

	NEPN Code: ECE-R/STI
Policies and Regulations	

Support Services

Seat Belt Use

During STI-related activities the use of seat belts is required for students and staff, whether in private or STI-owned vehicles.

All children under the age of 18 must be in the proper safety system at all times. Children under five years of age and under 40 pounds must be in a child passenger restraint system (car seat). Children under five years of age and over 40 pounds may be secured in a seat belt in lieu of a car seat. All vehicle passengers five years of age and older must wear seat belts.

All STI employees (temporary and permanent) and their passengers are required to use seat belts while driving any STI owned, rented, or leased vehicle. Vehicle(s) for the purpose of this policy means all vehicles equipped with seat belts and also applies to all types of motorized equipment used in construction and maintenance activities carried out by STI employees. This includes such units as rubber-tired front-end loaders, mowing tractors, and any of the pieces of equipment in which federal safety regulations require the manufacturer to install seat belts at the factory.

This policy applies with equal force and effect to employees riding with passengers in STI owned, rented, or leased vehicles. The vehicle operator should not drive a vehicle if any passenger refuses to use a seat belt. STI may take disciplinary action against any STI employee who does not use a seat belt when installed on a STI owned, rented, or leased vehicle.

It is the responsibility of the operator of any STI owned vehicle to see that there are seat belts present in the vehicle and that they are usable. Unusable seat belts are to be reported to the immediate supervisor or designee immediately and prior to operating the vehicle.

STI reserves the right to make exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis when requested in writing by a physician.

Legal Reference: SDCL 32-37 – Child passenger restraint system
 32-38 – Safety belt system usage in passenger vehicles

Regulation	Board Action	(formerly 4159.2 & 5140.4)
approved: 05-13-91	26143P	
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