Updates from the RDA Implementation Task Group

Presented by Adam Baron

PCC Participants' Meeting

February 12, 2026

RDA Implementation Task Group
Representatives

- Library of Congress
- PCC Policy Committee (PoCo)
- PCC RDA Communications Committee
- PCC Task Group on Organization of PCC Documentation
- PCC Task Group to Test the Official RDA Toolkit
- PCC Working Group on Metadata Application Profiles
- Standing Committee on Standards (SCS)

- SCS Task Group on CONSER Policies for Official RDA in MARC
- SCS Task Group on Provider Neutral MARC Record Guidelines for Monographic E-Resources in Official RDA
- SCT RDA Training Task Group: Monographs
- SCT RDA Training Task Group: Name Authorities
- RBMS RDA Editorial Group (DCRMR)

Implementation of Official RDA

As part of its implementation of the official RDA Toolkit, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) is committed to providing documentation and training, including the following:

- LC-PCC Policy Statements (LC-PCC PSs)
- Metadata Guidance Documentation (MGDs)
- Metadata Application Profiles (MAPs)
- Training for cataloging print and electronic books and serials
- Training for creating and updating LC/NACO authority records

Documentation

LC-PCC Policy Statements (LC-PCC PSs)

- Ongoing updates to LC-PCC PSs based on work from PTCP staff and feedback submitted via the [PCC RDA Communications Committee Feedback Form](#)

- Updates coincide with RDA Toolkit releases in February, June, and October

- February 2026 release: 60 LC-PCC PS revisions, many were updates to change DCRM(B) to DCRMR

Metadata Guidance Documentation (MGDs)

- Ongoing updates to MGDs based on work from PTCP staff and feedback submitted via the [PCC RDA Communications Committee Feedback Form](#)

- New Metadata Guidance Documentation Subgroup
  - Working on major revisions to MGDs, such as rewriting large sections, creating thorough examples, and writing new MGDs
  - Work assigned based on feedback submitted to the PCC RDA Communications Committee

Metadata Application Profiles (MAPs)

- BIBCO Standard Record (BSR) Official RDA Metadata Application Profile
  - PCC Working Group on Metadata Application Profiles
  - Target deadline: end of February 2026

- CONSER Standard Record (CSR) Official RDA Metadata Application Profile
  - PCC Working Group on Metadata Application Profiles
  - Target timeline: March-May 2026

- NACO Official RDA Metadata Application Profile
  - SCT RDA Training Task Group: Name Authorities
  - Target deadline: June 2026

Other Official RDA Documentation

- Provider-Neutral MARC Record Guidelines for Monographic E-Resources in Official RDA
  - Final report submitted by SCS Task Group on Provider-Neutral MARC Record Guidelines for Monographic E-Resources in Official RDA

- CONSER documentation
  - New task group is being formed to review and update CONSER documentation

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report

https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/sct/documents/Changes-from-Original-RDA-for-Monographs-Report.pdf

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Purpose

- To inform PCC and the larger cataloging community of changes from original RDA to official RDA for monographs and the impact of those changes on PCC practices

- To serve as a reference for experienced RDA catalogers to look up common terms and elements from original RDA and find their corresponding term or element in official RDA

- To illustrate how values of official RDA elements may be encoded in MARC 21 bibliographic records when there are possible changes from original RDA

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Overview of Sections

- Terminology Changes

- RDA Entity Changes

- RDA Element Changes

- Changes in Practice

- MARC Coding Changes

New and Important Terminology

- A single list of important terms for official RDA

- Includes some new terms and terms with updated definitions

aggregate
A manifestation that embodies multiple expressions.

aggregating expression
An expression that is the realization of an aggregating work.

aggregating work
A work that is a plan to select and arrange expressions of one or more works and embody them in an aggregate.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Changed Terminology

- Some terms from original RDA have a new term in official RDA

Original RDA Term	Official RDA Term
controlled vocabulary A list of authorized terms to use for recording an element.	**vocabulary encoding scheme (VES)** A named structured list of representations of controlled values for elements.

