

DataQs State Implementation Plan



Rhode Island

**For Compliance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Revised
Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) Grant Requirements**

Date: September 2026

Purpose

In April 2026, FMCSA announced updated requirements for State participation in the DataQs system as a condition of receiving MCSAP grant funding. To comply with those requirements, each State must submit a DataQs State Implementation Plan. The following pages contain the key elements of the plan approved by FMCSA for Rhode Island.

DataQs State Implementation Plan

State: Rhode Island

MCSAP Lead Agency: Rhode Island State Police

Initial Review Process

Roles and Responsibilities

- Persons responsible for managing DataQs for the organization
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
 - **Supervisor(s):**
Sergeant
 - **Backups:**
Corporal
 - **Interactions:**
Review video of inspection and ask officer about the inspection if applicable, research company through FMCSA portal, review inspection report, crash reports, citations, officer notes.
- Person(s) responsible for decision-making for the Initial Review process
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
 - **Supervisor(s):**
Sergeant
 - **Backups:**
Corporal
 - **Interactions:**
Review video of inspection and ask officer about the inspection if applicable, research company through FMCSA portal, review inspection report, crash reports, citations, officer notes
- Person(s) consulted for additional information or evidence
 - **Responsible Party:**
Trooper
 - **Supervisor(s):**
Sergeant
 - **Backups:**

Corporal

- **Interactions:**

Review video of inspection and ask officer about the inspection if applicable, research company through FMCSA portal

Process Description

- Receipt of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
 - **Process:**
The Rhode Island State Police receives an email notification that an RDR has been received. Administrative Assistant logs into the FMCSA portal to open and review the RDR. The RDR is always opened within 7 days of receipt.
- Review of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
 - **Process:**
Administrative Assistant reviews the motor carriers request, supporting documents, and the specific data being challenged (inspection, crash report, violation, etc.) Administrative Assistant if needed meets with Sergeant to discuss the RDR and the documents provided. This process is always started within 7 days of receipt of RDR.
- Outcome of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
Sergeant (as needed)
 - **Process:**
The documents are reviewed to determine whether the data is correct and should remain unchanged, the data contains errors and should be corrected, the record should be removed entirely, or additional information is needed from the requestor.
- Closure of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
Sergeant (as needed)
 - **Process:**
The Rhode Island State Police documents its findings and uploads any supporting explanation into the DataQ system. If any corrections need to be

made, RISP updates the applicable systems which will upload the corrected data to the FMCSA database and then to MCMIS.

- **Timeliness:**

Open RDR usually within 3 days of receipt and always within 7 days.

Start review and research process always within 7 of receipt of RDR

Respond and close the RDR always within 21 of receipt of RDR and typically within 7 days.

Expected Outcomes for RDR Closures:

Closed—No Data Correction Made: The request has been closed with no changes made to the inspection, crash or enforcement data. Requestor did not provide sufficient evidence to justify corrections. Documentation provided does not support the request.

Closed—Data Correction Made: The RDR has been reviewed and validated. The request has been closed, and the data will be corrected. Documentation provided to support the RDR confirms a data error or omission.

Closed—Citation Results Entered: The request has been closed, and the violation will be appended to reflect the outcome of the citation. Adjudicated citation official court documentation was provided.

Closed—Report Not Sent: The request has been closed, but the requested inspection report was not sent. The requestor was not a registered motor carrier

Closed—Report Sent: The request has been closed, and the agency sent the report. The RISP uploaded the report to DataQs . Requestor was the registered motor carrier

Closed—No Requestor Response: The request was closed because the requestor did not respond. Additional documentation was requested by RISP but not received within 14 days.

Communication:

Keep the submitter updated on the status of the RDR by updating the status of the request as needed. Demonstrates a commitment to transparency in the process by using templates to ensure consistent, detailed responses and ensuring touchpoints with the submitters at designated points in the review process.

