Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

Account Management Agent (AMA) File Format Specifications:

AMA-Record Format for Batch Issuance File from Processor

File Formats (Incoming)

Each batch issuance file received by Account Management Agent (AMA) shall 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 and File Trailer Record, then the file trailer's File-Record Count shall be 000002 and the file will be treated as an "empty" file.

If the file is not "empty" it shall contain a 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)	Shall be unique for the Project (if a processor handles more than one state, the beginning file number may vary)
File Creation Date	PIC 9(08)	'CCYYMMDD' format
File Creation Time	PIC 9(06)	'HHMMSS' format
Filler	PIC X(50)	Value spaces

Project Header Record (Duplicate Project Header Records are not allowed within a file).

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)	Value spaces

Detail Record – Effective Date (Duplicate Effective Date Records are not allowed within a project).

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)	Value spaces

Detail Record – Transaction Code (Duplicate Transaction Code Records are not allowed within an effective date).

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) 'IS' (issuance) 'RC' (return coupon) 'RE' (return expungement) 'RO' (return other)
Transaction Amount	PIC 9(12)V(02)	
Filler	PIC X(60)	Value 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)	Shall match the Project Header Record
Program Year Code	PIC X(04)	'0080'
Letter of Credit Code	PIC X(04)	Shall match the Project Header Record
Index Code	PIC X(12)	'9S6008'
Filler	PIC X(06)	Value 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)	Value spaces

File Trailer Record

Field	Length/Type	Value/Description
Record Type	PIC X(02)	'FT'
Processor ID	PIC 9(08)	Shall match File Header Record
File Number	PIC 9(06)	Shall match File Header Record
File Creation Date	PIC 9(08)	Shall match File Header Record
File Creation Time	PIC 9(06)	Shall 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)	Value spaces

Sample File

```
***********************************Top of Data***************************************
FHXXXXXXX00000010000229003710
PH1235000109NNNNNNN0080YYYY9S6008
PDED20000228
PDPBIS00000000255055
PDED20000229
PDPBIS00000003006507
PT1235000109NNNNNNN0080YYYY9S6008   0000000321562000006
FTXXXXXXX00000010000229003710000008
***********************************Bottom of Data***********************************
```

XXXXXXXX	- Processor ID
NNNNNNN	- Recipient Organization (RO)-ID
YYYY	- Letter of Credit Code for the Project

Store Tracking and Redemption Subsystem (STARS) File Format Specifications:

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 amount (next field)	PIC X	+ or -
Dollar amount	PIC 9(7)V99	Daily total amount for retailer for credit date
Retailer FNS number	PIC 9(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
Filler	PIC X(49)	Value spaces

Trailer Record

Record identifier	PIC X	Value 'T'
Filler	PIC X(6)	Value spaces
Total record count transmission	PIC 9(6)	Total number of transaction records in this transmission
Filler	PIC X(6)	Value spaces
'Sign' for dollar amount (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

Anti-Fraud Locator using EBT Retailer Transactions (ALERT) File Format Specifications:

Compressed Files containing submission files

- File format: ZIP
- ASCII Encoded
- 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_20060901R.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 shall 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

Submission Files Enclosed in Compressed File

- File Format: Fixed Record Length; Fixed Column width; records Delimited by
  Carriage Return (Hex "0D") Linefeed (Hex "0A") characters.
- ASCII Encoded.
- 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
> VA20060901R.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

EBT Submission Header and Trailer Record Specification

Description	Starting Position	Length	Type	Comments
Recipient State	1	2	Alpha	Alphabetic Abbreviation (i.e., VA) of state providing benefits to enclosed recipients
Redemption Year	3	4	Numeric	Four digit year (i.e., 2006) representing year in which enclosed transactions were conducted
Redemption Month	7	2	Numeric	Two digit month Values: 01 – 12 representing the month in which enclosed transactions were conducted
Sequence Number	9	2	Numeric	Two digit sequence number (See Table 1) of submission
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 SHALL contain valid count