Changed Terminology – PCC Terms (1/2)

Original RDA Term	Official RDA Term
relationship designator A designator that indicates the nature of a relationship between entities represented by authorized access points, descriptions, and/or identifiers.	**relationship element** An element that relates two RDA entities. A label of an RDA element is intended to distinguish the element from all other RDA elements. As a result, an element label may not be considered user-friendly or suitable for display in applications. In these cases, an application can display a local label that is mapped to the RDA element. **PCC Term** **relationship label** …

Changed Terminology – PCC Terms (2/2)

Original RDA Term	Official RDA Term
relationship designator A designator that indicates the nature of a relationship between entities represented by authorized access points, descriptions, and/or identifiers.	**relationship element** … **PCC Term** **relationship label** A PCC-approved, user-friendly label that identifies the relationship between two RDA entities.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report Terminology with Revised Definitions

- Some terms from original RDA have revised definitions in official RDA

Term	Original RDA Definition	Official RDA Definition
access point	A name, term, code, etc., representing a specific entity.	An appellation of an entity in natural language that is selected from a vocabulary encoding scheme or constructed using a string encoding scheme by an agent who creates metadata.
authorized access point	A standardized access point representing an entity.	An access point that is selected for preference in a specific application or context.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New RDA Entities

- New entities introduced in official RDA:
  - RDA Entity
  - Agent
  - Collective Agent
  - Nomen
  - Place
  - Timespan

- Original RDA included instructions for recording places and dates as attributes. In official RDA, places and dates are recorded as relationships to the Place and Timespan entities respectively; however, there is no change in practice in MARC.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Changed RDA Entities

- Some RDA entities have a revised definition and scope

RDA Entity	Original RDA Definition	Official RDA Definition	PCC Practice
Person	An individual or an identity established by an individual, either alone or in collaboration with one or more other individuals. Persons include persons named in sacred scriptures or apocryphal books, fictitious and legendary persons, and real non-human entities.	An agent who is an individual human being who lives or is assumed to have lived.	A person entity may also be a fictitious entity or a non-human entity. See the Metadata Guidance documentation: Person elements. See the Metadata Guidance documentation: Fictitious and Non-Human Entities.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New RDA Elements (1/3)

- Some new RDA elements are broader elements of existing elements

RDA Element	Definition	Domain	Range	PCC Practice
date of manifestation	A timespan during which a published manifestation is published, released, issued, printed, duplicated, cast, or distributed, or an unpublished manifestation is inscribed, fabricated, constructed, or otherwise produced.	Manifestation	Timespan	Typically, record a value for one or more narrower elements.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New RDA Elements (2/3)

- Some new RDA elements are LC/PCC Core

RDA Element	Definition	Domain	Range	PCC Practice
category of manifestation	A type to which a manifestation belongs.	Manifestation	N/A [attribute]	LC/PCC Core for microforms, electronic resources, and serials.
note on metadata work	A broad unstructured description of one or more attributes of a metadata work.	Work	N/A [attribute]	LC/PCC Core in some situations.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New RDA Elements (3/3)

- Some new RDA elements are not used by PCC

RDA Element	Definition	Domain	Range	PCC Practice
category of expression	A type to which an expression belongs.	Expression	N/A [attribute]	Do not record the element. The element will be evaluated for use at a future time.
category of item	A type to which an item belongs.	Item	N/A [attribute]	Do not record the element.
manifestation statement	A statement appearing in a manifestation and deemed to be significant for users to understand how the manifestation represents itself.	Manifestation	N/A [attribute]	Do not record the element.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New Manifestation Statement Elements

- Will not be implemented by LC/PCC

- Instead, use the more specific elements covered by these broader elements
  - For Manifestation: manifestation title and responsibility statement, use subelements of Manifestation: title of manifestation and Manifestation: statement of responsibility

RDA Element	Definition
manifestation title and responsibility statement	A manifestation statement about the titles of a manifestation and the names of agents who are responsible for the content of an expression that is embodied by a manifestation.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New Representative Expression Elements

- Aspects of an expression of a work that most people think of as fundamental to the work itself (e.g., *Alice's adventures in Wonderland* is an English text intended for children)

- These aspects are sometimes referred to as "canonical"

RDA Element	Definition
content type of representative expression	A categorization of a representative expression that reflects the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived.
language of representative expression	A language used for the content of a representative expression of a work.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report

New RDA Relationships

- New relationship elements that would have been recorded using relationship designators in original RDA

- For simplicity, only the broader elements for relationships to agents are given

