



CSA 2010: IMPROVING YOUR SCORES

Understand how your drivers affect your scores

You are stuck with your drivers' mistakes.

The violations and crashes that your drivers incur while working for your fleet contribute to your safety evaluation under CSA 2010 regulations. Even if you terminate a driver, his or her violations and crashes will continue to affect your safety scores until 24 months elapse. (The weight of the items will lessen over time, but they will not drop off your violations history completely for 24 months after the event occurred.)

Drivers with a poor safety history bring greater scrutiny.

Driver Safety Measurement System (DSMS) is a component of SMS that is dedicated solely to drivers. DSMS will not be used to rate drivers in the immediate future. It will be used by law enforcement personnel to identify drivers who merit closer scrutiny. When a carrier is investigated, drivers with a poor safety history may be included as part of the carrier's investigation. This additional scrutiny will likely identify even more violations from these drivers—violations that count against your fleet.

DSMS tracks drivers for 36 months, not 24. Only the violations incurred while a driver is driving under your DOT number count toward your safety evaluation. Yet all of the driver's 36-month history affects his or her evaluation by law enforcement personnel, potentially drawing attention if your fleet is investigated.

Red flag violations are automatically investigated.

The FMCSA has identified eleven "red flag" violations. These are violations that have a very high association with crash risk. If your fleet is identified for an investigation, drivers with red flag violations will automatically be investigated, as well.