Description	Starting Position	Length	Type	Comments
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.]
File generation date	50	8	Date	Date file generated in CCYYMMDD format
Period Start Date	58	8	Date	Starting date for enclosed transactions in CCYYMMDD format
Period Start Time	66	6	Time	Starting time for enclosed transactions in HHMMSS 24 hour format (GMT)
Period End Date	72	8	Date	Ending Date for enclosed transactions in CCYYMMDD format
Period End Time	80	6	Time	Ending time for enclosed transactions in HHMMSS 24 hour format (GMT)
Site Time Zone Offset	86	2	Numeric	Number of hours that processing site is offset from GMT (i.e. EST value is 05)

Description	Starting Position	Length	Type	Comments
Site Daylight Savings Time Indicator	88	1	Numeric	0 - Operating on Standard Time; 1 - Operating on Daylight Savings Time
Record Delimiter	89	2	CrLf	Carriage Return ASCII Hex Value 0D Linefeed ASCII Hex Value 0A

Table 1 – Sequence Numbers
00 Monthly Submissions
01 – 31 Day of Submission (i.e., 15 for 15th of month)

Header/Trailer Record Contextual Requirements

- Header Record shall be first record in submission file.

- Trailer Record shall be last record in submission file.

- Trailer Record shall have the number of transactions enclosed in submission file (count does not include number of Header/Trailer Records).

- Period Ending Date and Time shall be later than Period Starting Date and Time and all transactions included in submission shall have Date and Time values that fall between the start and end values provided on Header/Trailer record.

- On Daily Submissions, Time between Period Start Date and Time and Period Ending Date and Time shall constitute no more than 24 hours.

- While the specific value of "Name of Submitting Vendor" column is not critical it shall allow specific Point of Contact to be identified so that automated notifications can be implemented.

Examples:

- For Vendors with single host site, a single value shall be used for all submission files submitted by that Vendor. (i.e., "XYZ-Corp")

- For Vendors with multiple host sites or with points of contact responsible for a subset of

states serviced by Vendor company, a unique designator shall 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):

```
----+----1----+----2----+----3----+----4----+----5----+----6----+----7----+----8----+----
9
DC20060204000000000XYZ-Corp                     200602052006020400000002006020423595905100
```