RDA Element	Definition	Domain	Range	PCC Practice
contributor agent to aggregate	An agent who is responsible for creating an expression of a work that is embodied by an aggregate.	Manifestation	Agent	Do not record the element. Instead, record one or more narrower elements.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Related Agents Hierarchy

- Manifestation: related agent of manifestation
  - Manifestation: contributor agent to aggregate
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of cartography
      - Manifestation: surveyor agent
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of choreography
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of computer content
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of moving image
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of music
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of object
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of speech
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of still image
    - Manifestation: contributor agent of text

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New RDA Work-Work Transformation Hierarchy

- related work of work
  A work that is associated with a work.
  - **transformation**
    A work that is created by changing the scope or editorial policy, the genre or literary form, the target audience, or the style of a work.
    - **transformation by audience**
      A work that is created by changing the audience of a work.
      - **carrier version**
        A work that is created by changing the carrier of a work.
      - **language version**
        A work that is created by changing the language audience of a work.
      - **regional version**
        A work that is created by changing the regional audience of a work.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Changed Element Names

- Some official RDA elements have a different name from original RDA

Original RDA Element	Official RDA Element
contributor (20.2) An agent contributing to an expression. Contributors include editors, translators, arrangers of music, performers, etc.	**creator agent of expression** An agent who is responsible for a realization of a work. A creator of expression includes a translator, arranger of music, performer, etc. A creator of a work that is realized by an expression is also a creator of expression.
illustrator (I.3.1) An agent contributing to an expression of a work by supplementing the primary content with drawings, diagrams, photographs, etc.	**contributor agent of still image** An agent who is a contributor to aggregate who creates an expression of a still image work that is embodied by an aggregate.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Elements with a Change in Domain

- Some elements in official RDA describe a different entity (i.e., have a different domain) than in original RDA

Official RDA Element	Domain in Original RDA	Domain in Official RDA	Original RDA Definition	Official RDA Definition
contributor agent of still image	Expression	Manifestation	**illustrator** An agent contributing to an expression of a work by supplementing the primary content with drawings, diagrams, photographs, etc. **photographer (expression)** …	An agent who is a contributor to aggregate who creates an expression of a still image work that is embodied by an aggregate.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Elements with Revised Definitions

- Some elements in official RDA have a different definition than in original RDA

Element	Original RDA Definition	Official RDA Definition
language of expression	A language in which a work is expressed.	A language used for the content of an expression.

- In some cases, the scope of the element is different

Element	Original RDA Definition	Official RDA Definition
mode of issuance	A categorization reflecting whether a resource is issued in one or more parts, the way it is updated, and whether its termination is predetermined or not.	A categorization that reflects whether a manifestation is issued in one or more units.

General Changes in Practice (1/2)

- Changes in cataloging practice from original RDA to official RDA that are not limited to a particular element

Topic	Original RDA	Official RDA	Notes on PCC Practice
Recording methods	Record the related entity by using one or more of these techniques, as applicable: • Identifier for the related entity • Authorized access point representing the related work, expression, or agent • Description of the related entity	The data value of an RDA element can be recorded using one or more of the following methods: • Unstructured description • Structured description • Identifier • IRI …	With the introduction of the four recording methods for each element, more than one recording method may be applicable for an element. …

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
General Changes in Practice (2/2)

Topic	Original RDA	Official RDA	Notes on PCC Practice
Description convention source codes	*No corresponding element in original RDA.* In MARC, use: 040 $e rda	Record a content standard that is used for the metadata work as a Work: [related manifestation of work](#) of the metadata work. In MARC, use: 040 $e rda	All entity and resource descriptions created under the PCC implementation of official RDA use two Description Convention Source Codes, in order: rda, pccrda In MARC, use: 040 $e rda $e pccrda See the Metadata Guidance documentation: Work: [Related manifestation of work](#).

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Changes in Practice by Element

- Changes in cataloging practice from original RDA to official RDA that apply to a particular element

RDA Element	Original RDA	Official RDA	Notes on PCC Practice

mode of issuance	A categorization reflecting whether a resource is issued in one or more parts, the way it is updated, and whether its termination is predetermined or not.
	
	Record a one or more terms from the following list:
	    integrating resource
	    multipart monograph
	    serial
	    single unit
		A categorization that reflects whether a manifestation is issued in one or more units.
		
		Record a term from the RDA Mode of Issuance vocabulary encoding scheme:
		    multiple unit
		    single unit
			LC/PCC Core.

