

**Q: What is the best way for a school age child to travel?**

**A:** For best practice, school age children are best protected in a 5pt harness car seat forward-facing until they reach either the weight or height limit of their car seat. Once the child outgrows their car seat, they should use a booster seat until the seat belt fits the child without the booster seat. This could be anywhere between 8 and 12 years of age and about 57 inches tall. The [5 step test](#) is a great way for parents to determine when a child is ready to transition from a booster seat and a seat belt to just a seat belt.

**Q: What are the state laws for Missouri and Kansas regarding car seat, booster seat, and seat belt use?**



## CAR SEAT, BOOSTER SEAT, or SEAT BELT?

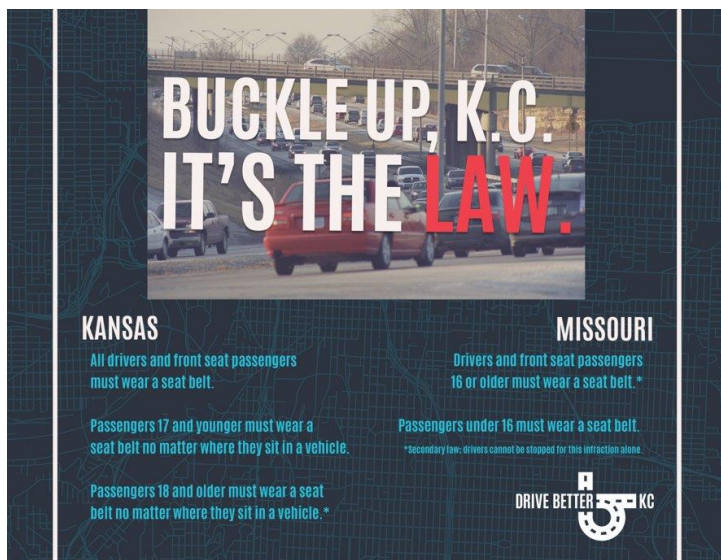
**KANSAS**

- Kids under 4 must be in a car seat
- Kids under 8 must be in a booster seat unless they weigh more than 80 lbs. or are more than 4'9" tall
- \$60 fine for anyone under 18 not buckled up

**MISSOURI**

- Kids under 4 or weighing less than 40 lbs. must be in a car seat
- Kids under 8 must be in a booster seat unless they weigh more than 80 lbs. or are more than 4'9" tall
- \$50 fine for anyone under 18 not buckled up

DRIVE BETTER  KC



## BUCKLE UP, K.C. IT'S THE LAW.

**KANSAS**

All drivers and front seat passengers must wear a seat belt.

Passengers 17 and younger must wear a seat belt no matter where they sit in a vehicle.


Passengers 18 and older must wear a seat belt no matter where they sit in a vehicle. \*

**MISSOURI**

Drivers and front seat passengers 16 or older must wear a seat belt. \*

Passengers under 16 must wear a seat belt.

\*Secondary law; drivers cannot be stopped for this infraction alone.

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**Q: What websites can I refer families to for updated and accurate information related to child passenger safety?**

**A:**

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats>

<https://ucsg.safekids.org/>

<https://healthychildren.org/english/safety-prevention/on-the-go/pages/default.aspx>

<https://carseat.org/parents-and-caregivers/>