Until they're 8 years old or 4'9" children MUST use a booster seat.
Michigan law requires:

Children younger than age 4 to ride in a car seat in the back seat if the vehicle has a back seat. If all back seats are occupied by children under 4, then a child under 4 may ride in a car seat in the front seat. A child in a rear-facing car seat may only ride in the front seat if the airbag is turned off.

Children younger than age 8 or shorter than 4 feet 9 inches to be properly buckled in a child safety seat or booster seat.

Which booster seat should I use?
A no-back booster is recommended for vehicle seats with a head rest.

A high-back booster is recommended for vehicle seats without a head rest.

How should I install the booster seat?
Booster seats must be used with both a lap and shoulder belt, NEVER with a lap belt only.

Always read the instructions that come with the booster seat.

To learn more or to locate a certified child safety seat technician, visit www.nhtsa.gov