

Characteristics of the BIBCO Standard Record (BSR)

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These characteristics apply to BIBCO records in all formats.

1. The BSR is a “floor” record that promotes an essential set of elements to serve user needs. Emphasis is given to access points, not to extensive descriptive data. The BSR supports the importance of controlled subject and name access points.
2. The BSR element set includes those elements that are labeled core and ‘core if’ in RDA, as well as additional elements that are defined by the Program for Cooperative Cataloging as ‘PCC core.’ The BSR element set uses those elements in a way that avoids unessential and redundant elements. Essential elements support user tasks to find, identify, select, and obtain needed resources.
3. BIBCO Standard Records are considered to be as full as is necessary for the basic user tasks. The BSR recognizes that individual resources have unique needs that may, in the judgment of the cataloger, require additional elements. Elements not included in the BSR element set may be added to BIBCO records, if determined by cataloger judgment and/or local policy to be important for identification or access.
4. If included in the metadata, authorized access points for persons, families, corporate bodies, works, and expressions (1XX, 7XX), subject access points following LCSH (6XX), genre/form terms following LCGFT (655), and authorized access points for series (8XX) must be supported by authority records established through the NACO and SACO programs, or must follow the policies of those programs in cases where an authority record is not required by program policy.
5. Using the defined element set in the BSR will allow the consistency for more uniform data and will allow catalogers to concentrate on appropriate added access.
6. BSR content is supported through use of MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data.
7. The BSR is intended for use by experienced catalogers knowledgeable in national standardized classification systems, subject systems, the descriptive cataloging standard RDA, and the Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements (LC-PCC PSs).