

## **ATTACHMENT 8**

### **USDA/FNS EBT FILE SPECIFICATIONS**

## **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)**

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# **EBT Detail Transactions File Specifications**

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Prepared for:



### **USDA Food and Nutrition Service**

3101 Park Center Drive  
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Dated: May 31, 2007

Compressed Files containing submission files

1. File format: ZIP
2. ASCII Encoded
3. File Naming Standards:

<Processor Site Name> <YYYY><MM><Submission Sequence Number>[Optional Replacement Indicator].ZIP

<Processor Site Name> Processor Site sending submissions with spaces replaced by hyphens (i.e., XYZ-Corp)

**NOTE:** <Processor Site Name> used here should match Header/Trailer value

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <YYYY>                           | Four digit year                                                                                                                                               |
| <MM>                             | Two Digit Month with leading zeroes (01 – 12)                                                                                                                 |
| < Submission Sequence Number>    | See next section for values.                                                                                                                                  |
| [Optional Replacement Indicator] | “Rn” when included indicates file is a replacement and includes a replacement sequence number (starting at one (1)) for the submission file already provided. |

Examples:

|                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| XYZ-Corp 20060901.ZIP    |                                     |
| ABC-Corp-GA 20060900.ZIP |                                     |
| XYZ-Corp 20060901R1.ZIP  | Example replacement compressed file |

**NOTE:** "Replacement" Compressed Files contain only those submission files being replaced. When submissions are provided daily, each "day" of replacement compressed files must be provided separately.

Example:

XYZ-Corp 20060901R1.ZIP would contain all submissions for 9/1/2006 being replaced.  
XYZ-Corp 20060902R2.ZIP would contain all submissions for 9/2/2006 being replaced.

File contents will be all submissions for the recipient state managed by site.

Example: ABC-Corp-GA 20060901.ZIP would contain the following:

DC20060901.DAT  
MD20060901.DAT  
VA20060901.DAT

## G.1. Submission Files Enclosed in Compressed File

1. File Format: Fixed Record Length; Fixed Column width; records Delimited by Carriage Return (Hex "0D") Linefeed (Hex "0A") characters
2. ASCII Encoded
3. File Naming Standards:

<Recipient State><YYYY><MM><Submission Sequence Number>[Optional Replacement Indicator].DAT

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <Recipient State>                | State Abbreviation of State, Territory, or District of Columbia                                                                                               |
| <YYYY>                           | Four digit year                                                                                                                                               |
| <MM>                             | Two digit month with leading zeroes (01 – 12)                                                                                                                 |
| <Submission Sequence Number>     | See next section for values                                                                                                                                   |
| [Optional Replacement Indicator] | "Rn" when included indicates file is a replacement and includes a replacement sequence number (starting at one (1)) for the submission file already provided. |

Examples:

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| MD20060901.DAT   |                                     |
| GU20060900.DAT   |                                     |
| VA20060901R1.DAT | Example replacement submission file |

### **Sequence Number**

|       |                     |
|-------|---------------------|
| 00    | Monthly Submissions |
| 01 31 | Daily Submissions   |

### **Submission File Record Sequence**

Header Record  
Detail Transaction Record 1  
Detail Transaction Record 2  
Detail Transaction Record 3  
:  
:  
:  
Detail Transaction Record n  
Trailer Record

**Table G-1 - EBT Submission Header and Trailer Record Specification**

| Description                          | Starting Position | Length | Type         | Comments                                                                                                                                                                            | Update Status           |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Recipient State                      | 1                 | 2      | Alpha        | Alphabetic Abbreviation (i.e., VA) of state providing benefits to enclosed recipients                                                                                               | No Change               |
| Redemption Year                      | 3                 | 4      | Numeric      | Four digit year (i.e., 2006) representing year in which enclosed transactions were conducted                                                                                        | Increased from 2 digits |
| Redemption Month                     | 7                 | 2      | Numeric      | Two digit month<br>Values: 01 - 12 representing the month in which enclosed transactions were conducted                                                                             | No Change               |
| Sequence Number                      | 9                 | 2      | Numeric      | Two digit sequence number (See Table 1) of submission                                                                                                                               | New                     |
| Number of transactions included      | 11                | 9      | Numeric      | Number of transaction records included (does not include header/trailer records in count). "Header Record" may contain a value of zero, but Trailer Record MUST contain valid count | No Change               |
| EBT Vendor Site Name                 | 20                | 30     | Alphanumeric | Name of submitting vendor site with spaces replaced by hyphens (not State Agency) [i.e., JP-Morgan Site-1, eFunds-Site-2, etc.]                                                     | No Change               |
| File generation date                 | 50                | 8      | Date         | Date file generated in CCYYMMDD format                                                                                                                                              | No Change               |
| Period Start Date                    | 58                | 8      | Date         | Starting date for enclosed transactions in CCYYMMDD format                                                                                                                          | No Change               |
| Period Start Time                    | 66                | 6      | Time         | Starting time for enclosed transactions in HHMMSS 24 hour format (GMT)                                                                                                              | New                     |
| Period End Date                      | 72                | 8      | Date         | Ending Date for enclosed transactions in CCYYMMDD format                                                                                                                            | No Change               |
| Period End Time                      | 80                | 6      | Time         | Ending time for enclosed transactions in HHMMSS 24 hour format (GMT)                                                                                                                | New                     |
| Site Time Zone Offset                | 86                | 2      | Numeric      | Number of hours that processing site is offset from GMT (i.e., EST value is 05)                                                                                                     | New                     |
| Site Daylight Savings Time Indicator | 88                | 1      | Numeric      | 0 - Operating on Standard Time<br>1 - Operating on Daylight Savings time                                                                                                            | New                     |
| Record Delimiter                     | 89                | 2      | CrLf         | Carriage Return ASCII Hex Value 0D<br>Linefeed ASCII Hex Value 0A                                                                                                                   | No Change               |

**Sequence Numbers**

|         |                                                            |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 00      | Monthly Submissions                                        |
| 01 - 31 | Day of Submission (i.e., 15 for 15 <sup>th</sup> of month) |

## G.2. Header/Trailer Record Contextual Requirements

1. Header Record must be first record in submission file.
2. Trailer Record must be last record in submission file.
3. Trailer Record must have the number of transactions enclosed in submission file (count does not include number of Header/Trailer Records).
4. Period Ending Date and Time must be later than Period Starting Date and Time and all transactions included in submission must have Date and Time values that fall between the start and end values provided on Header/Trailer record.
5. On Daily Submissions, Time between Period Start Date and Time and Period Ending Date and Time must constitute no more than 24 hours.
6. While the specific value of "Name of Submitting Vendor" column is not critical it must allow specific Point of Contact to be identified so that automated notifications can be implemented.