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
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
DC20060200000000000XYZ-Corp                     2006030120060201000000020060228235959□□
```

Description	Value
Recipient State	DC
Redemption Year	2006
Redemption Month	02
Sequence Number	00
Number of transactions included	000000000

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

Description	Value
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

EBT Transaction Record Specification

Description	Starting Position	Length	Type	Comments
FNS Retailer ID Number	1	7	Numeric	Valid FNS Number identifying retailer
Retailer State Location	8	2	Alpha	State Abbreviation for retailer location
POS Terminal Id	10	8	Alphanumeric	ID (unique within retailer) of POS Terminal with trailing blanks
House Account Number	18	14	Alphanumeric	Account number that identifies household of card bearing recipient with trailing blanks
Card Account Number	32	19	Alphanumeric	Account Number on card stock used in transaction with trailing blanks
Transaction Date	51	8	Date	Date Transaction Completed in CCYYMMDD format (based on GMT)
Transaction Time	59	6	Time	Time in HHMMSS 24 hour format (in GMT)
Transaction Amount	65	6	Numeric	Transaction Amount in 9999V99 (assumed 2 decimal places) [i.e., 123456 to represent $1234.56]

Description	Starting Position	Length	Type	Comments
Transaction Sign	71	1	+ or -	+ to designate credit to recipient - to designate debit to recipient Ignored for Balance Inquiry type transactions
EBT Program	72	2	Numeric	00 – Food Stamp Program
Transaction Type	74	2	Numeric	10 – Purchase 20 – Refund 30 – Void last transaction 40 – Balance Inquiry
Transaction Method	76	1	Numeric	0 – Electronic Swipe 1 – Manual/Key Entered 2 – Paper Voucher 3 – RFID/Pay by Touch 4 – Paper Voucher (Authorization)
Store & Forward Indicator	77	1	Numeric	0 – Not a store & forward 1 – Denied 2 – Partially Approved 3 – Fully Approved
Response Code	78	3	Alphanumeric	Indicator for accepted or rejected transactions (see Table 2 for valid entries)
Available Balance prior to transaction	81	6	Numeric	Balance Amount in 9999V99 (assumed 2 decimal places) [i.e., 123456 to represent $1234.56]
Filler	87	2	N/A	Contents Ignored
Record Delimiter	89	2	CrLf	Carriage Return ASCII Value 0D Linefeed ASCII Value 0A

Table 2 – Valid Response Code Combinations

Response Code	ANSI Code[1] (bit 039)	Response Description
000	00	Accepted/Approved
151	51	Insufficient funds

---

[1] From the "ANSI X9.58-2002 Financial transaction messages – Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) – Food Stamps"

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

Response Code	ANSI Code[1] (bit 039)	Response Description
161	61	Return exceeds benefit authorization
155	55	Invalid PIN/PIN not selected
175	75	PIN Tries Exceeded
102	02	Bad FNS Status for Merchant
103	03	Invalid Merchant
141	41	Lost Card
143	43	Lost/Stolen Card
141	42	No Account
152	52	No Account on File
154	54	Expired Card
156	56	Card Number not found
159	59	Fraud (Return Card)
162	62	Restricted Card
105	05	General Denial
1A1	A1	Invalid Voucher ID/Invalid Authorization Number
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
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
192	92	Transaction destination cannot be found for routing
190	90	Processor not logged on
191	91	Authorizer Not Available
196	96	System malfunction
1S5	S5	Pin not selected

Transaction Record Contextual Requirements

- FNS Number and Retailer State Location shall match FNS STARS system provided values.

- Transaction Date and Time shall be between Header/Trailer Record Period Start Date and

Time and Period Ending Date and Time.

- "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Purchase (Transaction Type = "10") transactions shall have Amount value no more than Available Prior Balance value.

- "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Balance Inquiry (Transaction Type = "40") shall have Available Prior Balance Value and Amount shall be zero ($0.00).

- Store & Forward transactions with "Denied" Indicator ("1") shall have appropriate response Code (i.e., "151" [Insufficient Funds]).

- Store & Forward transactions with "Partially Approved" Indicator ("2") shall have the amount approved in the Amount field.

- "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Void Last Transaction (Transaction type = "30") shall immediately follow "Accepted/Approved" (Response Code = "000") Purchase (Transaction Type = "10") or Refund (Transaction Type = "20") being reversed and the following encoding shall be followed:

   a. FNS Number values shall match
   b. Household Account values shall match
   c. Card Number values shall match
   d. POS Terminal ID values shall match
   e. Absolute value of Amount values shall match
   f. Balance Prior to Transaction shall be consistent with activity

Example Purchase reversed by Void Last:

```
----+----1----+----2----+----3----+----4----+----5----+----6----+----7----+----8----+----9
1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYYY  XXXXXXXXXXXX1069
20060206181415010280-00100000028142□□
1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYYY  XXXXXXXXXXXX1069
20060206183751010280+00300000017862□□
```

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

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	YYYYYYYYYYY	YYYYYYYYYYY
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

- "Rejected" (Response Code between "102" and "1S5") where all authentication credentials have been met (authorized retailer, valid card number and PIN, etc.) shall 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
1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYY  XXXXXXXXXXXX1069
20060206181415028242-00100151028142□□
```

Rejected Record Values

Description	Value
FNS Retailer ID Number	1234567
Retailer State Location	VA
POS Terminal Id	34263601
House Account Number	YYYYYYYYYYY
Card Account Number	XXXXXXXXXXXX1069
Transaction Date	20060206 (2006-02-06)
Transaction Time	181415 (18:14:15)

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

Description	Value
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)
Response Code	151 (Rejected – NSF)
Available Balance prior to transaction	028142 ($281.42)
Record Delimiter	0D0A

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

Sample Submission Contents

Record Type	Record Number	
		----+----1----+----2----+----3----+----4----+----5----+----6----+----7----+----8----+----9
Header	1	DC20060204000000000XYZ-Corp 200602052006020400000020060204235959051□□
Detail	2	1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060204181415010280-001000000028142 □□
Detail	3	1234567VA34263601YYYYYYYYYYYY XXXXXXXXXXXX1069 20060204183751010280+003000000017862 □□
	:	
	:	
Detail	785	1234568DC34263601ZZZZZZZZZZZZ XXXXXXXXXXXX1092 20060204181415028242-001000151028142 □□
Trailer	786	DC20060204000000784XYZ-Corp 200602052006020400000020060204235959051□□

