



Overview:

CSA - Compliance, Safety & Accountability formerly known as Comprehensive Safety Analysis 2010 (CSA 2010), is a new way the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to track driver safety records. When a driver's record shows a history of unsafe behaviors, the FMCSA can step in (or intervene) in an effort to reduce crashes and increase roadway safety. There have been no changes to the laws and regulations you are familiar with. Rather, CSA provides new compliance and enforcement tools that will help the FMCSA contact more carriers and drivers earlier than under current programs. The goal is to address safety issues before they lead to incidents or crashes.

Program Components:

Measurement: CSA Safety Management System (SMS) replaces the current SafeStat system. You will be graded on seven Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories (BASICs):

- * Unsafe Driving
- * Fatigued Driving (Hours of Service)
- * Driver Fitness
- * Crash History
- * Drugs and Alcohol
- * Vehicle Maintenance
- * Cargo Securement/Loading

The lower your score, the better. Violations in any of these areas add points to your personal score and the score of the motor carrier for which you're driving.

Evaluation: The SMS gives the FMCSA the data they need to evaluate your safety record every month. Whenever you interact with a safety inspector, whether it's at a weigh station, during a roadside inspection, or at a crash scene, data about your driving is being collected.

Intervention: The FMCSA will intervene when records show that carriers and drivers have a history of unsafe behaviors. They may initially issue warning letters and progress to more roadside inspections, fines or even out-of-service orders, depending on the severity of the situation.

Your BASICs Score:

Each month, you will be graded in each BASIC based on your safety record over the previous three years (two years for carriers). The higher your score, the more likely the FMCSA is to intervene. In computing your score, the FMCSA will consider:

Age of any violations. More recent violations carry more weight than older violations. Violations that occurred in the previous 12 months carry three times more weight than those that occurred two or three years ago.

Type of violations: Within each of the BASICs, violations that are considered more likely to cause a crash carry more weight than those violations that are less likely to cause a crash. For example, reckless driving is assigned the maximum weight (10), and failure to wear a seatbelt carries a minimum weight (1).

You can improve your score with "clean" inspections. The more clean inspections you have those in which no violations are found, the better.

CSA



Helpful tips:

1. When an officer gives a driver a warning for failing to use hazard-warning flashers and then conducts a roadside inspection, the driver's FMCSA safety record will reflect the warning plus any violations found during the roadside inspection.

2. All infractions noted on a roadside inspection report are collected and used by the FMCSA. A minor infraction can result in a high number of points for drivers who don't pay close attention to controllable items such as recordkeeping, vehicle maintenance and basic defensive driving techniques.

Understanding the BASICS:

Unsafe Driving

Definition: Operating a CMV in a dangerous or careless manner. Examples include speeding, reckless driving, improper lane change, not wearing a seatbelt, and inattention.

Only you can control unsafe driving. While you can't avoid every violation, do all you can do to follow all rules so that your record stays as clean as possible. Remember, both warnings and actual citations will count against your score.

The following chart gives you an idea of the violations that are classified in the Unsafe Driving BASIC and the weight each carries. It is important to note that not all speeding violations are treated equally, as the progressive weighting reflected below has been designed to address the disproportionate issuance of warnings for minor speeding violations in certain states while also providing distinctions and greater weighting for more severe speeding violations.

Violation	Weight
Reckless Driving	10
Improper lane changes, turns or passing	5
Speeding 1-5 mph over limit	1
Speeding 6-10 mph over limit	4
Speeding 11-15 mph over limit	7
Speeding 15 or more mph over limit	10
Failing to use your seatbelt	1
Unauthorized passengers in a CMV	1

Fatigued Driving (Hours-of-Service)

Definition: Driving a CMV when ill, fatigued, or not in compliance with Hours-of-Service (HOS) regulations. Examples include incomplete or inaccurate logs as they relate to HOS requirements and/or violating HOS requirements.

You have a great deal of control over your fatigued driving compliance. Remember that the more clean roadside inspections you have during the previous year, the better. Violations can have serious consequences including personal fines.

The following chart gives you an idea of the driver violations that are classified under the Fatigued Driving BASIC and the weight they carry.

Violation	Weight
Operating a CMV while ill/fatigued	10
Jumping an out-of-service order	10
60/70 hour rule violation	7
False report of a drivers record of duty status	7
Driver failing to retain previous 7 days logs	5
Log violation (general form and manner)	2

Helpful tips:

1. Do not drive when you are feeling ill/fatigued.
2. Keep your logs current to your last change of duty status.
3. Be sure to keep the previous seven days of logs in your possession.
4. You may drive up to 11 hours after 10 consecutive hours off duty.
5. Don't drive after the 14th consecutive hour after coming on duty following a 10 hour break.
6. Don't drive after 60 hours on duty in seven consecutive days or 70 hours in eight consecutive days.
7. You may restart a 7 or 8 consecutive day period after taking 34 or more

consecutive hours off duty.

Driver Fitness

Definition: Operation of CMVs by drivers who are unfit to operate a CMV due to lack of training, experience, medical qualifications. Examples of Driver Fitness violations include: failing to have a valid and appropriate CDL for the type of vehicle being operated, being medically unqualified to operate a CMV, or having an expired medical card.

The following chart gives you an idea of the driver violations that are classified in the Driver Fitness BASIC and the weight each carries:

Violation	Weight
Operating a CMV with multiple drivers licenses	10
Non-English speaking driver	6
Driving a CMV while disqualified	6
Not having proper CDL endorsements	3
No medical certificate in driver's possession	1

Helpful tip: When you receive a notice that your CDL or medical card is due for renewal, don't delay. Take care of the renewals as soon as possible. You'll be able to keep on driving and won't have to worry about safety violations.

