

**District Vehicles/Seat Belts/Child Safety System**

All drivers operating district-owned vehicles shall use seat belts. Failure to do so is grounds for dismissal.

The driver of any district-owned vehicle, except school buses, is responsible for determining that the proper number of seat belts is available for the passengers and their use is required. A child who weighs 40 pounds or less, regardless of age, must be properly secured with a child safety system. The child safety system must elevate the person so that a safety belt or safety harness properly fits the individual and meets the minimum standards and specifications of law. A person over 40 pounds or who has reached the upper weight limit for the forward-facing car seat must use a booster seat until four feet nine inches or age eight and the adult belt properly fits.<sup>1</sup> A person who is taller than four feet nine inches or eight years of age or older must be properly secured with a safety belt or harness that meets the requirements under ORS 815.055. A district vehicle more than 10,000 pounds or equipped with a lap belt only is exempt from child safety system requirements. The vehicles shall not be driven until the driver and all passengers are buckled up and properly secured. [The driver is responsible for not placing children under the age of 13 in the front seat of a vehicle equipped with passenger-side air bags.]

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 811.210](#)  
[ORS 815.055](#)  
[ORS 815.080](#)

[OAR 437-002-0223](#)  
[OAR 735-102-0010](#)

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<sup>1</sup>“Proper fit” means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.