PCC Open Metadata Policy
(last revised January 7, 2022)

Background

Some PCC libraries already have open metadata policies individually. For bibliographic records derived from OCLC/WorldCat, some libraries advocate for an open metadata policy. Below are some examples.

- Yale: Records derived from the shared OCLC WorldCat database are made available as Open Data Commons ODC-BY with a credit to OCLC.
- Penn: Penn's policy for catalog records derived from other sources is Open Data Commons ODC-BY, used in accordance with the OCLC community norms.

PCC Open Metadata Policy Proposal

In alignment with the PCC value to encourage open access, and support diversity by freely sharing information, we are committed to making our metadata as open as possible to enhance the discovery of library resources and allow users to repurpose metadata with clearly defined license conditions.

- Bibliographic descriptions created by the PCC may be used under an ODC-BY license.
  - Records created by the PCC can be identified by codes both in MARC and BIBFRAME. BIBCO records are identified in MARC by the 042 code “pcc” and in BIBFRAME by the code “pcc” in the administrative metadata. For CONSER records the codes used in the MARC 042 can be found in the current edition of the CONSER Editing Guide.
  - When one uses records under an ODC-BY license, one must attribute the source of the metadata (e.g. OCLC, Share-VDE, PCC, etc.)

PCC data are hosted and maintained by supported systems, which also benefit from the network effects of a data quality community. Given that PCC data must be maintained as open for all users, PCC will only work with vendors that will provide open access to PCC data with the sole restriction on access and reuse being covered by ODC-BY license. This does not mean that access to PCC data, or membership in PCC will allow for access to all tools and privileges of membership with supporting vendors and systems, but that PCC will ensure access to the wider community for PCC data through these partnerships, and access to said systems for PCC members to assist in the ongoing maintenance of said data independent of individual institutional subscriptions.

Please note that if PCC records are acquired via OCLC WorldCat, these records are made available to cataloging subscribers and are subject to the “Guidelines for contributions to WorldCat,” the WorldCat Principles of Cooperation, and the “WorldCat Rights and Responsibilities for the OCLC Cooperative (WCRR).”