

Fact sheet | Rideshare, taxis and child restraints



Rideshare (Uber, Ola, etc.)

In the eyes of the law, a vehicle used as a ridesharing service in South Australia is just another private car. This means children must always be placed in a suitable, approved child restraint until they can wear the adult seatbelt correctly (around 145cm tall).

The same applies to chauffeured vehicles such as limousines.

Some ridesharing services may provide a child restraint for a surcharge, so be sure to check before booking. If you don't let them know that a child will be travelling with you, and don't supply your own child restraint, they may refuse service on pick-up.

Taxis

The rules are different for taxis because they have an exemption from these laws.

Although South Australian taxi services don't supply child restraints, if the taxi driver or parent has a restraint with them it must be used. All taxis must be fitted with a child restraint anchorage.

If a child restraint isn't available, children aged one and over must be seated in the rear row wearing a seatbelt, adjusted to the best extent possible for the height and weight of the passenger. Children under one year old must also be in the rear row, but seated in the lap of a passenger who's 16 years old or older. They must not share a seatbelt with any passengers.

Taxi drivers are still responsible for making sure passengers from seven years of age up to 16 years

are wearing properly fitted and adjusted seatbelts or approved child restraints.

Failure to follow these laws could see the driver of the service receive a fine and demerit points.

Travelling interstate

Child restraint availability may differ from state to state. For example, in NSW it's possible to order a taxi with a restraint fitted.

If you're travelling interstate, check the local transport authority website for rules and recommendations.

RAA's recommendations

RAA recommends you provide your own restraints when using a service that doesn't offer them.

Child restraints considerably reduce the risk of injury in crashes, and because seatbelts are designed for adults they aren't suitable for young children.

We're here to help

For more information on child restraints, call the RAA Safety Centre on **8202 4592**, email **childrestraints@raa.com.au** or visit **raa.com.au/childsafety**