Next Steps:

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Reconsideration Review Process

Roles and Responsibilities

- Person(s) responsible for decision-making for the Reconsideration Review process
 - **Responsible Party:**
Trooper
 - **Supervisor(s):**
Sergeant
 - **Backups:**
Trooper
 - **Interactions:**
Review video of inspection and ask officer about the inspection if applicable, research company through FMCSA portal, review inspection report, crash reports, citations, officer notes
- Person(s) consulted for additional information or evidence
 - **Responsible Party:**
Trooper
 - **Supervisor(s):**
Sergeant
 - **Backups:**
Corporal
 - **Interactions:**
<intentionally left blank>
- Person(s) convening a panel or committee
 - **Responsible Party:**
n/a
 - **Supervisor(s):**
n/a
 - **Backups:**
n/a
 - **Interactions:**
n/a
 - **Panel members' titles and associations:**
n/a

Escalation Procedures:

The RDR is not escalated to the Reconsideration process unless the submitter requests a review after the initial RDR has been closed out with no corrections.

Process Description

- Review of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Administrative Assistant
 - **Process:**
The Rhode Island State Police receives an email notification that an RDR has been received. Administrative Assistant logs into the FMCSA portal to open and the RDR. The RDR is always opened within 7 days of receipt. Once it has been identified as a RDR Reconsideration it is assigned to the appropriate person.
- Outcome of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Trooper
 - **Process:**
Trooper reviews the motor carriers request, supporting documents, and the specific data being challenged (inspection, crash report, violation, etc.) This process is always started within 7 days of receipt of RDR.
- Closure of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**
Trooper
 - **Process:**
The Rhode Island State Police documents its findings and uploads any supporting explanation into the DataQ system. If any corrections need to be made, RISP updates the applicable systems which will upload the corrected data to the FMCSA database and then to MCMIS.
- Timeliness:
Open RDR usually within 3 days of receipt and always within 7 days.
Start review and research process always within 7 of receipt of RDR
Respond and close the RDR always within 21 of receipt of RDR and typically within 7 days.

Expected Outcomes for RDR Closures:

Closed—No Data Correction Made: The request has been closed with no changes made to the inspection, crash or enforcement data. Requestor did not provide sufficient evidence to justify corrections. Documentation provided does not support the request.

Closed—Data Correction Made: The RDR has been reviewed and validated. The request has been closed, and the data will be corrected. Documentation provided to support the RDR confirms a data error or omission.

Closed—Citation Results Entered: The request has been closed, and the violation will be appended to reflect the outcome of the citation. Adjudicated citation official court documentation was provided.

Closed—Report Not Sent: The request has been closed, but the requested inspection report was not sent. The requestor was not a registered motor carrier

Closed—Report Sent: The request has been closed, and the agency sent the report. The RISP uploaded the report to DataQs . Requestor was the registered motor carrier

Closed—No Requestor Response: The request was closed because the requestor did not respond. Additional documentation was requested by RISP but not received within 14 days.

Communication:

Keep the submitter updated on the status of the RDR by updating the status of the request as needed. Demonstrates a commitment to transparency in the process by using templates to ensure consistent, detailed responses and ensuring touchpoints with the submitters at designated points in the review process.

Next Steps:

The submitter is notified of the decision. If a data change is made they are told that it will be updated in the portal within 2-3 weeks.

Final Review Process

Roles and Responsibilities

- Person(s) responsible for decision-making for the Final Review process
 - **Responsible Party:**
New England Regional Peer Review Panel-consisting of six New England states: Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.
 - **Supervisor(s):**

N/A

- **Backups:**

N/A

- **Interactions:**

A state may submit a Data Q-Request for Data Review (RDR) case from their state to the regional review panel when the RDR has progressed through the submitting states Step 1 & Step 2 workflow.

