

CHILD CARE CENTER NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS' RIGHTS

PARENTS' RIGHTS

As a Parent/Authorized Representative, you have the right to:

1. Enter and inspect the child care center without advance notice whenever children are in care.
2. File a complaint against the licensee with the licensing office and review the licensee's public file kept by the licensing office.
3. Review, at the child care center, reports of licensing visits and substantiated complaints against the licensee made during the last three years.
4. Complain to the licensing office and inspect the child care center without discrimination or retaliation against you or your child.
5. Request in writing that a parent not be allowed to visit your child or take your child from the child care center, provided you have shown a certified copy of a court order.
6. Receive from the licensee the name, address and telephone number of the local licensing office.

Licensing Office Name: DSS Community Care Licensing

Licensing Office Address: 2580 North First Street #300, San Jose, CA 95118

Licensing Office Telephone #: (408) 324-2148

7. Be informed by the licensee, upon request, of the name and type of association to the child care center for any adult who has been granted a criminal record exemption, and that the name of the person may also be obtained by contacting the local licensing office.
8. Receive, from the licensee, the Caregiver Background Check Process form.

NOTE: CALIFORNIA STATE LAW PROVIDES THAT THE LICENSEE MAY DENY ACCESS TO THE CHILD CARE CENTER TO A PARENT/AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IF THE BEHAVIOR OF THE PARENT/AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE POSES A RISK TO CHILDREN IN CARE.

For the Department of Justice "Registered Sex Offender" database, go to www.meganslaw.ca.gov

LIC 995 (9/08)

(Detach Here - Give Upper Portion to Parents)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS' RIGHTS (Parent/Authorized Representative Signature Required)

I, the parent/authorized representative of _____, have received a copy of the "CHILD CARE CENTER NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS' RIGHTS" and the CAREGIVER BACKGROUND CHECK PROCESS form from the licensee.

Creative Minds CDC
Name of Child Care Center

Signature (Parent/Authorized Representative)

Date

NOTE: This Acknowledgement must be kept in child's file and a copy of the Notification given to parent/authorized representative.

For the Department of Justice "Registered Sex Offender" database go to www.meganslaw.ca.gov

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

CAREGIVER BACKGROUND CHECK PROCESS CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The California Department of Social Services works to protect the safety of children in child care by licensing child care centers and family child care homes. Our highest priority is to be sure that children are in safe and healthy child care settings. California law requires a background check for any adult who owns, lives in, or works in a licensed child care home or center. Each of these adults must submit fingerprints so that a background check can be done to see if they have any history of crime. If we find that a person has been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation or a marijuana-related offense covered by the marijuana reform legislation codified at Health and Safety Code sections 11361.5 and 11361.7, he/she cannot work or live in the licensed child care home or center unless approved by the Department. This approval is called an exemption.

A person convicted of a crime such as murder, rape, torture, kidnapping, crimes of sexual violence or molestation against children **cannot by law be given an exemption that would allow them to own, live in or work in** a licensed child care home or center. If the crime was a felony or a serious misdemeanor, the person must leave the facility while the request is being reviewed. If the crime is less serious, he/she may be allowed to remain in the licensed child care home or center while the exemption request is being reviewed.

How the Exemption Request is Reviewed

We request information from police departments, the FBI and the courts about the person's record. We consider the type of crime, how many crimes there were, how long ago the crime happened and whether the person has been honest in what they told us.

The person who needs the exemption must provide information about:

- The crime
- What they have done to change their life and obey the law
- Whether they are working, going to school, or receiving training
- Whether they have successfully completed a counseling or rehabilitation program

The person also gives us reference letters from people who aren't related to them who know about their history and their life now.