Retailer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Data Exchange (REDE) File Format Specifications:

REDE START-UP PACKAGE

In support of EBT implementation, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) determined that an automated process is required to notify the EBT Processors, contracted by each state, of any changes to the data for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly the Food Stamp Program (FSP)) 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. **Process the Confirmation of Changes from State EBT Processors.** The EBT processor will provide a confirmation file on a weekly basis as an audit trail showing the retailer data additions, deletions, and changes that were received and implemented by the processor. The file will also serve as a means for the EBT processor to provide retailer data to FNS that is in addition to the data stored in the Store Tracking, Authorization and Redemption Subsystem (STARS) database. This data will include such information as the EBT processor's identification code for the retailer and the number of point-of-sale (POS) devices installed. A future enhancement will allow the EBT processors to report feedback on any appropriate retailer information that they may discover from a source other than FNS.

C. **Monitor the Compliance of EBT Processors.**   A method of monitoring the EBT processors' compliance with the actions of implementing or removing a participating retailer needs to be developed. The method will involve verifying that the confirmation dates submitted by the EBT processors for these actions are within the required time period from the notification date. The user groups that have access to this monitoring function will consist of the personnel from the field offices, regional offices, FNS headquarters and state agencies.

D. **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 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.

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

The REDE Subsystem, a software application in the Information Technology System 2000 (ITS2000) Program, was developed by ALTA Systems, Inc. under contract task to FNS. REDE facilitates the exchange of retailer data between FNS and the EBT processors. REDE replaces the manual process which required a field office to fax the changes for a store to the EBT processor. It should also help 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.

The REDE Subsystem facilitates the exchange of retailer data between FNS and the EBT processors. 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 FSP. The EBT processor is responsible for setting up a newly authorized EBT retailer to participate in the EBT redemption process within 15 to 30 days of notification from FNS and generally completes the setup 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 EBT processor must be notified initially of newly authorized retailers and must be updated continually concerning any changes to the data for the retailers, such as location, mailing address, telephone number, hours of operation, and/or business type. The REDE Subsystem's first phase, which this package addresses, provides the mechanism for notifying the EBT processors of any changes to retailers authorized for EBT processing. The second phase of implementation will enable FNS to monitor the redemption activity of retailers and assess whether the state and/or EBT processor may have failed to act within the time frame established by regulations and could be considered liable for the unauthorized redemption amounts. As a final note, the REDE Subsystem is not intended to replace the EBT I through IV reports that are provided prior to the implementation of the EBT system in a state, but is intended to facilitate the post-implementation exchange of retailer data for an operational EBT state.

The REDE Subsystem supports interoperability, which allows a SNAP Benefit recipient from one state's (or county's) program to make EBT purchases in another state (or county). 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 using the IBM 9221 central processing facility. 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 Electronic Benefit Transfer (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.

Standard Operations

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 mainframe-to-mainframe (via ConnectDirect) solution or a personal computer (PC)-to-NT server (Dial-up to BRSB NT Server) 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 SNAP 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 mis-keys 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.

Standard Operations

As a new state starts up under EBT and only upon request by a State Agency or EBT processor, the REDE Subsystem will create a Full State Retailer Data File for that state and/or a National Retailer Data File of authorized stores. These files will be readied for transmission to the requesting State Agency or EBT processor who will be given the choice of accessing these files using either a mainframe-to-mainframe (via ConnectDirect) solution or a personal computer (PC)-to-NT server (Dial-up to BRSB NT Server) solution.

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.

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

The tables shown on the following pages list the file layouts and data elements for retailer information currently available via download to the State Agencies and/or EBT processors.

