
Entity Attributes for Agents

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Overview

Metadata Guidance Document for the Domain [Entity > Agent](#) : An entity who is capable of deliberate actions, of being granted rights, and of being held accountable for its actions. An agent includes a collective agent and a person.

The MGD is subarranged by two Ranges, and under each Range, alphabetically by Element name, or by Agent *entity subtype*.

Elements under [Nomen](#) point to [Guidelines on normalized transcription](#), [MG: Access Point Syntax](#), or [MG: Transcription-Punctuation](#) as appropriate for MARC examples, transcription, and punctuation guidance.

Relationship elements are covered under the MGDs for [MG: Relationships: Agent-WEMI](#) and [MG: Relationships: Agent-Agent](#).

Elements under [Attribute](#) include MARC examples when necessary for illustration.

Instruction sheets for Agent in the Library of Congress (LC) Guidelines for MARC 21 authority records, and the Descriptive Cataloging Manual (DCM) Z1, have been relocated to this MGD where appropriate.

Changes from Original RDA

Original RDA	Official RDA
Original RDA definition: A person, family, or corporate body.	Official RDA definition: An entity who is capable of deliberate actions, of being granted rights, and of being held accountable for its actions. An agent includes a collective agent and a person.
Gives instructions on record syntaxes for access point control.	Does not include instructions on coding of access points for agent. The LC-NACO Authority File (NAF) is an example of a Vocabulary Encoding Scheme (VES). Vocabulary Encoding Schemes that are not based on RDA Reference Value Vocabularies are left to community practice. See MG: Vocabulary Encoding Schemes
Speaks in terms of “record” syntaxes.	Speaks in terms of “metadata description sets.” An LC/NACO authority record (NAR) is an example of a metadata description set, “One or more metadata statements that describe and relate individual instances of one or more RDA entities.” A metadata

	statement is “A piece of metadata that assigns a value to an RDA element that describes an individual instance of an RDA entity.”
Relationships are described using relationship designators, terms for which are contained in the appendices.	Relationships are described using relationship elements, which are more granular than relationship designators, and are integrated into the RDA text.
Original RDA specifies core elements, which could be supplemented by community core elements.	RDA does not specify any core elements. Minimum description of Corporate Body prescribes at least one appellation element. Core elements are all defined in LC-PCC policy statements.

Implementation with Metadata Examples

Nomen

[access point for agent](#)

Guidance

- Access point for agent has two subelements: [authorized access point for agent](#), and [variant access point for agent](#).
- Most of the Options for this element are either directly applied or are applied by following the Options for access point for the specific entity subtype.
- Some additions to access points, such as names of places, and some elements of cross-references in NARs for corporate and geographic names must be established in order to be used in name authority records.
- All access points connected by predecessor/successor references (MARC 5XX) for corporate body agents must be represented by a name authority record in the LC/NAF.
- See [MG: Access Point Syntax](#) for guidance on [Format of base access points for agent](#).

MARC 21

- See [MG: Access Point Syntax](#).

BIBFRAME

- Record an IRI for the instance of a Nomen as a real-world object.
- NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
8.1.4	8.5.1 8.5.6 8.5.7		

