



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

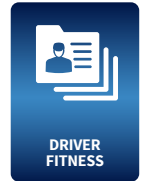
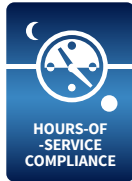
A photograph showing a woman with long brown hair, wearing a black jacket and a bright yellow-green safety vest, sitting in the driver's seat of a truck. She is smiling and looking towards the right. A man in a brown uniform and a black beanie with 'STA TROOP' written on it is leaning into the cab from the passenger side, pointing at the dashboard. The dashboard has several analog gauges and a digital display. The background shows a snowy landscape through the truck's windows.

Get Road Smart
about the 7 BASICS
of safety.

What are the BASICS?

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) uses seven **Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories**—BASICS—to determine a motor carrier's safety performance and compliance relative to other carriers. Five BASICS are publicly available online in the Safety Measurement System (SMS). Crash Indicator and Hazardous Materials (HM) Compliance are only available to motor carriers that log into their own safety profile, or enforcement personnel.

Here are the seven BASICS of safety:



How the BASICs affect drivers.

The BASICs organize data from roadside inspections, including driver and vehicle violations, crash reports from the last two years, and investigation results. Violations adversely affect your company's SMS results for two years and may prioritize your company for an FMCSA intervention, ranging from warning letters to full Onsite Investigations that could result in an Out-of-Service Order (OOSO) or a change to your company's safety rating.

Your safety performance and compliance impacts your employer's safety records—and your own. With driver consent, carriers can use FMCSA's Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP) as a pre-employment screening tool to see a driver's five-year crash and three-year inspection history.

Learn more about each BASIC inside >



Unsafe Driving

Follow traffic safety laws to help make the Nation's highways safer for everyone.

The Unsafe Driving BASIC prioritizes interventions for repeated unsafe behaviors, including:

- Texting
- Speeding
- Using a hand-held cell phone
- Reckless driving
- Improper lane change
- Inattention

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

49 CFR Parts 392 and 397 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs).

Note: Violations recorded on a roadside inspection report are used in the SMS, regardless of whether a State officer also issues a citation (i.e., ticket) or a verbal warning. If a driver or carrier receives violations on a roadside inspection report, they can request a review of the data through DataQs (<http://dataqs.fmcsa.dot.gov>). The SMS does not use State-issued citations unless they are issued in conjunction with a roadside inspection report.



Crash Indicator

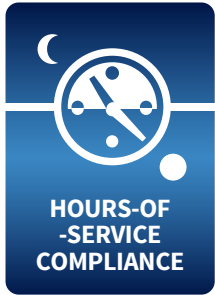
Understand crash patterns to help identify and address safety problems.

State-reported crashes from the last two years are collected in this BASIC to help identify patterns of high crash involvement and the behavior or set of behaviors that contributed to the crash. All crashes involving commercial motor vehicles, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5, are reportable if they result in a fatality or injury, or require a vehicle to be transported from the crash scene, regardless of the carrier's or driver's role in the crash.

The Crash Indicator BASIC is not public. It is only available to a motor carrier that is logged into its own safety profile, or enforcement personnel.

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

The Crash Indicator BASIC is the only BASIC that does not use violations of specific regulations. However, commercial drivers and motor carriers must comply with the FMCSRs. Noncompliance with safety regulations can lead to an increased risk of being involved in crashes and impact a carrier's percentile in the Crash Indicator BASIC.



Hours-of-Service (HOS) Compliance

**Be sure you know the HOS regulations and when it's time for a break.
Don't drive fatigued.**

The HOS regulations make roads safer by requiring rest for all large truck and bus drivers to ensure that they are alert, awake, and able to respond quickly.

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

49 CFR Parts 392 and 395 of the FMCSRs.

For the latest information and resources on HOS, visit FMCSA's Website at
<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/regulations/hours-of-service>.



Vehicle Maintenance

Keep your vehicle properly maintained to ensure your safety and the safety of others traveling on the road.

Conduct pre- and post-trip inspections, record vehicle defects, and repair them prior to operating the vehicle.

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

49 CFR Parts 392, 393, and 396 of the FMCSRs.



Controlled Substances/ Alcohol

Don't misuse drugs or alcohol while driving. It's dangerous and illegal.

Alcohol, illegal drugs, and over-the-counter and prescription medication misuse impair driving abilities and endanger your safety and the safety of those on the road with you. Having containers of alcoholic beverages in your cab, whether open or not, is a violation.

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

49 CFR Parts 382 and 392 of the FMCSRs.



Hazardous Materials (HM) Compliance

Adhere to the special requirements for transporting HM to help make America's roads safer for everyone.

The HM Compliance BASIC includes regulations that require special attention, from how to properly package, mark, label, placard, and load HM to understanding regulations for tank specification testing, loading/unloading, attendance, and leakage.

The HM Compliance BASIC is not public. It is only available to a motor carrier that is logged into its own safety profile, or enforcement personnel.

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

49 CFR Part 397 of the FMCSRs and 49 CFR Parts 171, 172, 173, 177, 178, 179, and 180 of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMRs).



Driver Fitness

Keep your driving records complete and up-to-date to help your company perform well in this BASIC.

Motor carriers are responsible for making sure driver qualification files are complete and current. Required files for each and every driver include valid commercial drivers' licenses (CDLs), medical certificates, State driving records, annual reviews of driving records, and employment applications.

Which Federal regulations relate to this BASIC?

49 CFR Parts 383 and 391 of the FMCSRs.

Note: The Driver Fitness BASIC does not consider body mass index (BMI), weight, or neck size.

Join FMCSA and our State Partners
in a nationwide commitment to
safety. **Lives depend on it.**





You drive safety home.

Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) holds drivers accountable for safe on-road performance. Learn how to strengthen your safety record while making America's roads as safe as they can be for everyone. Visit our website to:

- **See motor carrier data.** Safety Measurement System (SMS)
- **Order driver records.** Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP)
- **Request a review of your data.** DataQs

Five million truck and bus drivers share America's roads and highways with more than 250 million motorists. With stakes so high, it's essential that everyone Get Road Smart.



To Get Road Smart, visit us today:

<http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/?visor>



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