

Help Spread the Message – Safety Belts Save Lives



Are you a teen who has survived an injury or death by wearing a safety belt when involved in a car crash?

Are you an emergency responder, doctor or law enforcement officer who knows a teen who has survived a moderate-to-severe injury or death by wearing a safety belt when involved in a car crash?

The New York State Department of Health Bureau of Injury Prevention's **Belted-Saved-Alive** Campaign recognizes 14-19 year-olds for safety belt use when involved in a moderate-to-severe motor vehicle crash.

Recognized teens will receive:

- ★ Honorary Certificate of Recognition
- ★ "Friends Make Friends Buckle Up" rubber wristbands to distribute to their friends

Teens and their crash information may also appear in a State Health Department publication to promote safety belt use among teens.

To qualify, a teen must be a New York State resident, 14 -19 years old and have used a seat belt when involved in a moderate-to-serious car crash. The crash must have occurred in the past two years. A teen can apply or be nominated by a law enforcement officer, emergency responder or doctor. A copy of the police crash report should be provided.

- ★ More than 300 teens are killed or seriously injured in New York State each year in car crashes while riding unrestrained. That would fill the seats of 12 typical high school classrooms.
- ★ Buckling up keeps individuals from being thrown out of cars in a crash. If ejected, a person is 35 times more likely to die from the crash.
- ★ Everyone should buckle up. Back seat passengers not using safety belts can become "bullets" in a crash, slamming into front seat occupants causing life-threatening injuries to themselves and others riding in the car.

What You Should
Know About
Teens and
Buckling Up

To apply or nominate a teen, fill out a **Belted-Saved-Alive Application or Nomination Form** which can be found at www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/injury_prevention/ or email the State Health Department Bureau of Injury Prevention at injury@health.state.ny.us.

The Belted-Saved-Alive Campaign is sponsored by the New York State Department of Health Bureau of Injury Prevention through a grant received through the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.