



## Big coats and car seats don't mix!

It's officially winter and it's time to pull out those big poufy coats to stay warm. As a general rule, winter coats **should not** be worn underneath the harness of a car seat. A bulky coat under a child seat harness can result in the harness being too loose to be effective in a crash.

Here is a simple way to check if your child's coat is too big and bulky to wear under their harness:

- Put the coat on your child, sit them in the child seat and fasten the harness. Tighten the harness until you can no longer pinch any of the harness webbing with your thumb or forefinger.
- Without loosening the harness, remove your child from the child seat.
- Take the coat off, and put your child back in the child seat and buckle the harness straps, which are still adjusted as they were when wearing the coat.
- If you can now pinch the webbing between your thumb and forefinger, then the coat is **too bulky** to be worn under the harness.



\*Don't forget to remind parents to use thinner coats or put coats/blankets over the child **AFTER** they're fastened into their harnesses.

## Upcoming CPS Technician Courses

Listed below are future technician courses, click the link to register.

**January 24, 2017:**

**\*One-Day Renewal Course**

**[Topeka](#)**

(Mission Township Fire Department)

**March 7-9, 2017: [Hutchinson](#)**

(Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center)



2017 CPS Technician Courses

## Need CEU's?

Go here for Child Passenger Safety CEU opportunities...

### Online Courses and Webinars

2017 CPS Online Courses

## Mythbuster!

**MYTH:** Backless boosters will soon be illegal.

**FACT:** You may have seen the poster floating around social media warning that as of December 2016 it will be illegal to use a backless booster for children under 12. This is **FALSE**.

From December 2016,  
it will be **ILLEGAL** to use  
a backless booster seat  
with a **child under 12**.



Backless booster seats will only be permitted for children:

- over 12 years old
- taller than 125 cm
- heavier than 22 kg

*Families*

The poster is referencing a new law being considered in the United Kingdom (as you may have been able to tell from the use of the metric system). However, legislation has been delayed regarding this issue. According to the U.K.'s Department of Transport, "new booster cushions

without a backrest will only be able to be approved...for children over 125cm or 22kg."

In short, backless boosters are **NOT illegal** in Kansas or anywhere else in the United States. If you or someone you know is traveling abroad with children, make sure they research the transportation laws in that country.

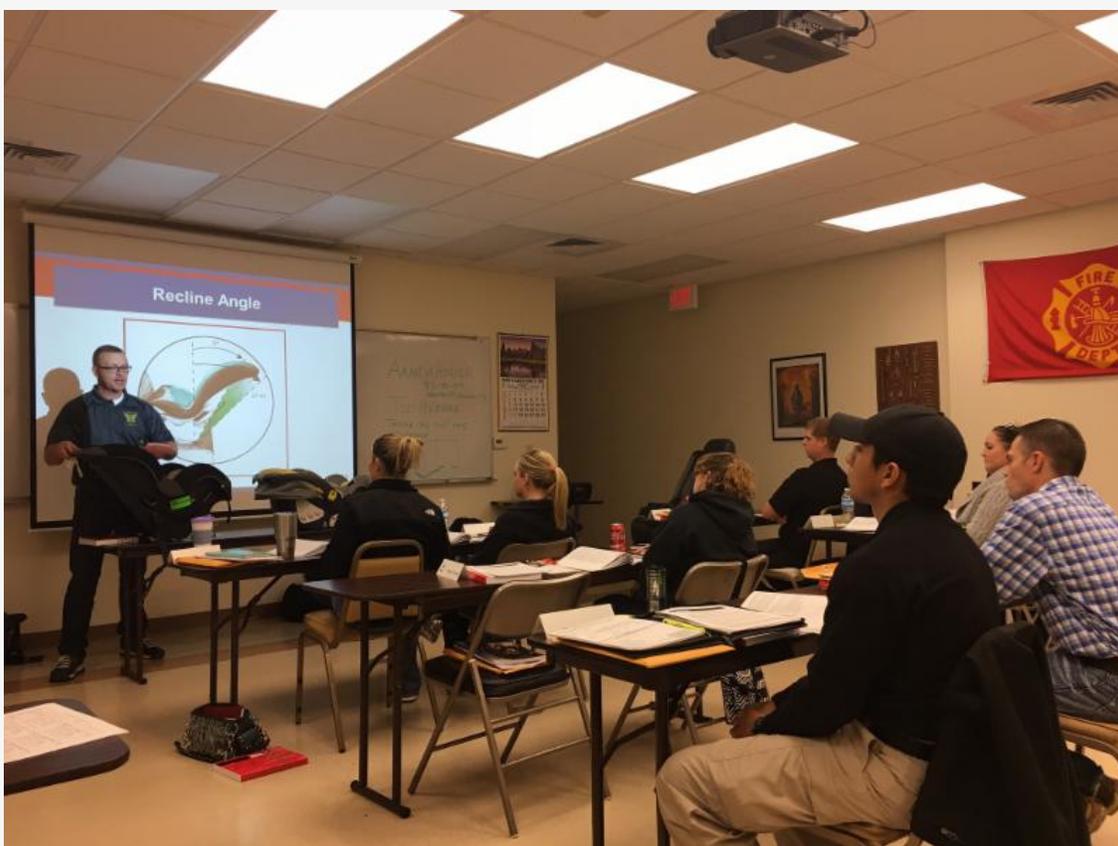
### **Got Pictures? Show Off YOUR Event!**

We would like to highlight CPS events from around the state.



In October, we added 19 new certified CPS technicians during a course in Hutchinson at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center.





In November, CPS technicians completed courses in Colby (pictured above) and Emporia (pictured below).



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