### Examples:

- a. For vendors with single host site, a single value must be used for all submission files submitted by that vendor. (i.e., "XYZ-Corp").
- b. For vendors with multiple host sites or with points of contact responsible for a subset of states serviced by vendor company, a unique designator must be used.

| ABC Corp Site | State(s) Responsible for | Example Value for column |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Atlanta, GA   | DC, MD, VA               | ABC-Corp-GA              |
| Boston, MA    | NY, NH, MA, ME           | ABC-Corp-MA              |

### Example (Daily Submission Header):

DC200602040000000000XYZ Corp 2006020520060204000000200602042359590510

| Description                     | Value      |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Recipient State                 | DC         |
| Redemption Year                 | 2006       |
| Redemption Month                | 02         |
| Sequence Number                 | 04         |
| Number of transactions included | 000000000  |
| Site Name of EBT Vendor         | XYZ Corp   |
| File generation date            | 2006 02 05 |
| Period Start Date               | 2006 02 04 |
| Period Start Time               | 00 00 00   |

| Description                | Value      |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Period End Date            | 2006 02 04 |
| Period End Time            | 23 59 59   |
| Site Time Zone Offset      | 05 (ET)    |
| Site Daylight Savings Time | 1          |
| Record Delimiter           | Hex 0D0A   |

**NOTE:** The symbol "□" is used as a representation for the non-printable carriage return and linefeed characters used to delimit each record.

Example (Monthly Submission Header):

```

-----+-----1-----+-----2-----+-----3-----+-----4-----+-----5-----+-----6-----+-----7-----+-----8-----+-----9
DC200602000000000000XYZ-Corp200603012006020100000002006022823595905100

```

| Description                     | Value      |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Recipient State                 | DC         |
| Redemption Year                 | 2006       |
| Redemption Month                | 02         |
| Sequence Number                 | 00         |
| Number of transactions included | 000000000  |
| Site Name of EBT Vendor         | XYZ Corp   |
| File generation date            | 2006 03 01 |
| Period Start Date               | 2006 02 01 |
| Period Start Time               | 00 00 00   |
| Period End Date                 | 2006 02 28 |
| Period End Time                 | 23 59 59   |
| Site Time Zone Offset           | 05 (ET)    |
| Site Daylight Savings Time      | 1          |
| Record Delimiter                | Hex 0D0A   |



**Table G-2 - EBT Transaction Record Specification**

| Description                            | Starting Position | Length | Type         | Comments                                                                                                                          | Update Status                  |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| FNS Retailer ID Number                 | 1                 | 7      | Numeric      | Valid FNS Number identifying retailer                                                                                             | No Change                      |
| Retailer State Location                | 8                 | 2      | Alpha        | State Abbreviation for retailer location                                                                                          | No Change                      |
| POS Terminal Id                        | 10                | 8      | Alphanumeric | ID (unique within retailer) of POS Terminal with trailing blanks                                                                  | No Change                      |
| House Account Number                   | 18                | 14     | Alphanumeric | Account number that identifies household of card bearing recipient with trailing blanks                                           | No Change                      |
| Card Account Number                    | 32                | 19     | Alphanumeric | Account Number on card stock used in transaction with trailing blanks                                                             | No Change                      |
| Transaction Date                       | 51                | 8      | Date         | Date Transaction Completed in CCYYMMDD format (based on GMT)                                                                      | Changed to GMT                 |
| Transaction Time                       | 59                | 6      | Time         | Time in HHMMSS 24 hour format (in GMT)                                                                                            | Changed to GMT                 |
| Transaction Amount                     | 65                | 6      | Numeric      | Transaction Amount in 9999V99 (assumed 2 decimal places) [i.e., 123456 to represent \$1234.56]                                    | No Change                      |
| Transaction Sign                       | 71                | 1      | + or -       | + to designate credit to recipient<br>- to designate debit to recipient<br>Ignored for Balance Inquiry type transactions          | No Change                      |
| EBT Program                            | 72                | 2      | Numeric      | + 00 Food Stamp Program                                                                                                           | No Change                      |
| Transaction Type                       | 74                | 2      | Numeric      | + 10 Purchase<br>20 Refund/Return<br>30 Void last transaction<br>40 Balance Inquiry                                               | No Change                      |
| Transaction Method                     | 76                | 1      | Numeric      | 0 Electronic Swipe<br>1 Manual/Key Entered<br>2 Paper Voucher (Settled)<br>3 RFID Pay by Touch<br>4 Paper Voucher (Authorization) | Method Changes                 |
| Store & Forward Indicator              | 77                | 1      | Numeric      | 0 Not a store & forward<br>1 Denied<br>2 Partially Approved<br>3 Fully Approved                                                   | New                            |
| Response Code                          | 78                | 3      | Alphanumeric | + Indicator for accepted or rejected transactions (see Table 2 for valid entries)                                                 | Enhanced for ANSI X9.58 - 2002 |
| Available Balance prior to transaction | 81                | 6      | Numeric      | Balance Amount in 9999V99 (assumed 2 decimal places) [i.e., 123456 to represent \$1234.56]                                        | No Change                      |

| Description      | Starting Position | Length | Type | Comments                                                  | Update Status  |
|------------------|-------------------|--------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Filler           | 87                | 2      | N/A  | Contents Ignored                                          | Filler Reduced |
| Record Delimiter | 89                | 2      | CrLf | Carriage Return ASCII Value 0D<br>Linefeed ASCII Value 0A | No Change      |

