TRANSPORTATION

CHILD SAFETY RESTRAINTS

NOTE: CHILD SAFETY RESTRAINTS ARE RECOMMENDED WHEN A STUDENT CANNOT SIT UP ON THEIR OWN OR THEY ARE ACTIVE AND STRUGGLE WITH REMAINING IN A SEAT WHILE BEING TRANSPORTED.

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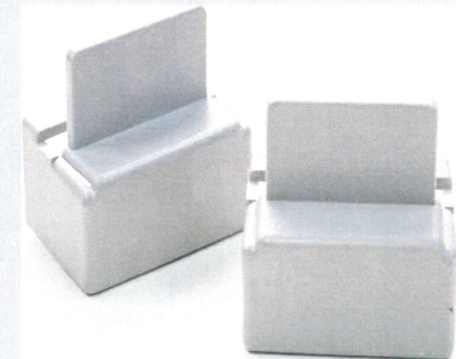
Seat Belt

School buses are designed to transport students 3 years of age and older without the use of a seat belt. Seat belts are typically **used on students that have a tendency of moving around a lot.**

California requires three-point seat belts on (1) school buses manufactured on and after July 1, 2005 that carry more than 16 passengers, and (2) all other school buses manufactured on and after July 1, 2004. It asks school transportation providers to first allocate seat-belt equipped school buses for elementary school students whenever possible. The state cannot charge any person, school district, or organization with violating this law if a passenger either does not fasten his or her seat belt, or does so improperly (Cal. Veh. Code § 27316).

Buckle Guard/Angel Guard

A Buckle Guard™ slips over a standard-sized seat buckle and hides the release button from a child's fingers. **This prevents children and disabled adults from opening their seat belts while riding in a motorized vehicle.** A Buckle Guard has a white FDA approved "Push and Turn" child safety cap. A buckle guard comes in two sizes depending on the seat belt size in bus.

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Harness (Safety Vest)

The harness (safety vest) secures around a bus seat equipped with standard lap-belts. The lap-belt threads through the loops on the harness to secure the passenger. **This is for students who do not do well with seatbelts. The parent/guardian is responsible for securing the harness (safety vest) on the student prior to boarding bus.**

STAR Seat (Car Seat)

SafeGuard STAR restraints are adaptable child safety restraints for school bus transportation. The five-point restraint systems make the proper and safe transportation of preschool, Head Start, and special needs children quick and easy. **The STAR seat is typically used for students that cannot sit up on their own.**

STAR Plus offers the same five-point restraint protection the standard STAR has with a larger base, comfort pad, and shoulder area to accommodate children 25 to 90lbs, up to 57 inches tall. The STAR plus can be attached two to a 39-inch bus seat.

FEATURES:

- Wraps around any-size bus seat with the universal cam wrap system.
- Buckle loop feature helps to avoid touch-related issues.
- Meets or exceeds all applicable federal, state, and Head Start safety standards.
- Optional chest strap provides additional upper torso support and adjusts for a comfortable, secure fit.

MOBILITY DEVICES

Wheelchairs

In order for a student in a wheelchair to be transported in a school bus the wheelchair must be equipped with brakes and a restraining belt. Both need to be properly maintained by the owner of the chair. Electric wheelchairs transported on school buses must be capable of being locked in gear when placed in a school bus or need to have an independent braking system capable of holding the wheelchair in place. Also, batteries used to propel electric wheelchairs transported on school buses need to be both leak resistant and spill resistant or they need to be placed in a leak resistant container. Batteries shall be secured to the wheelchair frame in such a manner as to prevent separation in the event of an accident.

Walkers/Crutches

Students need to be able to safely enter and exit the bus. If a child cannot safely get up and down the stairs on the bus, the student will not be able to be transported. Students with walkers/crutches that can get on the bus will be transported, however their mobility device will need to be stowed away.