

# Child Passenger Safety - Wisconsin Laws and Statutes



## Children and car seats

Type of seat	Wisconsin law	Statute
<b>1 Rear-facing Car Seat</b> 	Children must ride in a rear-facing car seat until they are 1 year old <b>and</b> weigh 20 pounds.	347.48 (4)(as)1. Failure to provide/ properly use rear-facing child restraint system <i>Charging Statute: 347.48(4)(am)</i>
<b>2 Forward-facing Car Seat</b> 	Children must ride in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until they are 4 years old <b>and</b> weigh 40 pounds.	347.48 (4)(as)2. Failure to provide/ properly use forward- facing child restraint system <i>Charging Statute: 347.48(4)(am)</i>
<b>3 Booster Seat</b> 	Children must ride in a booster seat until they are 8 years old <b>or</b> weigh 80 pounds <b>or</b> are 4 feet 9 inches tall (4'9").	347.48 (4)(as)3. Failure to provide/ properly use an approved child restraint system <i>Charging Statute: 347.48(4)(am)</i>
<b>4 Seat Belt</b> 	Children must be restrained in a seat belt when they outgrow the requirements of a booster seat.	347.48(2m)(c) Failure to provide/ properly use seat belt
<b>Back Seat</b>	Children required to ride in a rear-facing or forward-facing car seat must be restrained in the back seat.	347.48(4)(as)1. and 2. Failure to restrain a child in the back seat <i>Charging Statute: 347.48(4)(am)</i>

Children can remain in each of these stages longer provided that their height or weight do not exceed the limits shown on the car seat manufacturer's label.

### Law enforcement look for:

- Unrestrained children
- Children in a car seat in the front seat of a vehicle
- Wrong size/inappropriate car seat
- Loose or unsecured car seat
- Loose car seat harness

Go to [safekidswi.org/carseats](http://safekidswi.org/carseats) for resources and information

**Email:** [carseatwi@chw.org](mailto:carseatwi@chw.org)

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