**Table G-3 - Valid Response Code Combinations**

| New Response Code | ANSI Code <sup>1</sup><br>(bit 039) | Response Description                                   | Old Response Code Value |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 000               | 00                                  | Accepted/Approved                                      | 000                     |
| 151               | 51                                  | Insufficient funds                                     | 110                     |
| 161               | 61                                  | Return exceeds benefit authorization                   |                         |
| 155               | 55                                  | Invalid PIN/PIN not selected                           | 120                     |
| 175               | 75                                  | PIN Tries Exceeded                                     | 121                     |
| 102               | 02                                  | Bad FNS Status for Merchant                            | 130                     |
| 103               | 03                                  | Invalid Merchant                                       |                         |
| 141               | 41                                  | Lost Card                                              | 140                     |
| 143               | 43                                  | Lost/Stolen Card                                       |                         |
| 141               | 42                                  | No Account                                             | 141                     |
| 152               | 52                                  | No Account on File                                     |                         |
| 154               | 54                                  | Expired Card                                           | 142                     |
| 156               | 56                                  | Card Number not found                                  | 150                     |
| 159               | 59                                  | Fraud (Return Card)                                    | 151                     |
| 162               | 62                                  | Restricted Card                                        | 152                     |
| 105               | 05                                  | General Denial                                         | 160                     |
| 1A1               | A1                                  | Invalid Voucher ID Invalid Authorization Number        | 180                     |
| 1A2               | A2                                  | Approval Code does not match voice approval code       |                         |
| 1A3               | A3                                  | Amount is greater than voice approval code             |                         |
| 1A4               | A4                                  | Original voice authorization not found for card holder |                         |
| 1A5               | A5                                  | FNS number does not match original voice authorization |                         |
| 1A6               | A6                                  | Item already cleared                                   |                         |
| 106               | 06                                  | Invalid Transaction                                    |                         |
| 112               | 12                                  | Invalid Transaction Type                               |                         |
| 113               | 13                                  | Invalid Amount Field                                   |                         |
| 114               | 14                                  | Invalid Card Number                                    |                         |
| 119               | 19                                  | Re-enter Transaction                                   | 180                     |
| 123               | 23                                  | Unacceptable Transaction Fee                           |                         |
| 130               | 30                                  | Format Error                                           |                         |
| 131               | 31                                  | Card has Invalid ISO Prefix                            |                         |
| 140               | 40                                  | Function Not Available                                 |                         |
| 157               | 57                                  | Transaction not permitted to cardholder                |                         |
| 158               | 58                                  | Invalid Transaction                                    |                         |
| 176               | 76                                  | Key Synchronization Error                              |                         |
| 180               | 80                                  | Voucher Expired                                        |                         |
| 186               | 86                                  | Invalid Security Code                                  |                         |

<sup>1</sup> From the "ANSI X9.58-2002 Financial transaction messages - Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) - Food Stamps"

| New Response Code | ANSI Code <sup>1</sup><br>(bit 039) | Response Description                                | Old Response Code Value |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 192               | 92                                  | Transaction destination cannot be found for routing |                         |
| 190               | 90                                  | Processor not logged on                             | 190                     |
| 191               | 91                                  | Authorizer Not Available                            |                         |
| 196               | 96                                  | System malfunction                                  | 190                     |
| 1S5               | S5                                  | Pin not selected                                    |                         |

### G.3. Transaction Record Contextual Requirements

1. FNS Number and Retailer State Location must match FNS STARS system provided values.
2. Transaction Date and Time must be between Header/Trailer Record Period Start Date and Time and Period Ending Date and Time.
3. "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Purchase (Transaction Type = "10") transactions must have Amount value no more than Available Prior Balance value.
4. "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Balance Inquiry (Transaction Type = "40") must have Available Prior Balance Value and Amount must be zero (\$0.00).
5. Store & Forward transactions with "Denied" Indicator ("1") must have appropriate Response Code (i.e., "151" [Insufficient Funds]).
6. Store & Forward transactions with "Partially Approved" Indicator ("2") must have the amount approved in the Amount field.
7. "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Void Last Transaction (Transaction Type = "30") must immediately follow "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Purchase (Transaction Type = "10") or Refund (Transaction Type = "20") being reversed and the following encoding must be followed:
  - a. FNS Number values must match.
  - b. Household Account values must match.
  - c. Card Number values must match.
  - d. POS Terminal ID values must match.
  - e. Absolute value of Amount values must match.
  - f. Balance Prior to Transaction must be consistent with card holder's activity.

Example Purchase reversed by Void Last:

```

+ 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9
:
1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060206181415010280 001000000028142 00
1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060206183751010280+0030000000017862 00
:

```

Table G-4 - Transaction Record Values

| Description                            | Record 1 Value            | Record 2 Value            |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| FNS Retailer ID Number                 | 1234567                   | 1234567                   |
| Retailer State Location                | VA                        | VA                        |
| POS Terminal Id                        | 34263601                  | 34263601                  |
| House Account Number                   | YYYYYYYYYYYY              | YYYYYYYYYYYY              |
| Card Account Number                    | XXXXXXXXXXXX1069          | XXXXXXXXXXXX1069          |
| Transaction Date                       | 20060206 (2006-02-06)     | 20060206 (2006-02-06)     |
| Transaction Time                       | 181415 (18:14:15)         | 183751 (18:37:51)         |
| Transaction Amount                     | 010280 (\$102.80)         | 010280 (\$102.80)         |
| Transaction Sign                       | -                         | +                         |
| EBT Program                            | 00                        | 00                        |
| Transaction Type                       | 10 (Purchase)             | 30 (Void Last)            |
| Transaction Method                     | 0 (Electronic)            | 0 (Electronic)            |
| Store and Forward Indicator            | 0 (Not store and Forward) | 0 (Not store and Forward) |
| Response Code                          | 000 (Accepted)            | 000 (Accepted)            |
| Available Balance prior to transaction | 028142 (\$281.42)         | 017862 (\$178.62)         |
| Filler                                 | blank                     | blank                     |
| Record Delimiter                       | 0D0A                      | 0D0A                      |

8. "Rejected" (Response Code between "102" and "1S5") where all authentication credentials have been met (authorized retailer, valid card number and PIN, etc.) must have Transaction Amount and Available Balance Prior to Transaction values encoded.

