



# California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Vehicle Occupant Safety Program (VOSP)

## ***e-Newsletter for California's Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Community (Winter 2022)***

---

This quarterly e-Newsletter provides a summary of CPS laws and programmatic support for the California community of local health departments, instructors, technicians, and advocates.

### **In this issue:**

- I. CPS Recertification Alternatives Ending December 31, 2022
- II. What's Ahead?
  - a. Lifesavers Conference – April 2-4, 2023
  - b. Spanish Language CPS Technician Curriculum
- III. Technician Proxy – Why it's a good idea?
- IV. New CPS Parent Brochure!
- V. Who to Contact for CPS Support?

### **I. CPS Recertification Alternatives Ending December 31, 2022**

The recertification alternatives for technicians and instructors will no longer be available after December 31, 2022. You may still utilize those alternatives for recertification until that point. Currently CPST/Is may submit additional CEU's in place of reviewed seat checks and CPST/Is can submit additional Community Education hours in place of teaching hours. See the Policy Addendum at [Recertification Alternatives for COVID](#).

If you earn recertification alternatives and enter them in your certification profile by December 31, 2022, those will count for your current recertification cycle. You will not be able to enter those alternatives after December 31, 2022.

### **II. What's Ahead?**

- a. **Lifesavers Conference** – The 41<sup>st</sup> conference will be held at the Seattle Convention Center, April 2-4, 2023, with early bird [registration](#) ending on January 27, 2023 at \$600. Lifesavers is always dynamic with CPS, and all other traffic safety areas too! Future conferences will also be in the west– 2024 in Denver and 2025 at Long Beach, so if not in 2023 I hope you will attend one of the other years!
- b. **Spanish Language CPS Technician Curriculum** – I know 2023 is close, and 2024 might seem far away, but it's sure nice to know that the CPS Board will update the CPS Technician curriculum (in its entirety, every 4 years) in 2024 and it will include

a Spanish language version. So very happy to hear this. More to come I'm sure down the line.

### III. Technician Proxy – Why it's a good idea?

The primary purpose of an instructor/technician proxy for verification of the seat check activity required for recertification is observation of interactions with parents and children. In California we have 140 Instructors, 1,790 Technicians of which only 25 technician proxy [designations](#). Recertification requires that technicians and instructors demonstrate technical and communications skills during each of five seat checks in the presence of an instructor or technician proxy. Technician proxies were created to help bridge the gap in parts of the country where there are few certified instructors. Technician proxies can review and approve seat checks for recertification. Technician proxies don't have to recertify like Instructors, and if you're the local Lead Coordinator (and a technician) this is a great way to keep your technician team certified!

The process for becoming a technician proxy is having at least six months of CPST experience, completing an application with testimonials about your CPS technical skills and paying a one-time fee. Check out the technician proxy [FAQs](#) if you need more information. As a reminder, mock seat checks should only be done as a last resort. During this type of seat check sign off, a colleague acts out the part of the parent which should replicate the education and interactions of a real-life seat check session.

### IV. New CPS Parent Brochure!

Attached are the email and 8 ½ x 11 version (local printing) versions of the updated CPS Parent Brochure. Our very own CDPH kids – aren't they adorable + Christine Li's son Miles forward facing!



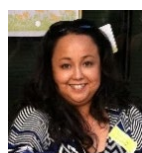
### V. We are here to support you!

Please contact VOSP staff if you have any CPS Technician Training requests or questions, need CPS educational materials, or want to be on the list to receive future VOSP e-Newsletters. Please reach out to our team with any questions you may have.



**Kate Bernacki, M.P.H.**

[Kate.Bernacki@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Kate.Bernacki@cdph.ca.gov)



**Claudia Angel**

[Claudia.Angel@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Claudia.Angel@cdph.ca.gov)

If you have any CPS programmatic questions, please contact **Mitch Zehnder**, the Office of Traffic Safety Occupant Protection and CPS State Coordinator, at (916) 509-3026 or [Mitch.Zehnder@ots.ca.gov](mailto:Mitch.Zehnder@ots.ca.gov).

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