Controlled Substances and Alcohol

Definition: Operation of CMVs by drivers who are impaired due to alcohol, illegal drugs and misuse of prescription or over-the-counter medications. Examples of violations include use or possession of controlled substances or alcohol.

Under CSA, there are only three possible violations and two different weights given to drug and alcohol violations:

Violation	Weight
Violating an out-of-service order pursuant to the alcohol prohibition, 392.5(a)/ (b)	10
Driver uses or is in possession of drugs	10
Possession, use or under the influence of alcohol 4 hours prior to duty	5

Helpful tip: If you are taking any medications, whether they are prescribed by your physician or are over-the-counter medicines, report them to your supervisor before you begin work. Make sure that any medication you are taking does not affect your ability to operate a CMV.

Vehicle Maintenance

Definition: Failing to properly maintain a CMV. Examples of items affecting this BASIC are lights, brakes, steering etc. This BASIC also covers the failure to have necessary repairs made in a timely manner.

You need to be pro-active in the maintenance of your vehicle. The best defenses against violations under this BASIC are thorough pre-trip and post-trip inspections.

The following chart gives you an idea of the driver violations that are classified under the Vehicle Maintenance BASIC and the weight each carries. You can find all of the violations on the FMCSA website.

Violation	Weight
Operating an out-of-service vehicle	10
Tires	8
Brakes	4
Excessive oil leaks	3
Hood or cab seats not securely fastened	2

Helpful tips: Be sure your equipment is in top working order. Before each trip, conduct a thorough pre-trip inspection and complete a vehicle inspection reports at the end of each day when you do your post-trip inspection. Watch for:

- Defective or missing lights
- Kinked/chafing brakes hoses or tubing
- Broken/inoperative tail lights or turn signals
- Brakes that are out of adjustment

If defects are found, report them to your supervisor immediately.

Cargo

Definition: Failure to properly prevent shifting loads, spilled or dropped cargo, and unsafe handling of hazardous materials on a CMV. Examples of unsafe cargo handling violations include improper load securement, improper hazardous material handling, improper blocking and bracing, overweight and improper placards.

There are over 500 possible violations in this BASIC and over 100 carry a weight of 10. The following chart gives you an idea of the driver violations that are classified under the Cargo BASIC and the weight each carries. You can find all of the violations on the FMCSA website.

Violation	Weight
Cargo not secured or improperly secured	10
Parking brake not set loading/unloading	7
Improperly parked hazmat vehicle	2
Emergency response information unavailable or incomplete	1
Placard damaged, deteriorated or obscured	1

Helpful tip: In many instances, you will not see your load because it is already sealed. If you have a chance to see the load, take advantage of

this opportunity to save yourself potential trouble.

Crash History

Definition: Histories or patterns of high crash involvement, including frequency and severity. A driver's crash history is based on information from state-reported crash reports.

Crash history is not necessarily a behavior, it is a consequence of a behavior and might indicate a problem with the driver or carrier that warrants intervention.

Being a safe and defensive driver and obeying traffic laws can help you maintain an accident-free driving record.

As with the other BASICs, some crashes carry more weight than others. Less severe and older accidents carry less weight when/if the FMCSA reviews your record.

A crash involving an injury or fatality is weighted more heavily than a crash where only a tow-away occurred. A hazmat release adds a point to a similar accident without a hazmat release.

Reportable Crash Type	Weight
Hazmat release with injury or fatality	3
Hazmat release with tow-away but no injury or fatality	2
Injury or fatality	2
Tow-away but no injury or fatality	1

In addition to the severity of a crash, those that happened more recently carry more weight than older crashes:

-Any crashes that occurred within the previous six months receive a time weight of three.

-Crashes that occurred between six and twelve months prior to the measurement date receive a time weight of two.

-Those which happened in prior 12-36 months receive a time weight of one.

Helpful tip: Whether an accident was your fault is currently not a consideration in evaluating your safety record. An accident in which you were at fault

Intervention

When a carrier or driver's score in any of the BASICs crosses a pre-determined threshold, the FMCSA may step in with an intervention. The FMCSA has a number of intervention tools that are intended to help the driver or carrier improve unsafe behaviors. While the possible interventions range from a warning level to a significant fine, don't expect the FMCSA to always start remedial action with a warning letter. Violations that are more likely to cause crashes can immediately result in more severe intervention.

When a driver's score warrants intervention, the FMCSA may:

- Issue a Notice of Violation (NOV) to a driver, which is a formal notice of safety deficiencies found during an investigation. The NOV is used when violations are severe enough to warrant formal action but not a fine.
- Issue a Notice of Claim (a fine) to a driver in the most severe cases.
- Issue an out-of-service order to a driver.
- Suspend a driver from operating. This is called an Unfit Suspension. This should only occur in the rarest of instances and should only happen in egregious situations.

An accident in which you were at fault counts the same as a similar accident that was the other driver's fault. The FMCSA is currently considering changes that will address this concern.

Remember: A DOT-recordable crash involves at least one of the following:

- One or more of the vehicles must be towed from the scene.
- An injury requires immediate treatment away from the scene.
- There is a fatality.

Where can a driver get a copy of his/her official FMCSA safety record?

You can purchase a copy of your safety record online at www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov. There is a fee of \$10, payable by credit card, each time you purchase your record. The first time you log in, you will need to register and get a PIN.

Additional information:

Additional information is available at the following locations:

- Visit the FMCSA website: <http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/>. Click Your Role>Motor Carriers & Drivers in the dark blue bar to learn more about the effect of this program on you.

- You can find the entire list of the BASIC violations and their corresponding weights at the end of the SMS methodology document which you can find at: <http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/Documents/SMSMethodology.pdf>.



6551 Loisdale Court,
Suite 801
Springfield, VA 22150
(800) 308-6989
www.transforce.com