Example (Rejected due to Insufficient Funds):

```

+ 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9
:
1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060206181415028242 001000151028142 00
:

```

Table G-5 - Rejected Record Values

| Description                 | Value                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| FNS Retailer ID Number      | 1234567                   |
| Retailer State Location     | VA                        |
| POS Terminal Id             | 34263601                  |
| House Account Number        | YYYYYYYYYYYY              |
| Card Account Number         | XXXXXXXXXXXX1069          |
| Transaction Date            | 20060206 (2006-02-06)     |
| Transaction Time            | 181415 (18:14:15)         |
| Transaction Amount          | 028242 (\$282.42)         |
| Transaction Sign            | -                         |
| EBT Program                 | 00                        |
| Transaction Type            | 10 (Purchase)             |
| Transaction Method          | 0 (Electronic)            |
| Store and Forward Indicator | 0 (Not store and Forward) |

USDA Food & Nutrition Service

EBI Subsystems

| Description                            | Value              |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Response Code                          | 151 (Rejected NSF) |
| Available Balance prior to transaction | 028142 (\$281.42)  |
| Filler                                 | blank              |
| Record Delimiter                       | 0D0A               |

### G.3.1 Sample Submission Contents

| Record Type | Record Number | 1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9                                    |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Header      | 1             | DC200602040000000000XYZ-Corp 20060205200602040000000200602042335959051               |
| Detail      | 2             | 1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060204181415010280-0010000000028142 |
| Detail      | 3             | 1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060204183751010280+0030000000017862 |
| :           | :             | :                                                                                    |
| Detail      | 785           | 1234568DC34263601ZZZZZZZZZZZZ XXXXXXXXXXXXX1092 20060204181415028242-001000151028142 |
| Trailer     | 786           | DC200602040000000784XYZ-Corp 20060205200602040000000200602042335959051               |

## **AMA File Formats**

AMA - Record Format for Batch Issuance File from Processor

### **File Formats (INCOMING)**

Each batch issuance file received by Account Management Agent (AMA) must be in the format specified below in order for data to be successfully processed.

#### **Issuance Files**

Processors may send batch files that contain issuance data. Each file is required to have a File Header Record and a File Trailer Record. If the file contains only a File Header Record and File Trailer Record, then the file trailer's File-Record-Count must be 000002 and the file will be treated as an "empty" file.

If the file is not "empty" it must contain at least one project header record, at least one effective date detail record for each project header record, one to five unique detail transaction records for each effective date record, and a project trailer record for each project header. The records should be sequenced in the following manner:

- Project Header Records should appear in ascending order based on the combination of Agency-Location-Code, Region-Code, Recipient-Organization-ID, Program-Year-Code, and Letter-Of-Credit-Code.
- Detail Effective Date Records should appear in ascending order within each project based on Effective-Date.
- Detail Transaction Code Records should appear in ascending order within each effective date based on Transaction-Code.

The following depicts the format of this file:

- File is fixed block
- Record size is 80 characters

### File Header Record

| Field              | Length/Type | Value/Description                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Record Type        | PIC X (02)  | 'FH'                                                                                                                                                            |
| Processor ID       | PIC 9(08)   | Number which uniquely identifies a processor; FRB Operations will provide this number to each processor before the processor begins transmitting issuance files |
| File Number        | PIC 9(06)   | Begins at 000001 and incremented by 1 for each new file **                                                                                                      |
| File Creation Date | PIC 9(08)   | 'CCYYMMDD' format                                                                                                                                               |
| File Creation Time | PIC 9(06)   | 'HHMMSS' format                                                                                                                                                 |
| Filler             | PIC X(50)   | SPACES                                                                                                                                                          |

\*\* If a processor handles more than one state, the beginning file number may vary.

### Project Header Record

| Field                     | Length/Type | Value/Description                         |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Record Type               | PIC X(02)   | 'PH'                                      |
| Agency Location Code      | PIC X(08)   | '12350001'                                |
| Region Code               | PIC X(02)   | '09'                                      |
| Recipient Organization ID | PIC 9(07)   | Recipient Organization ID for the project |
| Program Year Code         | PIC X(04)   | '0080'                                    |
| Letter of Credit Code     | PIC X(04)   | Letter of Credit Code for the project     |
| Index Code                | PIC X(12)   | '9S6008'                                  |
| Filler                    | PIC X(41)   | SPACES                                    |

### Detail Record – Effective Date

| Field          | Length/Type | Value/Description |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Record Type    | PIC X(02)   | 'PD'              |
| Detail Type    | PIC X(02)   | 'ED'              |
| Effective Date | PIC 9(08)   | 'CCYYMMDD'        |
| Filler         | PIC X(68)   | SPACES            |

### Detail Record – Transaction Code

| Field              | Length/Type    | Value/Description                                                                                                    |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Record Type        | PIC X(02)      | 'PD'                                                                                                                 |
| Detail Type        | PIC X(02)      | 'PB'                                                                                                                 |
| Transaction Code   | PIC X(02)      | 'IO' (issuance other)<br>'IS' (issuance)<br>'RC' (return coupon)<br>'RE' (return expungement)<br>'RO' (return other) |
| Transaction Amount | PIC 9(12 V(02) |                                                                                                                      |
| Filler             | PIC X(60)      | SPACES                                                                                                               |



### Project Trailer Record

| Field                       | Length/Type     | Value/Description                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Record Type                 | PIC X(02)       | 'PT'                                                                                                                   |
| Agency Location Code        | PIC X(08)       | '12350001'                                                                                                             |
| Region Code                 | PIC X(02)       | '09'                                                                                                                   |
| Recipient Organization Code | PIC 9(07)       | Must match the Project Header Record                                                                                   |
| Program Year Code           | PIC X(04)       | '0080'                                                                                                                 |
| Letter of Credit Code       | PIC X(04)       | Must match the Project Header Record                                                                                   |
| Index Code                  | PIC X(12)       | '9S6008'                                                                                                               |
| Filler                      | PIC X(06)       | SPACES                                                                                                                 |
| Project Total Amount        | PIC 9(12) V(02) | Sum of all transaction amounts for current project (will be positive number since each transaction amount is positive) |
| Project Record Count        | PIC 9(06)       | Count of all records for current project including Project Header and Project Trailer records                          |
| Filler                      | PIC X(15)       | SPACES                                                                                                                 |

### File Trailer Record

| Field              | Length/Type | Value/Description                                                           |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Record Type        | PIC X(02)   | 'FT'                                                                        |
| Processor ID       | PIC 9(08)   | Must match File Header Record                                               |
| File Number        | PIC 9(06)   | Must match File Header Record                                               |
| File Creation Date | PIC 9(08)   | Must match File Header Record                                               |
| File Creation Time | PIC 9(06)   | Must match File Header Record                                               |
| File Record Count  | PIC 9(06)   | Count of all records in file including File Header and File Trailer records |
| Filler             | PIC X(44)   | SPACES                                                                      |

### Sample File

```
*****Top of Data*****
FHXXXXXXXX00000010000229003710
PH1235000109NNNNNNN0080YYYY9S6008
PDED20000228
PDPBIS000000000255055
PDED20000229
PDPBIS000000003006507
PT1235000109NNNNNNN0080YYYY9S6008  0000000321562000006
FTXXXXXXXX00000010000229003710000008
*****Bottom of Data*****
XXXXXXX - Processor ID
NNNNNNN - Recipient Organization (RO)-ID
YYYY - Letter of Credit Code for the Project
```

## REDE INFORMATION AND FILE FORMATS

In support of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) implementation, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) determined that an automated process was required to notify the EBT Processors, contracted by each state (and possibly by each county), of any changes to the data for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) retailers to which they provide service.