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 the 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 the 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 the 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

Field Description	Field Type	Field Width	Field Position	Comments
				ending date of the 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) or 'M' if an existing store was modified or '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

Exhibit SNAP-9: USDA FNS Interface File Formats

Field Description	Field Type	Field Width	Field Position	Comments
				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
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 - see Figure 2
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 - see Figure 3
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

Field Description	Field Type	Field Width	Field Position	Comments
				cooperative or '6' if government or '7' if limited liability company or '8' if limited liability partnership (See Table for business types)
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)
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

Code Definitions for Business Type and Authorization Status

The values for the Business Type and Authorization Status/Status Reason Codes used in the record layouts are listed in the Figures 1, 2 and 3 below:

Figure 1-Business Type Codes:

Business Type Code	Description	Store or Meal Service
AD	COMBINATION TREATMENT CENTER	Meal Service
AT	ALCOHOLIC TREATMENT CENTER	Meal Service
BB	SPECIALTY - BAKERY/BREAD	Store
BC	NON-PROFIT FOOD BUYING CO-OP	Store
BR	BREAD ROUTE	Store
BW	BATTERED WOMEN & CHILDREN	Meal Service
CA	COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION	Store
CB	COMBINATION GROCERY/BAR	Store
CD	COMMUNAL DINING FACILITY	Meal Service
CG	COMBINATION GROCERY/GAS	Store
CM	COMBINATION GROCERY/MERCHANDISE	Store
CO	COMBINATION GROCERY/OTHER	Store
CR	COMBINATION GROCERY/RESTAURANT	Store
CS	CONVENIENCE STORE	Store
DF	DIRECT MARKETING FARMER	Store
DR	DELIVERY ROUTE	Store
DS	DRUG STORE	Store
DT	DRUG ADDICT TREATMENT CENTER	Store
FM	FARMERS MARKET	Store
FV	SPECIALTY - FRUIT/VEGETABLE	Store
GL	GROUP LIVING ARRANGEMENT	Meal Service
GS	SMALL/MEDIUM GROCERY	Store
HF	HEALTH/NATURAL FOOD	Store
HP	HOMELESS MEAL PROVIDER	Meal Service
IR	INTERNET RETAILER	Store
LG	LARGE GROCERY (SALES $1-2M)	Store
MC	MILITARY COMMISSARY	Store
MD	MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE	Meal Service
ME	SPECIALTY - MEAT/POULTRY	Store
MG	MEDIUM GROCERY (SALES $250K-1M)	Store
MR	MILK ROUTE	Store
ND	NON-PROFIT MEAL DELIVERY	Store
NP	NON-PROFIT COMMUNAL DINING	Store

OF	OTHER FIRM	Store
OR	OTHER ROUTE	Store
PD	PRIVATE MEAL DELIVERY	Store
PR	PRODUCE ROUTE	Store
PS	PRODUCE STAND	Store
QS	SUPERMARKET (SALES $1-2M)	Store
RE	PRIVATE COMMUNAL DINING/RESTAURANT	Meal Service
SC	SENIOR CITIZENS' CTR/RES BLDG	Meal Service
SE	SPECIALTY - SEAFOOD	Store
SF	SPECIALTY FOOD	Store
SG	SMALL GROCERY (SALES < $250K)	Store
SM	SUPERMARKET (SALES $2-5M)	Store
SS	SUPER STORE (SALES >= $5M)	Store
WH	WHOLESALER	Store
WR	CO-LOCATED WHOLESALER/RETAILER	Store

Figure 2- Authorization Status Codes

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

Figure 3-Status Reason Codes

Status Reason Code for "Authorized" (01)	
01	Initial Authorization
02	Reinstated

Status Reason Code for "Withdrawn" (03)	
01	Voluntary Withdrawal
02	Involuntary - Other
03	Involuntary - Withdrawn
04	Involuntary Withdrawal - Does not meet Criteria A or Criteria B
05	Involuntary - Not a Retail Food Store
06	Involuntary - Failure to Cooperate
07	Involuntary - Failure to Pay
08	Involuntary - Business Integrity
09	Involuntary - Non-Redeemer
10	Involuntary - No State Contract *

Status Reason Code for "Disqualified" (04)	
01	Food Stamp Program Violation
02	WIC Program Violation
03	Failure to Pay
Status Reason Code for "Permanently Disqualified" (07)	
01	Food Stamp Program Violation
02	WIC Program Violation
03	Failure to Pay
Status Reason Code for "Permanently Withdrawn" (10)	
01	Business Integrity
* (This code only applies to authorized meal services that FNS removes from the program for failure to maintain or renew state certification)	

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 the Food Stamp Program 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 permanent disqualifications (an authorization status 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 sometime 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.