

Suggestions

Safe Kids Worldwide has been contacted by many technicians in the field who continue to provide in-person seat checks, requesting guidance and tips during COVID-19 and social distancing.

Safe Kids strongly supports **remote education**, referring caregivers to car seat manufacturers for additional assistance (example: virtual car seat checks) and following [CDC guidelines](#). If you absolutely must provide an in-person seat check, there is no guarantee of safety from COVID-19.

However, if you **must** provide an in-person seat check, you should with your organization's risk manager to assure permission to proceed. You may need to sign a waiver releasing the organization from all liability.

Special thanks to the Georgia Department of Public Health for sharing their guidelines, which were used, in part, for these suggestions.

Appointment/Area Set Up Suggestions

Designate two separate designated and marked areas: one for the caregiver and one for the CPST. They must be clearly marked (tape on ground) at least 6 feet apart. Each area has a table two work from, providing a place for the CPST to place a demo seat, and for the caregiver to place their car seat.

From the designated space, the CPST can educate caregivers on seat selection, direction, location, installation and harnessing. Neither the CPST nor caregiver should leave their designated area, though their natural instincts will be to get closer. Have large signs to stay in the area.

Supplies: This list includes various resources available at <https://cert.safekids.org/resources-faqs>, marked **

- Car seat checklist
- CPS Consultation Worksheet**
- CPS Family Worksheet**
- Tape for marking designated safe zones (for maintaining a distance of 6 feet or more)
 - Designate a parking space and mark it off with tape or cones.
- It is recommended for the tech to wear a mask and gloves (replaced between appointment) and provide a mask and gloves to the caregiver, if possible
- Tables for CPST and caregiver stations
 - **CPST station**

- Hand sanitizer
 - Gloves (need to be replaced between seat checks)
 - Disinfecting spray or wipes
 - Mask
 - Car seat and dolls for demonstrations
 - Box or folder for completed forms
 - Up to date Recall List
 - OPTIONAL: Mock vehicle seat (dial-a-belt)
- **Caregiver station** (wipe down items between seat checks, if used)
 - Car seat checklist
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Disinfecting spray or wipes
 - Disposable pens OR pens that can be wiped down after the appointment
 - Scale
 - Tape measure
 - Educational materials

Scheduling Suggestions

- Send the caregiver the CPS Consultation Worksheet** and the CPS Family Worksheet** to complete and return back to the CPST prior to the appointment.
 - This will give you details about their children, seats, and seat placement.
 - If child(ren) will be at the check, encourage a second caregiver to supervise children in the vehicle during the seat check. They should have no opportunity to leave the safe space.
- Clearly explain the arrival and operating procedure to the caregiver (e.g. where to park, taped areas for social distancing, etc.).
- Plan to spend approximately 45 minutes per car seat.
 - Explain to the caregiver this allows time for parties to observe social distancing and adequately work out any details or difficult situations.
- Ask caregivers to watch the basic installation videos for their car seat type before they attend their appointment. Include links in the email confirmation.
 - Use their worksheets to determine which videos they should watch.

Videos (from CPST Curriculum)

- Rear-facing installation
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfHCEUeRZUc&t=22s>
 - This shows both a rear-facing only seat installed using a seat belt and a rear-facing convertible seat installed using lower anchors.
- Forward-facing installation
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9W5aJ_obgA
 - This shows a forward-facing seat first installed with a harness installed using a seat belt and a tether and then installed using the LATCH system.
- High-back booster seat use

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWtxV-qW4Gg>
- Seat belt use
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdFablhMqjE>

Caregiver Arrival

- Designate a parking space and mark it off with tape or cones.
- Use signs and arrows.

Suggestions for Providing the Seat Check with Social Distancing

- From the CPST station: Provide this checklist clearly as a sign on the table.
 - While staying in the caregiver area, direct caregivers to:
 - Apply hand sanitizer
 - Complete the top portion of the check form
 - Read and sign the waiver
 - Leave any of the pre-check documentation for review on the table
 - Step back into their vehicle.
- Watch carefully. CPST will wipe down the table and anything the caregiver has touched.
- CPST, wearing a mask, goes to the caregiver station, applies hand sanitizer (if not wearing fresh gloves), and retrieves the check form.
- CPST returns to area. Caregiver exits vehicle.
- Using the Learn, Practice, Explain principles, guide caregivers through the installation process, while each stays in their designated area.
 - Use demo car seat and doll
 - Use mock vehicle seat, if available.
- CPST MUST NEVER enter the caregiver zone. All installation review should be done from their station with the caregiver demonstrating correct installation and harnessing.
- Document on your check form as usual, noting social distancing in memo.
- The caregiver will take an educational packet that has been left for them on their table.
- Once the caregiver has cleared the space, the tech may approach and collect the items, wearing gloves and mask.
- Sanitize area, wiping down any surface that may have been touched.
- Sanitize or dispose of writing instruments and store forms as appropriate.
- Prepare area for next appointment. Repeat steps.