FNS has established requirements that the automated process will:

- A. **Provide Detailed State Retailer Data for State EBT Processors.** FNS will provide a file of data for each retailer within a state to EBT processors. An EBT processor may request a file for multiple states. Changes to this retailer file, which contains additions and deletions of retailers, as well as changes to the basic information, will be provided on a daily basis, Monday through Friday. A full file of the retailer data for each state will be provided on a monthly basis. This full file will allow the EBT processor to verify that no retailer changes have been missed.
- B. **Provide National Retailer Data for Interoperability Between States.** FNS will initially provide, to each EBT processor, a file of limited data for each authorized retailer in the SNAP. This file will be used to allow for the inter-operability between states and EBT processors for the EBT redemption process. Changes to this file (additions and deletions of retailers) will be provided on a daily basis, Monday through Friday. A complete file of the limited retailer data for the entire SNAP will be provided on a monthly basis. The complete file will allow the EBT processor to verify that no retailer changes have been missed.

The Retailer Electronic Data Exchange (REDE) interface was developed to facilitate the exchange of retailer data between FNS and the EBT processors. REDE replaced the manual process which required a field office to fax the changes for a store to the EBT processor. It has helped to reduce the EBT processors' submission of incorrect authorization numbers with redemption data which must then be manually researched by FNS staff at the Benefit Redemption Systems Branch (BRSB), and at FNS regional offices and field offices. It can also be made available to Third Party Processors to limit input errors.

The most critical exchange is FNS' notification of EBT processors concerning newly authorized EBT retailers and EBT retailers who have been withdrawn or disqualified as participants in the SNAP. The EBT processor is responsible for promptly setting up a newly authorized EBT retailer to participate in the EBT redemption process, generally within 2 weeks of this notification. The EBT processor is also responsible for removing a withdrawn or disqualified retailer from the EBT redemption process within 2 days of notification from FNS.

The REDE Subsystem supports interoperability, which allows a SNAP recipient from one state's program to make EBT purchases in another state. Interoperability is supported through the notification of all EBT processors concerning changes in any SNAP retailer's authorization status. The REDE Subsystem provides this data not only to the state and/or county EBT processors, but also to organizations that may provide Gateway services to multiple EBT processors and/or to any other FNS-approved organizations. The data provided on each store authorized to accept SNAP EBT transactions is limited to only that data which allows the basic identification of the store as an authorized retailer.

## **Operations**

REDE processing includes standard (regularly scheduled) nightly and monthly operations and ad hoc operations. Both types of REDE operations are performed at the Benefit Redemption Systems Branch (BRSB) in Minneapolis, MN. The standard nightly operations are performed nightly, Monday through Friday, and create the state and national retailer data update files. The standard monthly operations are performed monthly (on the first Saturday of the calendar month) and create the full state and national retailer data files. The state retailer data update files are used to update the Retailer EBT Data Exchange (REDE) database. Ad hoc operations are performed as requested when a State Agency and/or EBT processor requests a start-up copy of a state or national retailer update file.

The REDE Subsystem will create state retailer data update files and a national retailer data update file on a nightly basis, Monday through Friday. The exceptions to this are federal holidays that fall on a weekday. A full state retailer data file and national data file, which contain authorized stores, will be created on a monthly basis during the first full weekend of a calendar month. These files will be readied for transmission to authorized recipients of each state's file and the national file who will be given the choice of accessing these files using either a Connect Direct process through the USDA Computer Center in Kansas City or a VPN internet solution.

### **Creating State Retailer Data Update Files**

Each night, the REDE Subsystem will utilize the current and prior night's Retailer Extract File to create the state retailer data update files for those states that the State Agencies and/or EBT processors have included in a file of requested states. The state retailer data update files contain the retailer data update transactions for each state's retailers. These transactions identify when a retailer has been added to, removed from, or re-activated into the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and identify if certain key retailer data has changed. If a state incurs no changes to its retailers' data, a file will still be created for that state and will contain a header record and trailer record which identify that no detail records were included in the file. The creation of a file for each of the requested states will improve security and integrity as the authorized data files recipients from each state will always get a file, even when it does not contain any updates.

### **Creating National Retailer Data Update Files**

The national retailer data update files are also created by REDE on a nightly basis and will be readied for access in the same manner as the state retailer data update files. Each file will identify if a retailer has been removed from, or added to, the set of retailers authorized to perform EBT processing for the SNAP. While additions and deletions are the primary types of transactions, there is also a modify transaction that identifies whether the first ten characters of the retailer name have changed, or whether the state within which the retailer resides, has been changed or whether the business type has been changed. Ideally, the state change should occur only if someone miskeys the information into the primary retailer database and then later corrects it.

The national retailer update file may be sent to entities other than the state EBT processors; for example, it may also be provided to some independent processors that support a national EBT retailer database for the state EBT processors. As with the state file, if there are no changes to any retailers in the nation, a file containing a header record and a trailer record will be created which identify that no detail records were included in the file. This will ensure that all authorized recipients are aware that there were no changes to the nation's retailers for that period.

### **Creating Full State and National Retailer Data Files**

On a monthly basis, the REDE Subsystem will create a full file of all of the state retailer data files and the national retailer data file using the most current Retailer Extract File. These files will be readied for access in the same manner as the update files. The primary purpose of these files is to ensure that updates have not been missed and that all updates were received by the authorized recipients of each file.

### **Creation of Start-up State and National Retailer Data Files**

When requested by a newly implemented EBT state or that state's EBT processor, the REDE Subsystem will create a set of start-up files consisting of a full state retailer data file and/or full national retailer data file. The files will be created using the most current Retailer Extract File and will be readied for access in the same manner as the standard monthly files. These start-up files are provided for a state and an EBT processor to use when the state's EBT implementation does not coincide with the creation and transmission of the standard monthly Full State Retailer Data Files and National Retailer Data File.

