

RDA Testing and PCC

Issued by PCC Steering Committee, June 24, 2010

Because the LC/NAF nodes need to implement and test the new RDA-related MARC fields and coding, no RDA elements should be included in existing authority records and no new RDA authority records should be contributed to the authority file **BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2010**.

NACO: PCC participants should not add RDA elements to existing records or new RDA records in the LC/NAF until October 1. As of October 1, these participants must follow guidelines for existing records to add the RDA form as a 7XX field rather than change the 1XX field.

BIBCO and CONSER members may not add RDA elements to existing PCC bibliographic records or add new PCC RDA bibliographic records in OCLC until October 1. PCC members not participating in the US RDA Test may add RDA elements to existing records and add new RDA records in OCLC before Oct. 1 but may not identify such records as PCC records until October 1.

Test institutions have been instructed not to submit any RDA-created records before October 1. Test institutions that are PCC members may code records as PCC that are created during the October 1 – December 21, 2010 formal test period.

A listing of PCC institutions participating in the official RDA Test is available from: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/PCCTesters.pdf>.

The **PCC Steering Committee** continues to watch preparations for the RDA Test with interest. After the test results are known, the PCC will be in a better position to make certain decisions:

- Will the PCC adopt RDA as a new standard for PCC records?
- Will the PCC accept records based on both AACR2 and RDA standards to PCC databases?
- If PCC adopts RDA, will there be PCC decisions on additional core elements, the options, and alternatives to apply, and how will these decisions be reached?
- If the PCC adopts a set of decisions for options and alternatives, will such decisions be displayed in the RDA documentation, just as PCC practices currently appear in LCRIs and similar cataloging documentation?
- If PCC allows contributions of both AACR2 and RDA records and if LC implements RDA, who will maintain AACR2 documentation?

In the meantime, all of us should consider the possible changes in our local and shared databases. All of us can look at the documentation related to RDA.

PCC RDA web site—PCC has added a new web page: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/RDA-PCC.html> with links to RDA resources.

Testing Resource Description and Access (RDA)-- This is the official site describing the US Test and providing resources for the official test participants. <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/>

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RDA: Resource Description & Access Toolkit-- Everyone may gain free access to the RDA Toolkit in the first phase of the RDA Test from its June release through August 31, 2010.

<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/home>

Library of Congress Documentation for the RDA (Resource Description and Access) Test-- LC will post policy decisions, training materials, etc., developed for its own participants in the RDA Test. Other libraries, whether participating in the RDA Test or not, are welcome to use and modify these files for their local situations.

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/RDAtest/rdatest.html>

MARC Documentation--LC's guidelines for its Test participants on the use of new and revised MARC fields, subfields, etc., appear in the document "MARC 21 coding to accommodate RDA elements" on the RDA Test documentation site:

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/RDAtest/rdatraining2.html>

Cataloger's Desktop--Subscribers to both Cataloger's Desktop and RDA will find information about using these tools at: <http://www.loc.gov/cds/desktop/web-faqs.html#QAs-RDA>

OCLC--OCLC has issued "OCLC Policy Statement on RDA Cataloging in WorldCat for the U.S. Testing Period." It is linked from their "About RDA" page:

<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/rda/about.htm>

Guidelines for non-test institutions--The US RDA Test Coordinating Committee is developing guidelines for non-test institutions that wish to contribute RDA records during the Test period. Announcements will be posted to various lists, etc.

Where do you send your questions and comments?

Anyone may send questions about RDA and the RDA test to: LChelp4RDA@loc.gov

Comments on PCC-related aspects of the US RDA Test may be sent to: coop@loc.gov with the words "PCC/RDA aspects" in the subject line.