

Notes from the [CPS Board](#): 2014 Curriculum Update

The CPS Board has been working closely with a professional curriculum designer and NHTSA on revising their curriculum and we are so pleased to be able to share the latest scoop! We know you've been waiting for news about the revised curriculum, so here it is: The curriculum is on target for implementation on January 1, 2014.

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The curriculum designer worked with the Board and NHTSA to make the materials specifically geared towards adult learners. What you see will look very different from previous editions! The Instructor Guide is organized in a 2-column format that describes what an instructor should do and suggestions on what to say. Icons prompt instructors to present information, play a video, display a slide, do a practice activity or conduct a progress check. Content is organized with bullet and sub-bullet points. Instructions for quizzes and skills assessments have been moved to the Instructor Guide at the point where they will be administered, instead of at the end of the guide. One of the major changes is that the program is designed to be taught in 3 days, so the course focuses on "need to know" information. However, lead instructors and course administrators have freedom to develop agendas that best meet the needs of the students and may choose to hold the course over a longer period of time.

Instead of having a large appendix of resources, many of these materials will be on the [National CPS Board website](#), which allows them to be updated as new information becomes available. Program materials will include an Instructor Guide, a Technician Guide and an Instructor DVD with PowerPoint slides, forms and handouts. The Technician Guide has 13 modules, with each module color-coded for ease in reading and locating information. Videos have been updated with new videos included to demonstrate technical concepts, such as installing car seats with different belt systems. Photographs and illustrations have all been reviewed and revised to reflect best practices and updated products.

Several changes have been made in the structure of modules with some being retitled and some content moved to other modules. For example, Who Makes the Rules has been shortened and integrated into Module 1: Program Introduction. Learn, Practice, Explain is now part of Module 2: CPS Technician Role. Seat belts have been combined into one module, with no designation of systems with or without pre-crash locking features. Boosters and seat belts have been combined into one module. The final module, Closing & Checkup Event now includes discussion of recertification requirements.

Your next question is probably -When will the materials be in your hands? The revised curriculum has been pilot tested and overall went very well. A few changes will be made by the curriculum designer based on the pilot. NHTSA will do a final review of the curriculum before it is approved for printing. Shipment of materials to instructors is scheduled to begin in October.

The CPS Board is developing a webinar to review further curriculum details for instructors. Board members will reach out to state child passenger safety coordinators and State Highway Safety Offices to answer curriculum questions and provide suggestions for implementing the program in their states/regions. The Participant Guide will be posted on the Board website for download by current technicians.

Stay tuned for more curriculum updates, by reading future editions of your CPS Express and visiting the CPS Board website, www.cpsboard.org.

Submitted by Carol Meidinger, Member, CPS Board Curriculum Committee