

## Washoe County Human Services Agency

### **RESTRAINT OF CHILDREN** - Referred to in Section 18

- \*1. Children must be restrained in accordance to NRS 484B.157 when riding in a motor vehicle.
- \*2. This Section does not apply:
  - a) To a person who is transporting a child in a means of public transportation, including a taxi, school bus or emergency vehicle;
  - b) When a physician determines that the use of such a restraining device for the particular child would be impractical or dangerous because of such factors as the child's weight, physical unfitness or medical condition. In this case, the person transporting the child shall carry in the vehicle the signed statement of the physician to that effect.

# Buckle Up!

## The Laws of Nevada

Nevada Revised Statutes require front and rear seat occupants of almost all passenger vehicles to wear safety belts or ride in an approved child restraint system. (NRS 484D.495 and 484B.157)

## The Laws of Physics

If you crash or slam on your brakes, your car comes to a sudden stop. But you will keep moving until you, too, are stopped – by the windshield, dashboard, pavement or seat belt.



## Air Bags



Air bags are more effective when you're buckled up and can be dangerous if you're not. You should be seated at least 10" away from the air bag as measured from the center of the steering wheel to your breastbone.

Air bags should be turned off only for those with certain medical conditions, those who cannot sit 10" away and when transporting young children in the front seat.

Never place a rear-facing child safety seat in front of an air bag! Children under 12 should ride in the back.

Expectant mothers should buckle up and leave the air bag on. Never place the lap belt above or on your belly.



## Did you know?



Seven of ten child safety seats are installed improperly.

Free inspections and advice are offered throughout Nevada. Call 866-SEAT-CHECK or visit [www.seatcheck.org](http://www.seatcheck.org) to find one in your area.

## Child Seat Law

Any child less than 6 years of age who weighs less than 60 pounds must ride in an approved child restraint system. (NRS 484B.157)

## Best Practices

Keep children in the back seat until at least age 12. Select a car seat based on your child's age and size and use it every time.

### Birth – 12 Months



Use a rear-facing car seat through age 1 and until your baby reaches the seat manufacturer's height and weight limits.

### 1 – 3 Years



Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. Then use a forward-facing toddler seat with a harness until your toddler outgrows that seat's limits.

### 4 – 7 Years



Once your child has outgrown the seat with a harness, use a booster seat until he or she is large enough for seat belts. Stay in the back seat.

### 8 – 12 Years



Use safety belts once they fit properly. The lap belt should lie across the thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should not cross the neck or face.

## Seat Belt Tips

Never use just a lap belt across a child sitting in a booster seat designed for shoulder belts.

Never use pillows, books, or towels to boost a child. They can slide around and hit the occupant.

Never put a shoulder belt behind anyone's arm or back because it eliminates the protection for the upper part of the body and increases the risk of severe injury in a crash.

## Kids Aren't Cargo!

Passengers under 18 may not ride in the back of a pickup or flatbed truck. This does not apply, however, to farming and ranching activity, parades or to camper shells or slide-in campers. (NRS 484B.160)



kids aren't cargo

**Zero Fatalities**  
Drive Safe. Nevada

Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles  
Nevada Department of Transportation  
[dmv.nv.com](http://dmv.nv.com) | [zerofatalitiesnv.com](http://zerofatalitiesnv.com)