- Person(s) consulted for additional information or evidence

- **Responsible Party:**

The regional review panel shall consist of one designated representative from each participating New England state. Each state's MCSAP Commander shall designate both a primary and secondary representative from their agency who possesses substantial knowledge of the DataQs process, FMCSA regulations, and applicable enforcement practices. A minimum of three (3) state representatives must be present and available for a panel to convene and commence processing

- **Supervisor(s):**

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- **Backups:**

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- **Interactions:**

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- Person(s) convening a panel or committee

- **Responsible Party:**

The regional review panel shall consist of one designated representative from each participating New England state. Each state's MCSAP Commander shall designate both a primary and secondary representative from their agency who possesses substantial knowledge of the DataQs process, FMCSA regulations, and applicable enforcement practices. A minimum of three (3) state representatives must be present and available for a panel to convene and commence processing

- **Supervisor(s):**

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- **Backups:**

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- **Interactions:**

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- **Panel members' titles and associations:**

The regional review panel shall consist of one designated representative from each participating New England state. Each state's MCSAP Commander shall designate both a primary and secondary representative from their agency who possesses substantial knowledge of the DataQs process.

Escalation Procedures:

The RDR is not escalated to the Final Review process unless the submitter requests a review after both the initial RDR and the Reconsideration review has been closed out with no corrections and the .

Process Description

- Review of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**

The regional review panel shall consist of one designated representative from each participating New England state. Each state's MCSAP Commander shall designate both a primary and secondary representative from their agency who possesses substantial knowledge of the DataQs process, FMCSA regulations, and applicable enforcement practices. A minimum of three (3) state representatives must be present and available for a panel to convene and commence processing Request for Data Reviews (RDRs). In the event a primary representative is unable to participate, the designated secondary representative shall serve in their capacity to satisfy this quorum requirement.
 - **Process:**

The panel may conduct discussions and deliberations through:

 - Conference calls
 - Virtual meetings
 - Other mutually agreed-upon communication methods

The submitting state shall be afforded the opportunity to provide an initial presentation regarding:

 - Actions taken prior to the Step 3 review
 - Relevant historical background related to the Request for Data Review (RDR)
 - The basis for requesting regional peer review
 - Any prior interpretations, findings, or considerations relevant to the case
- Outcome of RDR
 - **Responsible Party:**

The regional review panel shall consist of one designated representative from each participating New England state. Each state's MCSAP Commander shall designate both a primary and secondary representative from their agency who possesses substantial knowledge of the DataQs process, FMCSA regulations, and applicable enforcement practices. A minimum of three (3) state representatives must be present and available for a panel to convene and commence processing Request for Data Reviews (RDRs). In the event a primary representative is unable to participate, the designated secondary representative shall serve in their capacity to satisfy this quorum requirement.

- **Process:**

The panel will attempt to reach consensus regarding:

- The recommended disposition of the Request for Data Review (RDR) to the submitting state
- The supporting rationale for the recommended disposition, including applicable FMCSA guidance, policy interpretation, and enforcement considerations

- Closure of RDR

- **Responsible Party:**

The originating state retains final authority for the official DataQs response and final disposition of the RDR. However, substantial consideration and deference should be given to the findings, recommendations, and consensus of the regional review panel in order to promote consistency and uniformity among the New England states.

- **Process:**

The panel will attempt to reach consensus regarding:

- The recommended disposition of the Request for Data Review (RDR) to the submitting state
- The supporting rationale for the recommended disposition, including applicable FMCSA guidance, policy interpretation, and enforcement considerations

- Timeliness:

Standard review period: 10 business days

Expected Outcomes for RDR Closures:

Closed—No Data Correction Made: The request has been closed with no changes made to the inspection, crash or enforcement data. Requestor did not provide sufficient evidence to justify corrections. Documentation provided does not support the request.

Closed—Data Correction Made: The RDR has been reviewed and validated. The request has been closed, and the data will be corrected. Documentation provided to support the RDR confirms a data error or omission.

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Communication:

Keep the submitter updated on the status of the RDR by updating the status of the request as needed. Demonstrates a commitment to transparency in the process by using templates to ensure consistent, detailed responses and ensuring touchpoints with the submitters at designated points in the review process.

Next Steps:

The submitter is notified of the decision. If a data change is made they are told that it will be updated in the portal within 2-3 weeks.