



## SIERRA CATALOGING

# RDA (Resource Description and Access)

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### What is RDA?

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is used in MARC21 bibliographic, authority, and holdings formats and is the successor to Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR2), which previously governed descriptive cataloging. RDA updates existing description guidelines and provides a framework for describing all resources. For more details and specifications on RDA, see Additional Resources below.

### Does Sierra handle RDA?

Yes. Sierra can load, display, validate, and index the new RDA data elements. There are no changes to how records are transferred and shared between systems; Data Exchange and Z39.50 accommodate all changes from RDA.

As RDA options evolve and your library's needs change, you may submit the Review current configuration for RDA (Sierra) service commitment to request that Innovative staff update your library's configuration (Solution ID 160111100517119). The service commitment will do the following:

1. Allow your library to request load table and indexing rules updates to support RDA changes or the library's changing needs.
2. Libraries that have sent staff to Load Profile training may change their own tables. View load tables in the Admin App. Choose **System Files | Admin Corner | System Options and Information | Information About the System | Codes Used | MARC Load Tables**.
3. You may optionally request that Innovative staff review your load tables and indexing rules and recommend changes.
4. You may optionally request that Innovative staff review your index rules and recommend changes.
5. Allow your library to adjust other aspects of validation and display in response to changes / updates in RDA or changing needs at your institution.

# Training

## Are there other steps we can take to keep our system current as RDA evolves?

Yes, Innovative offers service commitments for requesting updates to MARC validity tables. Open a ticket with Support to request that Innovative updates your validity tables as well as the Special Field Codes file.

- Load Library of Congress MARC TAG validation tables to replace existing tables (Sierra) (Solution ID 190822160401952)
- Load updated Special Field Codes file (Sierra)

**Note:** Also remember to update your [Record Display Definition File](#) (webpubdef) to display (or prevent display) in WebPAC of new fields introduced in RDA. See [Quick Guide: RDA, webpub.def, and WebPAC display](#).

## Additional Resources

- Joint Steering Committee (JSC) for Development of [RDA FAQ](#)
- [RDA in MARC](#)

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