authorized access point for agent

Guidance

- The LC-PCC PSs for this element reflect name authority policies and practices used under Original RDA.
- Normally a new reference or a change in the authorized access point must be justified by the addition of new information to the authority record.
- LC/PCC catalogers are reminded that when a variant access point (4XX) and an authorized access point (1XX) are in conflict, an addition (e.g., fuller form of name, period of activity, etc.) should be made to either the 4XX or 1XX to resolve the conflict.
- Predecessor/successor references for corporate body agents are normally made only to connect immediately adjacent names, thus creating a chain of “see also” references leading from one authorized access point to another. Establish any name not yet in the NAF, including those for which there are no bibliographic records.
- All bodies that are part of an established hierarchy; e.g., when establishing a corporate entity that is entered subordinate to its parent body, the parent body must also be established.
- See [General guidelines for constructing authorized access points for subordinate or related corporate bodies](#) for more information.
- Jurisdictional names used as additions to an authorized access point (MARC 1XX field) must also be established before they can be used. For example, when using the name of a city as a qualifier for a corporate body, the city must be represented in the authority file.
- When modifying an NAR for any reason, delete a final mark of punctuation in the authorized access point unless it is a part of the data (e.g., a period in an abbreviation) or is called for by the cataloging instructions (e.g., a parenthetical qualifier).
- Under current RDA NACO guidelines, undifferentiated authorized access points for personal names are no longer allowed in the LC/NAF. Each bibliographic identity should be identified by a separate name authority record. As NACO catalogers encounter information that may help separate some or all of the individual name entities included in legacy undifferentiated name authority records, they are instructed to create new name authority records for them. RDA allows a greater range of additions to preferred names

to create differentiated access points. This procedure is described in full in [DCM Z1 \(008/32\)](#).

- See the [PCC Post RDA Test Guidelines](#) for up-to-date instructions on the issues related to RDA and AACR2 NARs and their use in bibliographic records.

MARC 21

- See [MG: Access Point Syntax](#).
- Code a NAR as provisional (008/33 value “c”) if the authorized access point cannot be formulated satisfactorily because of inadequate information. If the necessary information later becomes available, re-evaluate the NAR and upgrade it to fully established (008/33 value “a”). In no case should a provisional-level authority record be created with an access point that conflicts with an existing NAR according to NACO normalization rules.
- The 670 field is used to record facts that contribute to the identification of the entity, and that justify the choice of the name and additional elements used to construct the authorized access point (1XX).
- If information about an earlier or later name or title is found in the same source as the name or title in the authorized access point, give all the information in the 670 field.
- Catalogers are urged to refrain from making unnecessary changes to 1XXs.

BIBFRAME

- Record an IRI for the instance of a Nomen as a real-world object.
- NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
8.6		008/32 008/33 1XX 4XX 5XX 670	PCC Post RDA Test Guidelines NACO Participants' Manual

identifier for agent

Guidance

- Library of Congress Control Numbers (LCCNs) are the primary identifier for agents in the NAF.

- Options for this element are applied by using cataloger's judgment according to the requirements of the more specific element, or are not applied unless specifically required by policy or the metadata system.

MARC 21

- LCCNs are recorded in the 010 field (Library of Congress Control Number).
- 016 field (National Bibliographic Agency Control Number) may appear in NARs for agents emanating from national bibliographic agencies. Do not modify or delete this field.
- 024 field (Other Standard Identifier) may be recorded in the NAF for other identifiers for an agent. Follow the guidelines in [NACO Best Practices for the 024 Field](#)
 - As a general rule, limit the number of 024 fields in an NAR to five. Do not routinely delete or change existing 024 fields when adding new ones.
 - LC/PCC catalogers are not required to maintain identifiers coded in the 024 field of NARs. When an 024 identifier is present in an NAR that is being reported for deletion (for example, in the case of a duplicate), LC/PCC catalogers should transfer the field to the record that is to be retained. When two NARs are being collapsed into one, and each record has a different 024 field, LC/PCC catalogers should include both 024 fields in the updated record.
 - Do not use subfields \$c, \$d, \$q, \$z, \$6, \$8.

BIBFRAME

- Record an IRI for the instance of a Nomen as a real-world object.
- NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
18.4.1.1	18.4.1.1	024	NACO Best Practices for the 024 Field

name of agent

Guidance

- This element refers to the “usage” form(s) of an agent's name.
- Name of agent has two subelements: [preferred name of agent](#) and [variant name of agent](#).

MARC 21

- The **OPTION** to use any source of information and record the form according to the requirements of the more specific element, is applied according to the LC-PCC PS. The 670 field is used to record forms of name found and the source of information.
- See the Descriptive Cataloging Manual (DCM) Z1, 670 instruction sheet, for guidance and examples of the 670 field used in NAF records.

