

Chapter 3

EDIT SPECIFICATIONS, EDIT PROGRAMS AND SUPPLEMENTAL FILES

Edit Specifications

Edit specifications that each record submitted by a district must pass have been developed. Also, edit specifications that test certain relationships between elements on different record formats have been developed. The edit specifications are not part of this document, but have been provided to the districts on electronic medium and can be accessed at the web site address referenced in Chapter 1.

The edit specifications explain the edits performed on each field within a particular reporting format or between fields on the same or different reporting formats. For each reporting format, the edit specifications are divided into the following categories: **reject rules, state validations, and exception reports.**

The following discusses each of the different types of edits and how they affect the records when they are applied:

Reject Rules: Records that do not pass the reject rule edits are immediately rejected. That is, the record will not be loaded to the data base. Reject rules are written to check validity of code and certain relationships between data elements on the **same** record. Reject rules are sometimes called "initial edits" since these are the first edits applied to data sets submitted for a reporting format. When these edits are applied to initial data sets submitted to NWRDC by the school districts, any data set with twenty percent or more of its records in error is rejected in its entirety. If less than twenty percent of the records in the data set do not pass the reject rule edits, the error-free records are loaded to the data base and only the records in error are rejected. The twenty percent rule does not apply to data sets submitted for batch update. These edit programs are available for the districts to modify and run prior to submitting data for a survey. Detailed instructions on downloading and modifying these programs can be found later in this chapter.

State Validations: State validations are written to check relationships between different records of the same reporting format or records of different reporting formats, and are performed after the records have been loaded to the data base. In some cases, the edits indicate that data will not be included in certain final reports. In other cases, the edits indicate fatal errors that will exclude records from the funding calculation unless corrected by the end of the state processing window. Certain validations will cause data to be "nulled" after the close of the state processing window. Consequently, it is essential that these errors be corrected before the window closes.

Exception Reports: The exception reports show records with data that look suspicious. That is, the records do not reflect what is expected. However, because of "exceptions to the general rule" the records may not be in error. The exception report is a way of flagging records that should be reviewed by the district and corrected **if** they are in error.

Edit Programs

In an effort to assist districts in editing data prior to transmission of records to NWRDC, edit programs for each survey and reporting format are available for download. These programs provide the initial edit programs that are run when the records are transmitted to NWRDC and initially processed by EDS. The programs are written in OS/MVS ANSI standard COBOL LE and may be compiled and executed with minor modification. It is recommended that districts download the edit programs, run them against records for each of the reporting formats for a survey, and correct any errors prior to transmission.

The following are steps the district must follow in order to download the edit programs mentioned above:

1. Obtain the COBOL LE source code from a library at NWRDC named `DPS.DISTRICT.JCL.Yyyy` where `yyyy` is the current fiscal or school year. (See Appendix C for the list of members.)
2. Obtain the OS/MVS JCL needed to execute the programs from a library at NWRDC named `DPS.DISTRICT.SOURCE.Yyyy` where `yyyy` is the current fiscal or school year. (See Appendix C for the list of members and Appendix E for an example of the JCL needed at OS/MVS/JES2 sites to run the Student Course Schedule edits. All other edit JCL's are similar.)
3. Make the necessary source code modifications. (See Appendix O, Appendix P and Appendix Q for specific directions on modifying each of the state edit programs.)

Data transfer techniques are discussed in detail in Chapter 4. The user should read Chapter 4 carefully and follow the instructions for the district's particular job setup. Chapter 4 also defines a valid NWRDC JOB card. Refer to Appendix F for the job setup that is appropriate for your district's type of network connection.

Supplemental Files

Appendix N lists supplemental/support files that are available to districts. The COBOL structures, including descriptions of the fields, are stored in a library named `DPS.DISTRICT.FORMAT.Yyyy` where `yyyy` is the year of the file.

The same procedures may be used to obtain these files as are used to retrieve the error files. (See Chapter 4.) Procedure `NWRRJE` is used for files that are less than or equal to 80 characters. Procedure `NWRRJE80` is used for files that are greater than 80 characters long. In either instance, override the input data set name, the `LRECL` parameter, and add `DISP=SHR`. In addition, change the `SEGMENT.INPUT DD *` to reflect the correct record length as in the example that follows:

```
* $$ JOB JNM=jobname,XDEST=NWR,LDEST=NNN.RYY,PWD=PPPP
//jobname JOB (ACCT) (valid NWRDC JOB card and account)
//PROCLIB DD DSN=DPS.DISTRICT.PROCLIB,DISP=SHR
//*
/*          JOB EXECUTED AT NWRDC TO SEND 80 CHAR DATA
/*
```