

## Michigan's Child Safety Seat Law:

Children younger than age 4 must ride in a car seat in the rear seat if the vehicle has a rear seat. If all available rear seats are occupied by children under 4, then a child under 4 may ride in a car seat in the front seat. A child in a rear-facing car seat may only ride in the front seat if the airbag is turned off.

For more information visit:  
[www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)

## Michigan's "Booster Seat" Law:

Michigan law requires children to be properly buckled in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4-feet-9-inches tall. Children must ride in a seat until they reach the age requirement or the height requirement, whichever comes first.



The St. Clair County Car Seat program is a collaborative project of the St. Clair County Community Services Coordinating Body and is funded by The Office of Highway Safety Planning, St. Clair County Community Mental Health, The Department of Health and Human Services, and St. Clair County Sheriffs Office.

**For more information about the  
St. Clair County Car Seat Program,  
please contact Sarah Herrle,  
Child Passenger Safety Technician  
at (810) 966-7868 or  
[sherrle@scccmh.org](mailto:sherrle@scccmh.org)**



## St. Clair County Car Seat Program

**Supported by:**  
Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning,  
St. Clair County Community Mental Health,  
Department of Health and Human Services,  
and St. Clair County Sheriffs Office.

## Program Goals

The purpose of the St. Clair County Car Seat Program is to ensure that all parents, guardians and caregivers have the resources and necessary information to transport children safely.

For parents/guardians/caregivers that utilize the program, a Certified Car Seat Technician will:

1. Evaluate the child's current car seat for safety and proper fit.
2. Teach the parent/guardian/caregiver how to adjust the fit of the car seat specifically to their child.
3. Provide training and demonstration to parents/guardian/caregiver on how to adjust the car seat as the child grows and advise them on next steps.
4. Provide training and demonstration to parents/guardians/caregivers on proper car seat installation.
5. Give parents/guardians/caregivers an overview of best practices to help children travel safely.
6. Outfit child with new car seat if determined to be appropriate. (see **Eligibility** for more information)



## Eligibility

Anyone is able to make an appointment to have their car seat checked. To ensure the best fit, we ask that the child and their car seat attend the appointment with their parent/guardian/caregiver.

For parents and legal guardians with demonstrated financial need, the St. Clair County Car Seat Program **may** in some cases be able to provide a free car seat when appropriate, and if seats are available. To demonstrate financial need, the parent or guardian will be asked which benefit programs they or their child are enrolled in, such as Head Start, SNAP, Medicaid, WIC etc., when they call to make an appointment.

## Appointments

Appointments are made by calling the number listed below. Appointments **MUST** be made by the custodial parent or legal guardian of the child. When making the appointment the parent or guardian will be asked to provide:

- Parent or guardian's name
- Phone number where they can be reached
- Age, height and weight of each child being evaluated at the appointment
- The type of seat the child is currently using *i.e. infant carrier, forward-facing car seat, booster seat etc.*
- For families with demonstrated financial need, who may be eligible for a free car seat, the parent or guardian will be asked which benefit programs they or their child are enrolled in, such as Head Start, SNAP, Medicaid, WIC etc.

**The child whose seat is being checked must be present for the appointment and each family must have a vehicle present for the full appointment time.** A family may be placed on a waiting list and will receive a call when the next appointment is available.

**To make an appointment with the St. Clair Car Seat Program,  
please call Bethany at (810) 966-3706**