

Changes in Alabama's Child Restraint Law, Effective July 1st

Summary Tables:

Changes in Alabama Child Restraint Law Effective July 1, 2006 Specific Car Seat Criteria	
Age / Weight/ Height Requirement	Appropriate Restraint
Birth - age 1 or 20 pounds	Infant only or convertible seat rear facing position
Age 1 or 20 pounds - age 5 (at least) or 40 pounds	Convertible seat forward-facing position or forward-facing seat
Age 5 (at least) or 40 pounds - age 6	Booster Seat
Age 6 - age 15	Seat Belt

Comparison of Amended Alabama Law to National Guidelines			
Changes to the Alabama Child Restraint law are based on national guidelines from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.			
Alabama Law Effective July 1, 2006		National Guidelines for Safety	
Age / Weight/ Height Requirement	Appropriate Restraint	Age / Weight/ Height Requirement	Appropriate Restraint
Birth - age 1 or 20 pounds	Infant only or convertible seat rear facing	Birth – at least age 1 AND at least 20 pounds	Infant only /rear-facing or convertible Seat rear-facing
Age 1 or 20 lbs – age 5 (at least) or 40 pounds	Convertible seat forward facing or forward facing seat	Age 1 and at least 20 pounds –age 4 and approximately 40 pounds	Convertible seat forward facing or forward facing seat or High Back Booster with Harness
Age 5 (at least) or 40 pounds - age 6	Booster Seat	Age 4 - age 8 (at least) unless 4'9" (57" tall)	Belt-positioning Booster or High Back Belt-positioning Booster
Age 6 - age 15	Seat Belt	8 Years and older	Shoulder/Lap Seat Belt