BIBFRAME

- Record an IRI for the instance of a Nomen as a real-world object.
- NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
8.5	8.5.1 8.5.6 8.5.7		

preferred name of agent

Guidance

- This element refers to the “usage” form of an agent’s name that is selected for preference in a specific application or context. It is the name or form of name chosen as the basis for an authorized access point representing an entity.
- Most of the LC-PCC PSs for this element are directly applied, or are applied according to the requirements of the more specific element.
- This element describes decisions that need to be made when:
 - Selecting the preferred name of agent when there is more than one form of the same name.
 - Selecting the preferred name of agent when there is more than one language associated with the corporate body.
 - The name of agent is in a non-preferred script.
 - See [MG: Person: Preferred name of person: non-preferred script](#).
 - The name of agent is in two or more spellings.
- If a NACO contributor needs to use an access point for a person whose preferred name matches that on an undifferentiated name record, the access point must, of course, be differentiated with an addition such as date, fuller form of name, or occupation. If the desired access point represents a person who is one of the identities on an undifferentiated name record, the 670 fields for that identity must be removed from the undifferentiated name record at the time a new NAR is created.

- See [MG: Access Point Syntax](#) for punctuation of the preferred name of agent.

MARC 21

- See the Descriptive Cataloging Manual (DCM) Z1, 670 instruction sheet, for guidance and examples of the 670 field used in NAF records.

BIBFRAME

- Record an IRI for the instance of a Nomen as a real-world object.
- NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
8.1.3			NACO Participants' Manual

Attribute

address of agent

Guidance

- Supply based on cataloger's judgment, if the information is readily available. Includes an email or other online address.
- Catalogers are not required to maintain address information when updating a record that contains an address.
- Do not record physical addresses for living people.
- See [MG: Timespan](#) for guidance on recording start and end dates associated with address of agent.

MARC 21

- Record in the 371 field.
- In cases where subfield \$a (Address information preceding the name of the city or town) is not recorded, include at a minimum subfield \$m (Electronic mail address) or subfield \$b (City).
- Repeatability: Record multiple addresses, with or without ranges of dates, in separate occurrences of the 371 field.

- Subfield \$m (Electronic mail address): Subfield \$m should contain only an email address. Do not record a website or other internet address in this field.
- Do not use subfields \$4, \$6, \$8.

Examples	
MARC	<p>Example 1</p> <p>371 ## \$a BBC Broadcast Centre, 201 Wood Lane \$b London \$d England \$e W12 7TP</p> <p>371 ## \$m 4ventos2007@gmail.com</p>
BIBFRAME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording an IRI is not applicable to this element. • NARs for corporate bodies will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
none		371	

category of agent

Guidance

For person, family, and corporate body agents:

- Prefer controlled vocabulary for terms.
- Capitalize the first word in each term recorded.
- When terms do not come from a controlled vocabulary, use a singular form.
- Can include designations indicating the type of corporate body or jurisdiction, or other attributes.
- Record the category of corporate body in English.
- See [MG: Timespan](#) for guidance on recording start and end dates associated with category of agent.

MARC 21

- Record in 368 (Person and corporate body agents) and 376 (Family agents) fields.
- When using a Vocabulary Encoding Scheme (VES) term in subfield \$a, record the source in subfield \$2.

- Repeatability: Repeat the field when needed for clarity.
- Do not use subfields \$6, \$8.

Examples	
MARC	<p>Example 1</p> <pre>100 0# \$a Joan, \$c of Arc, Saint, \$d 1412-1431 368 ## \$c Saints \$2 lcsh</pre> <p>Example 2</p> <pre>100 3# \$a Agen (Family : \$g Agen, John Bernard, 1856-1920) 376 ## \$a Families \$2 lcdgt</pre> <p>Example 3</p> <pre>110 2# \$a Freer Gallery of Art 368 ## \$a Art museums (institutions) \$2 aat</pre>
BIBFRAME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record an IRI for a term or concept as a real-world object selected from a suitable vocabulary encoding scheme. LC/PCC practice: use cataloger's judgment. • NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
none		368 376	NACO Participants' Manual

field of activity of agent

Guidance

- Most of the LC-PCC PSs for this element are based on cataloger's judgment.
- Prefer controlled vocabulary, such as LCDGT or MeSH.