**EXPANDED REDE STATE RETAILER FILE FORMAT****Header Record**

| FIELD DESCRIPTION     | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transaction Type Code | Char       | 1           | 1              | Blank                                                                                                                                |
| State Code            | Char       | 2           | 2 - 3          | Alphabetic state code where stores are located                                                                                       |
| Date Range            |            |             |                | Date range for effective dates of retailer update transactions                                                                       |
| Beginning Date        | Char       | 8           | 4 - 11         | For the daily update file, the beginning date of date range in CCYYMMDD format. For the monthly file, the date the file is produced. |
| Ending Date           | Char       | 8           | 12 - 19        | For the daily file, the ending date of date range in CCYYMMDD format. For the monthly file, the date the file is produced            |
| Transaction Count     | Num        | 7           | 20 - 26        | Count of detail records in the file                                                                                                  |
| Filler                | Char       | 395         | 27 - 421       | Blanks (mainframe files only)                                                                                                        |

### Trailer Record

| FIELD DESCRIPTION                    | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transaction Type Code                | Char       | 1           | 1              | 'T' - Trailer record                                                                                                                 |
| State Code                           | Char       | 2           | 2 - 3          | Alphabetic state code where stores are located                                                                                       |
| Date Range                           |            |             |                | Date range for effective dates of retailer update transactions                                                                       |
| Beginning Date                       | Char       | 8           | 4 - 11         | For the daily update file, the beginning date of date range in CCYYMMDD format. For the monthly file, the date the file is produced. |
| Ending Date                          | Char       | 8           | 12 - 19        | For the daily file, the ending date of date range in CCYYMMDD format. For the monthly file, the date the file is produced.           |
| Transaction Count                    | Num        | 7           | 20 - 26        | Count of detail records in the file                                                                                                  |
| Add Transaction Record Count         | Num        | 7           | 27 - 33        | Count of "add" transaction records in the file                                                                                       |
| Delete Transaction Record Count      | Num        | 7           | 34 - 40        | Count of "delete" transaction records in the file                                                                                    |
| Modify Transaction Record Count      | Num        | 7           | 41 - 47        | Count of "modify" transaction records in the file                                                                                    |
| Re-activate Transaction Record Count | Num        | 7           | 48 - 54        | Count of "re-activate" transaction records in the file                                                                               |
| Hash Count                           | Num        | 8           | 55 - 62        | Numeric hash count for backwards compatibility                                                                                       |
| Filler                               | Char       | 359         | 63 - 421       | Blanks (mainframe files only)                                                                                                        |

### Detail Records

| FIELD DESCRIPTION          | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transaction Type Code      | Char       | 1           | 1              | 'A' if a new store was added; 'R' if a previously authorized store was reinstated (Auth status 01, Reason Code 02); 'M' if an existing store was modified; 'D' if an existing store was removed from the program. |
| State Abbreviation         | Char       | 2           | 2-3            | Alphabetic State Code                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Store Number               | Num        | 7           | 4-10           | STARS Authorization Number                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Store Name                 | Char       | 50          | 11-60          | Full name of store                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Primary Telephone Number   | Num        | 10          | 61-70          | Full telephone number with area code                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Alternate Telephone Number | Num        | 10          | 71-80          | Telephone number to use in case Primary Telephone Number is unavailable.                                                                                                                                          |
| Open 24 Hours Indicator    | Char       | 1           | 81             | 'Y' if open 24 hours; otherwise 'N'                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Registers Count            | Num        | 5           | 82-86          | Total number of check-out registers in store                                                                                                                                                                      |
| County Code                | Char       | 3           | 87-89          | Code indicating county within state where store resides                                                                                                                                                           |
| Business Type Code         | Char       | 2           | 90-91          | Code indicating type of store - see Figure 1                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Address Number             | Char       | 8           | 92-99          | Address number on street where store is located                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Street Name                | Char       | 40          | 100-139        | Full name of street where store is located                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Additional Address Info    | Char       | 40          | 140-179        | Supplemental address information that is not contained in the street name (e.g. Suite Number)                                                                                                                     |
| City Name                  | Char       | 30          | 180-209        | Full name of city where store is located                                                                                                                                                                          |



| FIELD DESCRIPTION                    | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| State Code                           | Char       | 2           | 210-211        | Alphabetic state code where store is located.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Zip Code                             | Num        | 5           | 212-216        | 5 digit zip code where store is located.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Zip 4 Code                           | Num        | 4           | 217-220        | 4 digit zip code suffix where store is located                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Authorization Status Code            | Char       | 2           | 221-222        | Code indicating current authorization status of store - <b>see Figure 2.</b>                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Authorization Status Date            | Num        | 8           | 223-230        | Effective date of current authorization status in CCYYMMDD format.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Authorization Withdrawal Reason Code | Char       | 2           | 231-232        | Reason for authorization or withdrawal - <b>see Figure 3</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Re-certification Status Date         | Num        | 8           | 233-240        | Date in CCYYMMDD format the store was re-certified (re-authorized) as authorized under FNS regulations based on updated data supplied by the retailer.                                                                                            |
| Ownership Type Code                  | Char       | 1           | 241            | '1' if sole proprietorship or '2' if partnership or '3' if privately-held corporation or '4' if publicly owned corporation or '5' if cooperative or '6' if government or '7' if limited liability company or '8' if limited liability partnership |
| Owner's Name Format                  | Char       | 1           | 242            | '1' if a person's name or '2' if an organization's name (corporation, company, government, etc.)                                                                                                                                                  |
| Owner's Name                         | Char       | 50          | 243-292        | Organization or primary person that owns the retailer (if person's name, the first 15 characters contain the first name, the second 15 characters the middle name or initial, and the last 20 characters contain the last name)                   |

| FIELD DESCRIPTION               | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mailing Address Number          | Char       | 8           | 293-300        | Address number on street on store mailing address.                                                    |
| Mailing Street Name             | Char       | 40          | 301-340        | Full name of street on store mailing address.                                                         |
| Mailing Additional Address Info | Char       | 40          | 341-380        | Supplemental mailing address information that is not contained in the street name (e.g. Suite Number) |
| Mailing City Name               | Char       | 30          | 381-410        | Full name of city on store mailing address.                                                           |
| Mailing State Code              | Char       | 2           | 411-412        | Alphabetic state code on store mailing address.                                                       |
| Mailing Zip Code                | Num        | 5           | 413-417        | 5 digit zip code on store mailing address.                                                            |
| Mailing Zip 4 Code              | Num        | 4           | 418-421        | 4 digit zip code extension on store mailing address.                                                  |

