

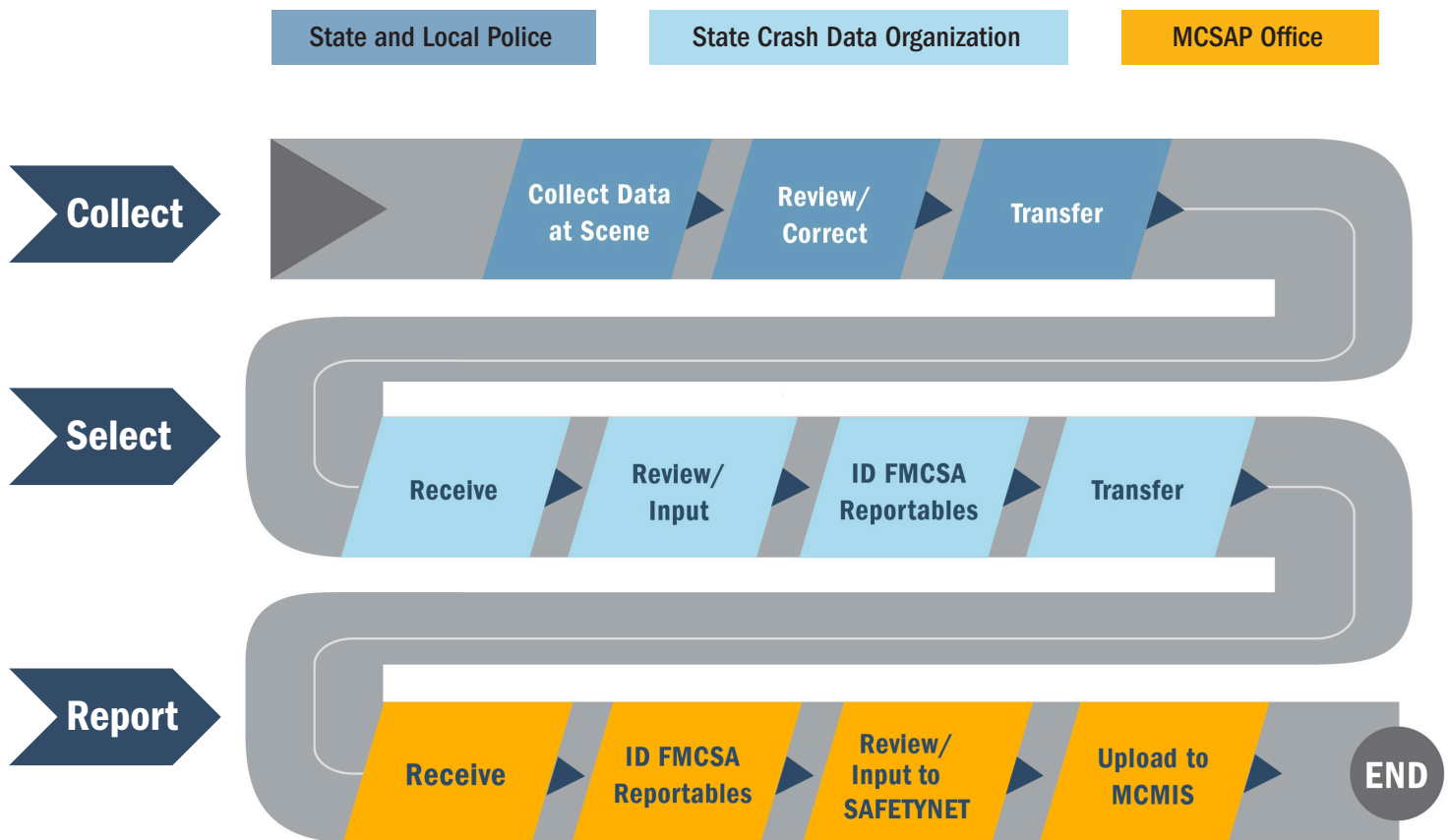
STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING STATE DATA QUALITY

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) counts on its State Partners to help improve the quality of data that drives its Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) program. You play a critical role in ensuring that data is more accurately collected and reported to FMCSA. This document offers strategies for improving collection and reporting of crash data.

Look at Your State's Reporting Process



Ensure that Everyone Knows FMCSA Reporting Requirements



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Look at Your State's Data Reporting Process

Conditions that compromise data quality can be hard to identify. Use these strategies to look at your State's whole process—Collect, Select, Report—to understand how each phase can impact others and to determine if everyone involved knows and follows FMCSA's reporting requirements.



State and Local Police

- Review paper and electronic crash forms. Revise as needed to capture required data.
- Provide collection training to officers and supervisors. Accommodate any crash form deficiencies. Emphasize FMCSA requirements. Use visor cards available from your Data Quality (DQ) Specialist.
- Provide feedback on errors to individual officers or agencies.
- Track reports sent back to officers for correction.
- Prioritize the processing of any reports that could be FMCSA-reportable.
- Send reports to the Crash Data Organization often and consistently. Monitor transfer and confirm receipt.
- Design and test systems, and updates, to avoid unintended consequences.



State Crash Data Organization

- Monitor volumes of crash reports by law enforcement agency.
- Ensure that data processing doesn't modify data elements.
- Address backlogs by adding/reassigning staff.
- Track reports sent back to officers for correction.
- Incorporate FMCSA requirements in selection logic and programming.
- Confirm that all eligible reports are captured and transferred.
- Send often and consistently to MCSAP Office. Monitor transfer and confirm receipt.
- Design and test systems, and updates, to avoid unintended consequences.



MCSAP Office

- Validate transfers from the Crash Data Organization. Monitor volumes.
- Ensure automated import/correction doesn't modify SAFETYNET data.
- Track reports sent back to officers for correction.
- Address backlogs by adding/reassigning staff.
- Confirm FMCSA reportability.
- Upload to MCMIS daily.
- Check SAFETYNET Activity Logs and MCMIS Confirmation Logs daily for Warnings and Errors.
- Design and test systems, and updates, to avoid unintended consequences.

FMCSA Can Help

Your FMCSA DQ Specialist can help you adapt these strategies to your State's organization and to your inspection process, too.

DATA QUALITY SPECIALISTS

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