

November 2013 Curriculum Update: Designed for Success

The mission of the Board is to maintain the quality and integrity of the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program. With the latest revision of the NCPS Curriculum we believe we have taken this task to heart.

There was no tough choice when it came time to redesign the curriculum. It had to happen. You will notice right out of the box the new design, and that the materials are lighter, less intimidating, more appealing.

The basic goal of training and maintaining a force of CPS Techs to help families keep children safe as they travel remains the same. What has changed is the look, feel and some of the language used in the program.

This revision was not done without your input and we are very grateful. Instructors nationwide have assisted with reviewing and testing the new program materials. If there was something in the old curriculum that bugged you, chances are it bothered someone else and has been modified!

We have looked carefully at our learner audiences and instructors and redeveloped the program for the adult learner. We believe the flow of the chapters, now referred to as modules is more consistent with logical thinking and learning. Simple adjustments to how we refer to things such as a "Top Tether": well, where else would you find a tether? Since it's always at the top and there is no other tether, let's just call it a tether! So the term LATCH, which introduced the hardware and concepts, is simply referred to as lower anchors and tethers. The new format is designed to be descriptive and concise for the adult learner.

Instructors, you have not been left out! We have made adjustments to make your classes run smoother, with additional, quality video links imbedded in to the modules. We've eliminated "testing and grading" but include "quizzes and scoring". Terminology and language changes such as these that help the adult learners focus on the task at hand and leave their anxieties at home. New photographs that are clear, bright and current will help you guide your students through each module successfully.

We are excited to be bringing this latest revision to you soon and appreciate your patience as the materials go through the approvals and finally, printing and distributing process. We look forward to the upcoming holiday season and send our best wishes to all the instructors and technicians, knowing that just when they think they can relax after the holidays----BAM! Your new materials arrive!

Submitted by the Curriculum Committee, National Child Passenger Safety Board