



# ASK Transit

## Inquiry on Child Safety Seats

Information compiled on May 25, 2010

**The Question:** In your transit agency, who is responsible for ensuring child safety seats are correctly installed in the transit vehicle?

**Asotin County PTBA** says... Fixed route buses have child seats stationary within the seat itself.

**Columbia County Public Transportation** says... Our safety and training coordinator trains our drivers on how to install several different types of child safety seats. The parents of the children are responsible for tying down their safety seat however, our operators must check before putting the vehicle in motion that it is in fact properly secured.

**Community Transit** says... We do have our drivers check to see if the Child Seat is secured, because of the many different models the drivers cannot ensure it is secured properly. The responsibility is left to the guest.

**Everett Transit** says... The ADA eligible passenger is responsible for providing an appropriate car seat that works in our vehicles with our lap belts. The ADA eligible passenger is also responsible for securing the car seat and putting the child into the car seat. If the customer needs assistance getting the child seated and secured, he/she should bring along someone to help. Drivers cannot carry or lift a child on or off the van.

**Grays Harbor Transit** says... The parent is responsible for installing the seat the driver is responsible for checking for proper installation.

**Intercity Transit** says... It is the responsibility of the parent traveling with the child to ensure safety seats are correctly installed in the transit vehicle.

**Island Transit** says... We have not had an issue involving child safety seats at this point.

**King County Metro** says... The passenger that brings a child is responsible for providing and installing the child safety seat.

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**Kitsap Transit** says... Kitsap Transit does not “install” child safety seats on any of our transit vehicles, including Van Pool vans or Ride Share vans.

If you're referring to day-to-day routed service and what is our policy towards securing child safety seats, here is our policy:

### **Strollers**

**Strollers should be empty and collapsed. Strollers must be folded before the bus can continue on route. The child must be held by the guardian.**

**Exception: Accessible strollers used for children with disabilities or parents with disabilities who are unable to safely hold their child.**

**Child strollers that incorporate a car seat will require that the car seat be detached from the stroller and the baby, still strapped to the car seat, will be held by the guardian. (Routed buses do not have seat belts except in the designated wheelchair section).**

**On ACCESS (para-transit) service, the ultimate responsibility to see that the child's safety seat is secured properly and safely rests with the Operator.**

**Mason Transit** says... All of our vehicles are public transit for the general public, we do not have specialized service buses and as such do not provide car seats or secure car seats.

### **5.1.12 Car Seats**

Mason Transit does not provide car seats for infants or toddlers. They are not required on public transit vehicles. If a passenger wants to board with an infant in a car seat, assist them as best you can, without taking control of the car seat. Assist with other carry-ons while the person with the infant and car seat boards with the child.

If asked, show the rider how to secure the car seat but do not do it for them. This is solely the responsibility of the adult traveling with the child in the car seat.

**Pierce Transit** says... It is the responsibility of the passenger travelling with the child to ensure that a child safety seat is correctly installed when travelling on our service.

**Pullman Transit** says... A child that is required to use a child safety seat has to have an attendant with them. The attendant is responsible for securing the seat and the child but we also remind our employees that ultimately it is the drivers responsibility if anything happens. So after the seat is secured the driver does a quick check to see that everything is attached and safe.

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**Skagit Transit** says... Another policy we don't currently have. If a passenger were to use a child safety seat they would need to secure the seat their self.

**Spokane Transit** says... The Paratransit rider is responsible to provide and secure their child in the child safety seat.

**Yakima Transit** says... The adult traveling with the child is responsible.

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