

# **New York State Child Safety Laws and Regulations**

## **New York State Helmet Law: Bicycles**

Effective Date  
06/01/1994

Law Mandate  
Persons under 14 required to wear an approved bicycle helmet when bicycling.

Enforcement  
Maximum: \$50 fine. \*Penalty may be waived if violator provides proof of purchase of a bicycle helmet within a specified period of time.

## **New York State Helmet Law: In-Line Skates**

Effective Date:  
01/01/1996

Law Mandate  
Persons under 14 required to wear an approved bicycle helmet when in-line skating.

Enforcement  
Maximum: \$50 fine. \*Penalty may be waived if violator provides proof of purchase or rental of a bicycle helmet.

## **New York State Helmet Law: Scooters**

Effective Date  
07/01/2002

Law Mandate  
Persons under 14 required to wear a certified bicycle helmet when riding a non-motorized scooter.

Enforcement  
Maximum: \$50 fine. \*Penalty may be waived if violator provides proof of purchase or rental of a bicycle helmet.

## **New York State Helmet Law: Skateboards**

Effective Date:

01/01/2005

### **Law Mandate**

Persons under 14 required to wear a certified bicycle helmet when riding a skateboard.

### **Enforcement**

Maximum: \$50 fine. \*Penalty may be waived if violator provides proof of purchase or rental of bicycle helmet.

## **New York State Occupant Protection Law**

### **Law Mandate**

- Children under age 4 must be in safety seats that meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.
- If the weight of a child under the age of 4 exceeds 40 pounds, the child may be restrained in an appropriate child restraint system, allowing the child to use a booster seat.
- Children ages 4, 5, and 6, riding in any seating position of a motor vehicle will be required to be restrained in an appropriate child restraint system. A child restraint system is any device, used in conjunction with safety belts, designed for use in a motor vehicle to restrain, seat, or position children and meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.
- Children under age 16 must wear seat belts in the back seat
- Drivers are responsible for making sure passengers 15 or younger comply
- All front seat occupants must wear a seat belt, one person per belt
- Primary enforcement-failure to wear a seat belt is grounds for a law enforcement officer to stop you

### **Enforcement**

- Offender fined maximum \$50 for safety belt violation
- If a seat belt or safety seat conviction includes a person under 16, the driver can receive a fine up to \$100 for each passenger under 16 not properly restrained, and 3 points on the driver's record.
- Fines for violation of the Child Passenger Restrain Law range from \$25 to \$100.