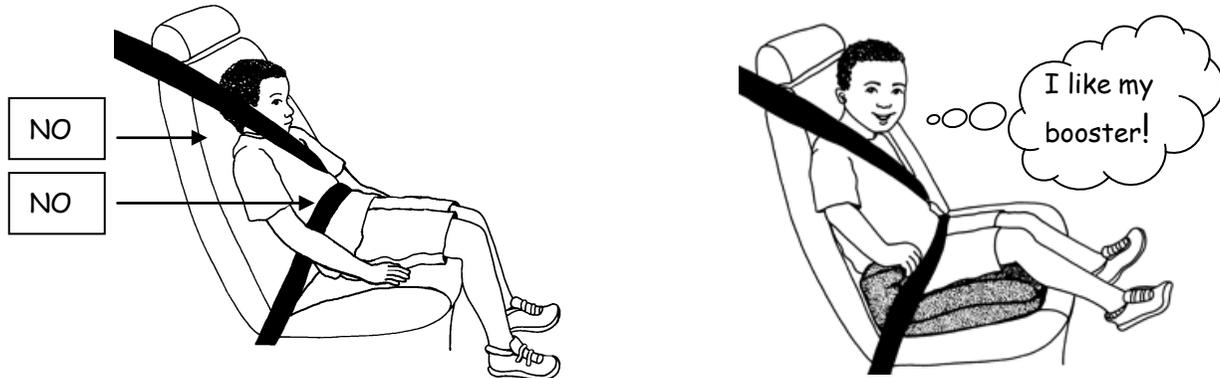
We look at all these things very carefully in making our decision on exemptions. By law this information cannot be shared with the public.

How to Obtain More Information

As a parent or authorized representative of a child in licensed child care, you have the right to ask the licensed child care home or center whether anyone working or living there has an exemption. If you request this information, and there is a person with an exemption, the child care home or center must tell you the person's name and how he or she is involved with the home or center and give you the name, address, and telephone number of the local licensing office. You may also get the person's name by contacting the local licensing office. You may find the address and phone number on our website. The website address is <http://cclid.ca.gov/contact.htm>

CALIFORNIA CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW

- **Children under age 8** must be properly buckled into a car seat or booster in the back seat.
- **Children age 8 or older** may use the vehicle safety belt if it fits properly with the lap belt low on the hips, touching the upper thighs, and the shoulder belt crossing the center of the chest. If children are not tall enough for proper belt fit, they must ride in a booster or child safety seat.
- **Everyone in the car** must be properly buckled up. For each child under 16 who is not properly secured, parents (if in the car) or drivers can be fined more than \$500 and get a point on their driving records.



Most kids need to ride in a booster seat until age 10 to 12. Using a booster instead of just a belt prevents 45% of crash injuries.

If your child isn't using a booster, try the simple test below the next time you ride together in the car. You may find that your child is not yet ready to use a safety belt without a booster.

The 5-Step Test

1. Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?
2. Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?
3. Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?
4. Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?
5. Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, your child needs a booster seat to make both the shoulder belt and the lap belt fit right for the best crash protection. Your child will be more comfortable, too.

For best protection, all children should ride in the back seat. It's twice as safe as the front!

For a list of programs with low-cost safety seats, call your local health department at _____
For assistance with inspecting or installing a safety seat, visit www.seatcheck.org or www.nhtsa.gov/cps/cpsfitting or call 866-SEAT-CHECK or your local CHP office.
For more information: SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. www.carseat.org 800-745-SAFE (English) 800-747-SANO (Spanish)

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

California Buckle-Up Laws for Parents

Car crashes are the #1 preventable cause of death of children and young adults, as well as a major cause of permanent brain damage, epilepsy, and spinal cord injuries. A sudden stop at 30 miles per hour could cause the same crushing force on your child's brain and body as a fall from a three-story building. Fortunately, by buckling up children, we can prevent most of these deaths and serious injuries.

(V.C. 27360) All children under age 8 must be properly buckled into a safety seat or booster in the back seat.

Exceptions: A child who weighs more than 40 pounds and is riding in a car without lap and shoulder belts in the back seat may wear just a lap belt. A child under age 8 who is at least 4'9" may wear a safety belt if it fits properly. Children under age 8 may ride in the front if there is no forward-facing rear seat in the vehicle, the child restraint cannot be properly installed in rear seat, all rear seats are occupied by other children age 7 or under, or for medical reasons. A child in a rear-facing safety seat may not ride in front if there is an active passenger air bag.