**NATIONAL RETAILER FILE****Header Record**

| FIELD DESCRIPTION     | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transaction Type Code | Char       | 1           | 1              | Blank                                                                           |
| Creation Date         | Char       | 8           | 2 - 9          | Date this file was created in CCYYMMDD format.                                  |
| File Type             | Char       | 1           | 10 - 10        | File type indicator where 'D' = daily change file, 'F' = full replacement file. |
| Transaction Count     | Num        | 7           | 11 - 17        | Count of detail records in the file                                             |
| Filler                | Char       | 18          | 18 - 35        | Blanks                                                                          |

**Trailer Record**

| FIELD DESCRIPTION        | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                        |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transaction Type Code    | Char       | 1           | 1              | 'T' - Trailer record                                                            |
| Creation Date            | Char       | 8           | 2 - 9          | Date this file was created in CCYYMMDD format.                                  |
| File Type                | Char       | 1           | 10 - 10        | File type indicator where 'D' = daily change file, 'F' = full replacement file. |
| Add Transaction Count    | Num        | 7           | 11 - 17        | Count of "add" detail records in the file                                       |
| Delete Transaction Count | Num        | 7           | 18 - 24        | Count of "delete" detail records in the file                                    |
| Modify Transaction Count | Num        | 7           | 25 - 31        | Count of "modify" detail records in the file                                    |
| Filler                   | Char       | 4           | 32 - 35        | Blanks                                                                          |

### Detail Record

| FIELD DESCRIPTION     | FIELD TYPE | FIELD WIDTH | FIELD POSITION | COMMENTS                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transaction Type Code | Char       | 1           | 1              | 'A' if store was added or 'D' if store was deleted or 'M' if state code, first ten characters of store name or business type code were modified |
| Store Identification  | Num        | 7           | 2 - 8          | STARS Authorization Number                                                                                                                      |
| State Code            | Char       | 2           | 9 - 10         | Alphabetic state code where store is located                                                                                                    |
| Store Name            | Char       | 10          | 11 - 20        | First ten characters of the store name                                                                                                          |
| Business Type Code    | Char       | 2           | 21 - 22        | Code indicating type of store                                                                                                                   |
| Filler                | Char       | 13          | 23 - 35        | Blanks                                                                                                                                          |

**Code Definitions for Business Type, Authorization Status and State  
Code/Abbreviation**

The values for the Business Type; Authorization Status; Status Reason and State Abbreviation codes used in the record layouts are listed in the Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 below:

| <b>Business Type<br/>Code</b> | <b>Description</b>                              | <b>Store or Meal<br/>Service</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| AD                            | Drug and/or Alcohol Treatment Program           | Meal Service                     |
| BB                            | Bakery Specialty                                | Store                            |
| BC                            | Non-profit Food Buying Co-op                    | Store                            |
| BW                            | Shelter for Battered Women and Children         | Meal Service                     |
| CA                            | Community Supported Agriculture<br>Organization | Store                            |
| CD                            | Communal Dining Facility                        | Meal Service                     |
| CO                            | Combination Grocery/Other                       | Store                            |
| CS                            | Convenience Store                               | Store                            |
| DR                            | Delivery Route                                  | Store                            |
| DF                            | Direct Marketing Farmer                         | Store                            |
| FM                            | Farmers' Market                                 | Store                            |
| FV                            | Fruits/Vegetable Specialty                      | Store                            |
| GL                            | Group Living Arrangement                        | Meal Service                     |
| HP                            | Homeless Meal Provider                          | Meal Service                     |
| IR                            | Internet Retailer                               | Store                            |
| LG                            | Large Grocery Store                             | Store                            |
| MC                            | Military Commissary                             | Store                            |
| MD                            | Meal Delivery Service                           | Meal Service                     |
| ME                            | Meat/Poultry Specialty                          | Store                            |
| MG                            | Medium Grocery Store                            | Store                            |
| RE                            | Private Restaurant/Meal Delivery                | Meal Service                     |
| SC                            | Senior Citizens' Center/Residential Building    | Meal Service                     |
| SE                            | Seafood Specialty                               | Store                            |
| SG                            | Small Grocery Store                             | Store                            |
| SM                            | Supermarket                                     | Store                            |
| SS                            | Super Store                                     | Store                            |
| WH                            | Wholesaler                                      | Store                            |

**Figure 1  
Business Type Code List**

| Authorization Status Codes |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Code                       | Status                     |
| 01                         | Authorized                 |
| 03                         | Withdrawn                  |
| 04                         | Disqualified               |
| 07                         | Permanent Disqualification |
| 10                         | Permanently Withdrawn      |

**Figure 2**  
**Authorization Status Codes**

| Status Reason Codes           |      |                                                                 |
|-------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Status (Status Code)          | Code | Reason                                                          |
| Authorized (01)               | 01   | Initial Authorization                                           |
| Authorized (01)               | 02   | Reinstated                                                      |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 01   | Voluntary Withdrawal                                            |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 02   | Involuntary – Other                                             |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 03   | Involuntary - Withdrawn                                         |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 04   | Involuntary – Does not meet Criteria A or Criteria B            |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 05   | Involuntary – Not a Retail Food Store                           |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 06   | Involuntary – Failure to Cooperate                              |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 07   | Involuntary – Failure to Pay                                    |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 08   | Involuntary – Business Integrity                                |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 09   | Involuntary – Non-Redeemer                                      |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 10*  | Involuntary – No State Contract*                                |
| Withdrawn (03)                | 11   | Involuntary – Failure to Cooperate with Reauthorization Process |
| Disqualified (04)             | 01   | SNAP Violation                                                  |
| Disqualified (04)             | 02   | WIC Program Violation                                           |
| Disqualified (04)             | 03   | Failure to Pay                                                  |
| Permanently Disqualified (07) | 01   | SNAP Violation                                                  |
| Permanently Disqualified (07) | 02   | WIC Program Violation                                           |
| Permanently Disqualified (07) | 03   | Failure to Pay                                                  |
| Permanently Withdrawn (10)    | 01   | Business Integrity                                              |

\*This code only applies to authorized meal services that are withdrawn from the Program for failure to maintain or renew state certification

