

## Children and Air Bags

**The back seat is the safest place for children of any age to ride.**

Never place an infant (less than 1 year old) in a rearward-facing child safety seat in the front passenger seat of a vehicle with a front passenger air bag. The back of a rear-facing infant or convertible seat rests too close to the air bag cover. Because the air bag opens with a great deal of force, serious injuries or death could occur if the child seat is too close.

If it is absolutely necessary for a child age 12 or under to ride in the front seat of a car with a front passenger side air bag:

- Secure the child in a restraint system that is correct for the size of the child: a front facing child safety seat, a booster seat or a lap/shoulder belt.
- Move the front seat as far back from the dashboard as possible.

Following these important safety guidelines and reviewing them each year with your children can help keep the back-to-school season safe. Parents and caregivers can be the best teachers when it comes to childhood injury prevention.

*Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Safe Kids Worldwide*