May the ticket be dismissed or fine reduced if a seat is bought?	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Must free or low-cost seats be offered to low-income families?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Are educational programs or materials required?	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO
Are the booster seats required to meet FMVSS standard?	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Which vehicles (if any) are exempt?	N/A	vehicles other than: passenger cars, class I or II trucks, classic or antique motor vehicles and mobile homes	passenger motor vehicles not req. to be equipped with belts and mail carriers	emerg., commercial & public trans. vehicles, taxis, school buses, church & day care vans	public trans.	school bus, vehicle for hire (not incl. day care vehicles)	taxis, school buses, limos, executive sedans
When was this law enacted?	6/28/2001	12/23/2002	6/26/2001	7/3/2001	6/12/2003	5/20/2003	2/23/2007
When does this law take effect?	1/1/2002	2/21/2003	1/1/2002	7/1/2001	7/1/2004	6/1/2004	7/1/2007

	WA	WI	WV	WY
Is the child restraint law comprehensive up to age 16?	NO	YES	YES	NO
BOOSTER SEAT LAWS				
Up to what age must children be restrained?	8	8	8	9
Age "AND" weight/height or age "OR" weight/height?	"OR"	"AND"	"OR"	"AND"
Up to what weight must children be restrained?	N/A	80 lbs.	N/A	80 lbs.
Up to what standing height must children be restrained?	4'9"	57"	4'9"	N/A
Which terms were used?				
appropriate child restraint system (or similar)	X		X	X
booster seats or equivalent (or similar)		X		
Is the booster seat law primary enforcement?	YES	NO	NO	YES
What is the penalty?	\$86	\$75	\$10-\$20	\$50 max. for 1st offense, \$100 max. for 2nd & subseq.
May the ticket be dismissed or fine reduced if a seat is bought?	YES for 1st off.		NO	YES
Must free or low-cost seats be offered to low-income families?	NO		NO	NO
Are educational programs or materials required?	NO	YES	NO	NO
Are the booster seats required to meet FMVSS standard?	YES	YES	YES	YES
Which vehicles (if any) are exempt?	for hire vehicles, shuttle services, school buses, commercial vehicles	emergency vehicles, postal, taxis	vehicles where all seat belts are already in use	N/A
When was this law enacted?	4/22/2005	2/6/2006	4/7/2005	3/7/2003
When does this law take effect?	6/1/2007	6/1/2006	7/7/2005	1/1/2002