**Figure 3**  
**Status Reason Codes**

| State Abbreviation Codes       |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| State/Possession               | Code |
| ALABAMA                        | AL   |
| ALASKA                         | AK   |
| AMERICAN SAMOA                 | AS   |
| ARIZONA                        | AZ   |
| ARKANSAS                       | AR   |
| CALIFORNIA                     | CA   |
| COLORADO                       | CO   |
| CONNECTICUT                    | CT   |
| DELEWARE                       | DE   |
| DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA           | DC   |
| FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA | FM   |
| FLORIDA                        | FL   |
| GEORGIA                        | GA   |
| GUAM                           | GU   |
| HAWAII                         | HI   |
| IDAHO                          | ID   |
| ILLINOIS                       | IL   |
| INDIANA                        | IN   |
| IOWA                           | IA   |
| KANSAS                         | KS   |
| KENTUCKY                       | KY   |
| LOUISIANA                      | LA   |
| MAINE                          | ME   |
| MARSHALL ISLANDS               | MH   |
| MARYLAND                       | MD   |
| MASSACHUSETTS                  | MA   |
| MICHIGAN                       | MI   |
| MINNESOTA                      | MN   |
| MISSISSIPPI                    | MS   |
| MISSOURI                       | MO   |
| MONTANA                        | MT   |
| NEBRASKA                       | NE   |
| NEVADA                         | NV   |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE                  | NH   |
| NEW JERSEY                     | NJ   |
| NEW MEXICO                     | NM   |
| NEW YORK                       | NY   |
| NORTH CAROLINA                 | NC   |
| NORTH DAKOTA                   | ND   |
| NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS       | MP   |
| OHIO                           | OH   |
| OKLAHOMA                       | OK   |
| OREGON                         | OR   |
| PALAU                          | PW   |
| PENNSYLVANIA                   | PA   |

| State/Possession | Code |
|------------------|------|
| PUERTO RICO      | PR   |
| RHODE ISLAND     | RI   |
| SOUTH CAROLINA   | SC   |
| SOUTH DAKOTA     | SD   |
| TENNESSEE        | TN   |
| TEXAS            | TX   |
| UTAH             | UT   |
| VERMONT          | VT   |
| VIRGIN ISLANDS   | VI   |
| VIRGINIA         | VA   |
| WASHINGTON       | WA   |
| WEST VIRGINIA    | WV   |
| WISCONSIN        | WI   |
| WYOMING          | WY   |

**Figure 4**  
**State Abbreviation Codes**



## Additional Information

1. A modify transaction will contain all of the current data for a retailer. It does not **just** identify the elements that have changed.
2. The Zip 4 Code field will contain zeroes if the zip code is unknown.
3. If the retailer's mailing address is the same as the location address, the mailing address's character type fields will contain spaces and its numeric type fields will contain zeros. There are some retailers in the file, however, where the same information is reflected in both fields.
4. The monthly file will contain one add transaction for each authorized retailer within the state that is in the STARS database. An authorized retailer will have an authorization status code of '01' (Authorized). It does not contain de-authorized retailers that have an authorization status code of '03' (Withdrawn) or '04' (Disqualified) or '07' (Permanently Disqualified) or '10' (Permanently Withdrawn).
5. There are a few retailers that do not have a street address. This is a valid situation in certain cases. For instance, it is possible that the store is not on a street. Such as on an Indian Reservation.
6. Retailers that are involuntarily removed from SNAP will be given a five day grace period after the effective date until the removal is reflected in the REDE files. This grace period potentially allows for any appeals of the removal. The exception to this grace period is for the permanent disqualification (Authorization code of '07') where there is no suspension of the disqualification pending the outcome of an appeal.
7. Retailers that have been added to STARS as a new retailer, with an open date in the future, **will be** sent in the daily State Update File as soon as they are entered into STARS. This differs from the National Update File where future dated stores **will not** be included in the daily National Update File **until 3 days prior to the effective date.**

# File Format for STARS System

### Header Record

|                     |           |                                  |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Record identifier   | PIC X     | Value '1'                        |
| Filler              | PIC X     | Value space                      |
| Processor R/T #     | PIC X(9)  | Bank R/T number                  |
| Processor Suffix #  | PIC X(7)  | Bank Suffix number or zeros      |
| State Code          | PIC XX    | Alpha state code                 |
| Filler              | PIC X(3)  | Value zeros.                     |
| Date file generated | PIC X(6)  | YYMMDD                           |
| Time file generated | PIC X(4)  | HHMM                             |
| LOC number          | PIC X(4)  | Letter of Credit number or state |
| Filler              | PIC X(43) | Value spaces.                    |

### Retailer Transaction Record

|                                          |             |                                                    |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Record identifier                        | PIC X       | Value space                                        |
| Credit date                              | PIC X(6)    | YYMMDD                                             |
| Filler                                   | PIC X(12)   | Value spaces                                       |
| 'Sign' for dollar<br>amount (next field) | PIC X       | + or -                                             |
| Dollar amount                            | PIC 9(7)V99 | Daily total amount for<br>retailer for credit date |
| Retailer FNS number                      | PIC X(7)    |                                                    |
| Filler                                   | PIC X(44)   | Value spaces                                       |

Daily Total Record

|                                       |             |                                                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Record identifier                     | PIC X       | Value 'C'                                               |
| Credit date                           | PIC X(6)    | YYMMDD                                                  |
| Total count                           | PIC 9(6)    | Total number of transaction records for credit date     |
| Filler                                | PIC X(6)    | Value spaces                                            |
| 'Sign' for dollar amount (next field) | PIC X       | + or -                                                  |
| Total amount                          | PIC 9(9)V99 | Total dollar amount of all transactions for credit date |
| FillerPIC X(49)                       |             | Value spaces                                            |

Trailer Record

|                                          |             |                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Record identifier                        | PIC X       | Value 'T'                                                            |
| Filler                                   | PIC X(6)    | Value spaces                                                         |
| Total record count                       | PIC 9(6)    | Total number of transaction records in this transmission             |
| Filler                                   | PIC X(6)    | Value spaces                                                         |
| 'Sign' for dollar amount<br>(next field) | PIC X       | + or -                                                               |
| Total dollar amount                      | PIC 9(9)V99 | Total dollar amount for all transaction records in this transmission |
| Filler                                   | PIC X(49)   | Value spaces                                                         |