



# Compliance, Safety, Accountability

Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) is the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) enforcement and compliance program used to achieve the agency's mission to reduce commercial motor vehicle crashes, fatalities, and injuries.

CSA is made up of three key elements: **Measurement, Safety Evaluation, and Intervention.** This approach is demonstrated in the Operational Model in Figure 1, on the back of this sheet.

**Measurement System** – The CSA Safety Measurement System (SMS) is organized by seven Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories (BASICS): Unsafe Driving, Hours-of-Service Compliance, Driver Fitness, Controlled Substances/Alcohol, Vehicle Maintenance, Hazardous Materials Compliance, and Crash Indicator. Every month, the SMS measures the on-road safety performance of carriers to identify candidates for interventions to determine the specific safety problems exhibited by a carrier and to monitor whether safety problems are improving or getting worse.

**Safety Evaluation** – SMS gives FMCSA the ability to effectively evaluate the safety performance of carriers for purposes of intervention selection and to potentially make a safety fitness determination. An explanation of how this would work will be detailed and presented for public comment in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

**Intervention Selection:** The SMS identifies carriers with safety problems and recommends the level and type of intervention based on the carriers' on-road safety performance.

**Safety Fitness Determination (SFD):** In the future, under the proposed SFD rule, carriers with sufficient on-road safety performance data would receive a rating of Unfit, or Continue Operation based on their on-road safety performance data, as well as major safety violations found as part of an investigation. The rating would be updated on a monthly basis.



**Intervention** – The intervention process is designed to improve unsafe behavior early and to reach more carriers. Interventions range from warning letters for carriers with emerging problems to Onsite Comprehensive Investigations for carriers with serious safety problems. The CSA intervention tools enable Safety Investigators to move beyond fact-finding and verification of violations to a deeper exploration of why the violations occurred and how they can be corrected.

Together, with this emphasis on safety improvement, FMCSA continues to employ the full weight of its enforcement authority when a carrier's safety performance requires it.

CSA is FMCSA's enforcement and compliance program to improve large truck and bus safety and ultimately reduce CMV-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities. For more information about CSA, visit <http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov>.



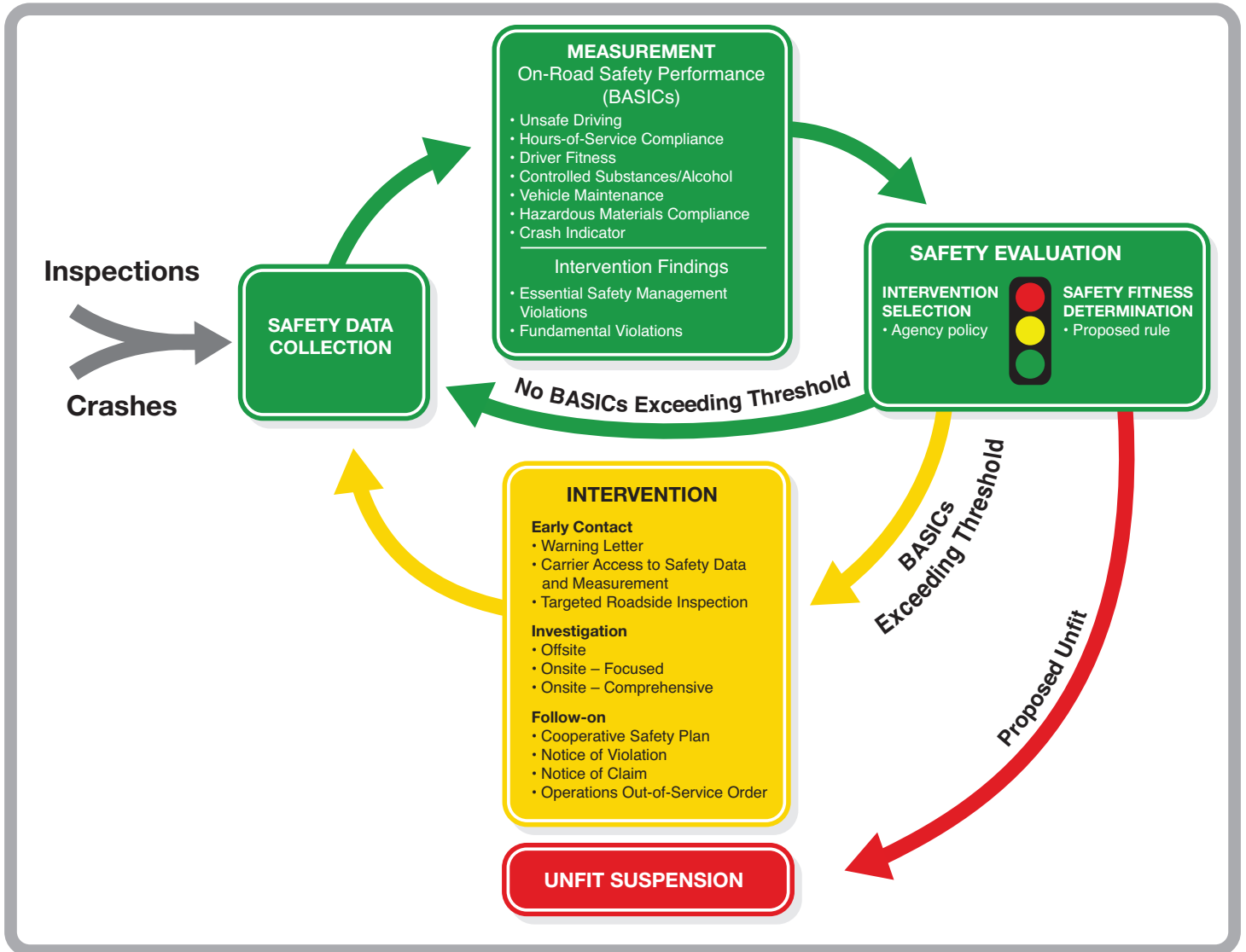


Figure 1: CSA Operational Model