Changes in Relationship Labels

- In official RDA, relationship designators became relationship elements

- Instead of using the element names, PCC uses user-friendly relationship labels listed in the MGD: <u>Relationship labels</u>

- In creating user-friendly relationship labels for official RDA, there are a few notable changes in the PCC-approved relationship labels:
  - Entity names are omitted when possible
  - Parenthetical qualifiers are avoided
  - Different relationship elements will use the same label

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Changes in Relationship Labels Examples

Original RDA Relationship Designator	Official RDA PCC Relationship Label
container of (expression)	**contains**
container of (work)	**contains**
editor An agent contributing to an expression of a work by revising or clarifying the content, or by selecting and putting together works, or parts of works, by one or more creators.	**compiler** An agent who is responsible for creating an aggregating work by selecting and arranging expressions of other works.
	editor An agent who contributes to an expression by amending content created by other agents in order to meet standards for publication or other use.

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New MARC Coding

- Examples for encoding values of new RDA elements in MARC 21 bibliographic records and examples of new MARC fields

Domain	RDA Element	MARC Field & Subfield	Recording Method	Example
Manifestation	category of manifestation	006/00	Identifier	006 **m** o d
		007/00-01	Identifier	007 **cr** |n|
Manifestation	manifestation title and responsibility statement	881 $c	Unstructured description	881 ## $c **CROSSING THE CHASM Marketing and Selling Disruptive Products to Mainstream Customers Geoffrey A. Moore** *LC/PCC practice: Do not record the element.*

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
New MARC Coding for Data Provenance

- Data provenance provides information about the recorded metadata

Purpose	RDA Element	MARC Field & Subfield	Recording Method	Example
Recording a note on metadata	note on metadata work	500 $a	Unstructured description	500 ## $a **Series title from publisher's website.**
		588 $a	Unstructured description	588 0# $a **Record generated by AI on May 21, 2024**
		$7, l, y, e (dpenmw)	Unstructured description	520 ## $a … $7 (dpenmw)**Generated by AI on May 21, 2024**
Recording a content standard used for metadata	related manifestation of work	040 $e	Identifier *(record-level provenance)*	040 ## $a DLC $b eng $e **rda** $e **pccrda** $c DLC

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Changes in MARC Coding

- Demonstrates encoding RDA data in MARC bibliographic records using different recording methods

Domain	RDA Element	MARC Field & Subfield	Recording Method	Example
Manifestation	illustrative content	300 $b	Structured description	300 ## $a 13 pages : $b **illustrations** ; $c 18 cm
		340 $p	Structured description	340 ## $p **illustration** $2 rdaill
		008/18-21 (books)	Identifier	Ills (008/18-21): **a**
		340 $0	Identifier	340 ## $p illustration $2 rdaill $0 **http://rdaregistry.info/termList /IllusContent/1014**

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report
Different MARC Fields

- Almost all original RDA elements can continue to be recorded in the same MARC fields in official RDA, except for the following:

RDA Element	Original RDA		Official RDA	
	MARC Field	**Example**	**MARC Field**	**Example**
mode of issuance	LDR/07	BLvl (LDR/07): **m**	334 $a	334 ## $a **single unit** $2 rdami

Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report Feedback

- Report feedback can be submitted via the PCC RDA Communications Committee Feedback Form: https://bit.ly/PCC-RDA-Feedback-Form

Training

Training in Development

- SCT RDA Training Task Group: Monographs
  - Developing training for PCC participants to catalog print and electronic books using the official RDA Toolkit, LC-PCC Application Profile, LC-PCC Policy Statements, and LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Documents

- SCT RDA Training Task Group: Name Authorities
  - Developing training for PCC participants to create and update name authority records (NARs) in the LC/NACO Authority File (NAF) using the official RDA Toolkit, LC-PCC Policy Statements, and LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Documents

- CONSER training is planned, but not yet started

Training Deliverables

- Full training
  - For less experienced catalogers new to RDA or PCC
  - Also, for experienced catalogers who want a refresher

- Bridge training
  - A subset of the full training focusing on elements where there is a difference in practice
  - For experienced catalogers transitioning from original RDA to official RDA

