

Unbuckled Seat Belts Can Ruin a Field Trip

With the increase in transportation during the summer months, now is a good time to review your state's child passenger transportation guidelines to make sure you are in compliance. Safe Kids USA studied child passenger safety as it relates to transportation to and from child care centers. They found:

- 20 states explicitly defer to or restate a child occupant protection law in their child care regulations. However, these regulations often do not reflect recent upgrades in state child occupant protection laws.
- 12 states detail their own child care transportation policies that often do not reflect current best practices in child occupant protection.
- 18 states and the District of Columbia either have no evidence of a regulation or the regulations were not easily identified, or have different child restraint policies for transporting children in home care settings versus program/center care settings.

It's a good idea to add another adult passenger to assist with supervision. Also remind staff to thoroughly inspect all vehicles to make sure no child is inadvertently left onboard.