

2006 Car Seat Replacement Program Guidelines

Permanent Fitting Stations (PFS) are provided throughout Elkhart County to assist parents and caregivers with correct selection and installation of child safety seats. Technicians are available to answer questions and help parents/caregivers make the best decisions regarding automobile travel for their children. PFS appointments are free of charge; however donations are encouraged to ensure continuation of the program. Permanent Fitting Station appointments can be made by calling 574.523.2116.

During a PFS appointment, technicians will review how children are currently riding in the vehicle. This includes children riding in seatbelts, parents lap, or in a car seat/booster seat. The technician will determine what actions, if any, need to be taken to ensure the safest way for all children to be restrained during travel.

The technician may offer replacement seats at cost to parents/caregivers who do not meet low-income guidelines. The technician may offer replacement seats free-of-charge to parents/caregivers who meet low-income eligibility guidelines. Eligibility can be determined by showing WIC, Hoosier Healthwise, or other program participation identification. Eligibility can be determined by the agency making the referral, and identifying the client as "in need" on appropriate letterhead.

Replacement seats may be offered if the current seat is considered unsafe. Seats deemed unsafe may include, but are not limited to those that have been recalled, are older than 6 years, have been in a crash (moderate-severe with report), have unknown crash history (second-hand), or are inappropriate size (toddler in a baby seat or child in a seatbelt that needs to be in a car seat).

Any questions, concerns, or eligibility questions may be addressed by calling Hollie Lambert, program coordinator, at 574-523-2112.