- Target release: summer 2026

Monographs Full Training Outline

1. Introduction to RDA
2. Using RDA Toolkit
3. PCC documentation
4. Recording basics
   - Choice of RDA elements
   - Recording data provenance
   - Recording unstructured descriptions
   - Recording structured descriptions
   - Recording identifiers
   - Recording IRIs
   - Recording relationships

5. Describing manifestations
6. Describing works
7. Describing expressions
8. Describing aggregates
9. Special topics

SCT RDA Training Task Group: Name Authorities

- Updating original RDA NACO training modules to reflect changes in structure, content, and LC/PCC practice

- The introductory module requires extensive revisions to account for new concepts and to introduce the generalized process for creating name authorities in official RDA

- More significant changes affect works and expressions, including the new modeling for aggregates and diachronic works, as well as the new representative expression elements

Implementation

When should PCC institutions plan to implement the official RDA Toolkit?

- As PCC continues to prepare for official RDA implementation, dates will be announced when BIBCO, CONSER, and NACO records can be created using official RDA. These dates will vary for each program based on the availability of documentation and training. Furthermore, institutions will be given sufficient time to review the documentation and training before they implement official RDA.

- **Until instructed otherwise, PCC records should continue to be created using the original RDA Toolkit.**

How can PCC institutions prepare to implement the official RDA Toolkit? (1/5)

- Become familiar with key terminology and concepts by completing the following PCC trainings:

  - What is IFLA/LRM?
    - An introduction to the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM), the conceptual model underlying official RDA

  - Phase 1: PCC Introductory RDA Training
    - Introductory RDA training to be able to identify key changes introduced in official RDA, use and navigate the RDA Toolkit, understand new concepts, and define key vocabulary terms

  - Phase 1: PCC Introductory RDA Training Webinars
    - Recordings of the Phase 1: PCC Introductory RDA Training

How can PCC institutions prepare to implement the official RDA Toolkit? (2/5)

- For more practical training, review the workshop materials from [A Joint Workshop with NARDAC and PCC SCT RDA Training Task Group: Monographs](#) from June 2025
  - Documentation used by PCC catalogers
  - Review of RDA concepts
  - Cataloging an ebook
    - Describing the manifestation
    - Describing the aggregating work & aggregating expression
    - Describing an aggregated work & aggregated expression
    - Recording data provenance
  - Exercises include the ebook used for the demonstration in the slides, as well as a few other examples for hands-on practice

How can PCC institutions prepare to implement the official RDA Toolkit? (3/5)

- Review the [Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report](#)

- Review local cataloging procedures and documentation
  - Are they up-to-date?
  - How might they need to be revised for official RDA?

- Begin updating local cataloging procedures and documentation

How can PCC institutions prepare to implement the official RDA Toolkit? (4/5)

- Review training materials and resources from other RDA communities

  - Learning Resources
    - Includes resources for educators and community-based training materials

  - Implementing Official RDA
    - Collates information about official RDA implementations shared by the RDA Steering Committee (RSC)

How can PCC institutions prepare to implement the official RDA Toolkit?

- Attend the RDA preconference workshop at ALA Annual in Chicago on Friday, June 26, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
  - Gain hands-on experience cataloging resources and creating name authority records using the official RDA Toolkit and related PCC documentation, including LC-PCC Policy Statements (LC-PCC PSs) and Metadata Guidance Documentation (MGDs)
  - This is a joint workshop with the PCC SCT RDA Training Task Group: Monographs, the PCC SCT RDA Training Task Group: Name Authorities, and the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC)
  - Registration for ALA Annual 2026 and the preconference workshop opens later this month at ALA 2026 Registration Rates
  - This is a paid, in-person event. Register before April 24 for reduced rates

FAQs on Official RDA Implementation

https://bit.ly/PCC-RDA-FAQ

1. What is official RDA versus original RDA?
2. What documentation and training will PCC provide?
3. What documentation and training are currently available from PCC?
4. What is PCC doing to prepare for official RDA implementation?
5. When should PCC institutions plan to implement the official RDA Toolkit?
6. Where should I send questions and feedback?

Feedback

- Submit feedback and questions via the PCC RDA Communications Committee Feedback Form: https://bit.ly/PCC-RDA-Feedback-Form

- Type of feedback:
  - LC-PCC Policy Statement revision
  - Metadata Guidance Document (MGD) revision
  - PCC RDA Training feedback
  - Changes from Original RDA for Monographs: Report feedback
  - Question
  - Feedback