(V.C. 27360.5) Children age 8 or more may use the vehicle safety belt if it fits properly with the lap belt low on the hips, touching the upper thighs, and the shoulder belt crossing the center of the chest. If children are not tall enough for proper belt fit, they must ride in a booster or safety seat.

Consequences for failing to properly buckle up any child under 16

- **The parent** gets the ticket if a child under 16 is not properly buckled up.
- **The driver** gets the ticket if the parent is not in the car.
- The cost of a ticket could be more than \$500* per child; the fine for a second offense could be more than \$1000* per child. One point is added to the driving record, which could raise insurance rates. Part of the fine money goes to a special fund to help pay for local safety seat education and distribution programs.

Related Information

- Older babies and toddlers should ride in a rear-facing convertible seat until they are at least two years old. Check manufacturer's instructions for the maximum weight (30-45 lbs.).
- Children should ride in a safety seat with a harness as long as possible (40-90 lbs., depending on the model).
- Children who have outgrown their safety seats need a booster for proper belt fit (usually until age 10-12). To find out if a child is tall enough to wear just a safety belt, try the 5-Step Test (see other side).
- Auto insurers are required to replace safety seats that were in use or damaged during a crash.

(V.C. 27315) Drivers and passengers 16 or older must be **properly buckled up** in vehicle safety belts.

The driver may be ticketed for not wearing a belt and for each unbuckled passenger. Fine is more than \$100* per person.

Passengers also may be ticketed for not being properly buckled up.

(V.C. 23116) Pickup truck passengers also must be **properly buckled up**.

The driver may be ticketed for letting passengers ride in the back of a pickup truck.

Passengers also may be ticketed for not being properly buckled up.

The cost of a ticket could be more than \$250* for each unbuckled adult. No exemption for camper shells.

Other Laws to Protect Children

- **Children left in vehicle (V.C. 15620):** A child 6 years old or less may not be left alone in a vehicle if the health or safety of the child is at risk, the engine is running, or the keys are in the ignition. The child must be supervised by someone at least age 12. The cost of a ticket could be more than \$500.*
- **Smoking in a vehicle [Health and Safety Code 118948(a)]** is prohibited if a child under 18 is present. The cost of a ticket could be more than \$500.*
- **Helmets (V.C. 21212, 21204, 27803):** Children under age 18 who are skating or riding on a bicycle, scooter, or skateboard must wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet. All drivers and passengers on a motorcycle must wear a helmet that meets federal standards, fits correctly, and has the proper label.

*Fine amounts shown include penalty assessments

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. P.O. Box 553, Altadena, CA 91003 www.carseat.org (800) 745-SAFE

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California Car Seat Law Changes

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017



NEW ADDITION

Starting January 1, 2017, children under 2-years old must be rear-facing unless they weigh 40 pounds or more, or are 40 inches tall or more.

Children must be properly buckled in a car seat which is rear-facing until age 2

CURRENT LAW

Children under age 8 must be buckled into a car seat or booster in the back seat.

Children age 8 or older, or who are 4'9" or taller, may use the vehicle seat belt if it fits properly with the lap belt low on the hips, touching the upper thighs, and the shoulder belt crossing the center of the chest. If children are not tall enough for proper belt fit, they must ride in a booster or car seat.

Everyone in the car must be properly buckled up.

Most children will outgrow an infant seat before age 1

- The next step is a convertible car seat.
- Rear-facing is 5 times safer than forward-facing.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children ride rear-facing to the highest weight or height allowed by the car seat manufacturer.

Kaitlyn's Law

It's against California law to leave a child under the age of seven alone in the car without the supervision of a person at least 12 years old if:

1. The keys are in the ignition or the car is running, or
2. There is a significant risk to the child.

FINES & PENALTIES

For each child under 16 who is not properly secured, parents (if in the car) or drivers can be fined more than \$500 and get a point on their driving records.

Keep your children safe. It's the law!



For answers to your child safety seat questions, contact your local health department or visit cdph.ca.gov/vosp.