- Capitalize the first word in each term recorded.
- See [MG: Timespan](#) for guidance on recording start and end dates associated with field of activity of corporate body.

MARC 21

- Record in the 372 field.
- When using a Vocabulary Encoding Scheme (VES) term, record the source in subfield \$2.
- If using an LCSH subject heading string, replace the subfield coding for the subdivision(s) with two hyphens and close up the spaces between the main heading and subdivision(s).
- If using an entity from the NAF, remove any subfield coding not authorized for use in the 372 field.
- **Repeatability:** Repeat the field when needed for clarity.
- Do not use subfields \$6, \$8.

Examples	
MARC	<p>Example 1</p> <p>372 fields with terms from LCSH and a non-vocabulary encoding scheme (VES) term</p> <pre>372 ## \$a Bluegrass music \$a Folk music \$2 lcsh 372 ## \$a Craft brewing</pre>
BIBFRAME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record an IRI for a term or concept as a real-world object selected from a suitable vocabulary encoding scheme. LC/PCC practice: If a local encoding scheme is able to record the value of an element as an identifier or IRI, use judgment in applying the recording method. • NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
none		372	

language of agent

Guidance

- Prefer language codes over language terms, using codes from the [MARC Code List for Languages](#).
- Use a language term only to provide information not available in the [MARC Code List for Languages](#).
- Encode multiple languages for an agent only if more than one language is used for publication, communication, etc.

MARC 21

- Record in the 377 field.
- Do not record subfield \$2 (Source of code) when a code from the [MARC Code List for Languages](#) is used.
- Use subfield \$1 (Language term) only to provide information not available in the [MARC Code List for Languages](#).
- Record subfield \$2 (Source of code) when not using a code from the [MARC Code List for Languages](#).
- Repeatability: Repeat the field when needed for clarity.
- Do not use subfields \$6, \$8.

Examples

MARC	Example 1
	<pre>110 2# \$a Canadian Standards Association 377 ## \$a eng \$a fre 377 #7 \$a en \$a fr \$2 iso639-1</pre>
BIBFRAME	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Record an IRI for a term or concept as a real-world object selected from a suitable vocabulary encoding scheme. LC/PCC practice: If a local encoding scheme is able to record the value of an element as an identifier or IRI, use judgment in applying the recording method.• NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA	DCM Z1	Other
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	LC-PCC PS		
none		377	

note on agent

Guidance

- Used to record a broad unstructured description of one or more attributes of an agent.
- LC/PCC practice: use cataloger's judgment according to the requirements of the more specific element.

MARC 21

- The 667 field is used to give information of permanent value and general interest to catalogers. Separate 667 fields may be given in any order.
- See the Descriptive Cataloging Manual (DCM) Z1, 670 instruction sheet, for guidance and examples of the 670 field used in NAF records.

Examples	
MARC	<p>Example 1</p> <p>667 ## \$a Date of birth removed from all fields per author request, [date updated].</p>
BIBFRAME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording an IRI is not applicable to this element. • NARs for agents will continue to be created and maintained in the NAF using MARC 21 coding and syntax.

MAPPINGS

Original RDA	Original RDA LC-PCC PS	DCM Z1	Other
8.13	8.13	667	NACO Participants' Manual

related entity of agent

Guidance

- For broader elements, see RDA Entity: [related entity of RDA entity](#)
- For narrower elements, see Agent: [related RDA entity of agent](#); Collective Agent: [related entity of collective agent](#); Person: [related entity of person](#)
- See also [MG: Relationships: Agent-WEMI](#) and [MG: Relationships: Agent-Agent](#).
