

# Keeping kids safe at HOME, at SCHOOL, at PLAY, and ON the WAY!!



## **Child Passenger Safety**

### Is your child riding legally when traveling to Minnesota?

On August 1st, Minnesota implemented a new Child Passenger Safety law to help make sure children are riding in the car as safe as possible. This law is not only for residents, but anyone that is driving in the state of Minnesota. The updated law has more restrictions than North Dakota, so your child may be legal at home, but would need to make some adjustments to be legal if traveling into East Grand Forks, Minneapolis, etc.



#### **REAR FACING**

A child must rear face from birth to at least 2 years old AND until they have outgrown the rear facing seat by height and weight.



#### FORWARD FACING

A child at least 2 years old and has outgrown the rear facing seat by height or weight is to ride forward facing in a car seat with an internal harness.



#### **BOOSTER SEAT**

A child at least 4 years old AND has outgrown the forward facing car seat with internal harness by height or weight is to ride in a booster seat using the lap and shoulder belt.



A child 9 years old or has outgrown the booster seat AND the child can pass the 5-step fit test is to ride restrained with a lap and shoulder belt on the vehicle seat. A child under age 13 must sit in the back seat, if possible.

Every driver who has a child under the age of 18 in their vehicle is required to have the child restrained in a car seat, booster seat or seat belt. If the child can be placed in more than one category, the child must be placed in the more protective category (rearfacing being the most protective category).

If you have questions about the changes in the law or your child is in need of a car seat or booster, please contact Safe Kids Grand Forks for more information at safekids@altru.org or 701.780.1489.



Altru Health System is proud to serve as the lead agency for Safe Kids Grand Forks. For more information on this and other childhood injury prevention topics, visit safekidsgf.com, call us at 701.780.1489 or email safekids@altru.org.

