

*National Youth in Transition Database
Questions and Responses from the 9-State Pilot*



Question	Response
I am receiving errors on Elements 18 and 19, but I followed Technical Bulletin One.	Technical Bulletin 1 was updated at the end of June 2010, within which the names for Elements 18 and 19 were changed. They are now known as "Educational Level" and "Special Education" respectively.
Oracle is providing an error upon generating my file because the element (as defined in Technical Bulletin 1) "xsi:schemaLocation" is not capitalized as "xsi:SchemaLocation"	Since the lowercase "s" in schemaLocation is the correct usage (See http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/#xsi_schemaLocation), you will have to run a script at your end after generating the file to correct this before transmitting.
What is question 12 on the CFI form (DSN for report files) asking for?	Please disregard this element. It is leftover from AFCARS and is not necessary for NYTD.
What process should we follow for this pilot?	The process you should follow is to first run your generated file against NDRU, so that you can catch any preliminary problem with your file. Once you have completed that step, please email the Summary file that is generated to the NYTD inbox (nytd@icfi.com). The second step you should take is attempting to transmit your file via CFI. We ask that you send us an email with the xml file attached, so that we can compare the generated file to the received file to ensure accuracy. For us to do this we have made this process manual until we are confident in the transmission procedure. Once we have determined you have sent a file suitable to post on the portal, ICF will provide you with access to the portal. Please note any bugs or suggested improvements on the feedback form provided to you and email it back before the end of the Pilot period.
I received my version of NDRU from you while at the conference. We saved it on my flash drive. I didn't download it from the web address provided, is that an issue? Should I delete it and download it as directed? Or is the version the same as provided at the conference?	NDRU should update automatically, however if you feel like that is not working for you, you may download the newest version at the following link (http://stage.nytd.icfi.com/ndru/).
How do we receive the CFI credentials for NYTD?	CFI credentials will be given via phone after the State has successfully sent in the Summary file from NDRU.
Is there a technical contact, for ACF, should our technical folks have any questions about the setup for the file transmission?	Any questions that are related to CFI, failures of transmissions, authentication issues, etc should be directed to Alba Sierra (alba.sierra@ACF.hhs.gov).
Will the setup be the same for the regular transmission as it's going to be for the pilot?	In the future the transmission process will be automated so that once the file has been successfully transmitted, it will appear on the Portal shortly thereafter.
What format should I transmit the file from if I'm using a mainframe?	You should transmit the file encoded in ASCII, not EBCDIC. Our system will not be able to parse files encoded in EBCDIC and it will result in a file format error.

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What are frequency reports?	Frequency reports let you look at the breakdown of the response values for specific elements and report periods.
Whom will we contact with NDRU Issues?	Please contact the NYTD helpdesk at (877-565-NYTD) or nytd@icfi.com
When will the final version of NDRU be released?	NDRU will remain draft until its final release before the first report period submission deadline.
Please advise on how to submit a blank value in the XML file.	The proper way to insert a blank value into an XML file is to insert no characters at all. For example this is a correct implementation of a blank response: <E41_educ_aid></E41_educ_aid>.
When I run my file through NDRU it tells me that certain things can not be examined for compliance. Why is this?	NDRU can not test your file for Timeliness, Outcomes Universe or Participation Rate. Timeliness can only be assessed after a file has been submitted through the NYTD portal, and Outcomes Universe and Participation Rate can only be assessed after other associated files can be cross examined. The portal will allow users to view the full set of compliance checks, and should be used as the official check of compliance for files.
What are the purpose for Data Quality Advisories?	Data Quality Advisories are different from Internal Inconsistency checks because they have no penalties associated with them. They exist only to help you view and correct potentially erroneous information.
What do the columns for the Data Quality Advisories tables mean?	Element Name - Sex – Element Name as defined in the Final Rule, Element Number - 15 - Element Number as defined in the Final Rule, Value (Subject Population) - male – The value which appears in the the XML file. In this case across the entire file the value of “male” for E5 appeared in a abnormal amount of records, Value Rate - 76.92% - This is the percentage of records within this file that the value “male” appeared in E5 for, Advisory Threshold – 60 – This is the threshold as identified by CB that if a certain value exceeds this number, an advisory is generated. Again no compliance is applied to this, but its something you might want to take a look at to make sure it is correct.
When Blank is an acceptable response for a survey question, such as element 15, the Utility indicated that the element is missing data. How shall a blank answer to be submitted in the XML file?	Blank values are only allowable for certain values. Please see Technical Bulletin 1 for a full list of allowable values per element (link).
What is Error-Free?	Error-free are certain elements that have to achieve a threshold of either 90% or 100% (based on the element) of correctness.
Can we wipe the test files I send before the start of the submission period for 2011A?	It is out intention to wipe the staging environment of all test data before the submission period for 2011A starts.

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How do I generate a file name?	The file name is generated upon transmitting your file by your system. (See Technical Bulletin #1 http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/nytd/technical_bulletin1.htm#6.1).
Can this data be submitted the same way as the AFCARS submission?	Yes. The credentials for CFI are different but the process is exactly the same.
It looks like we are to transmit the data in XML format?	Yes. All files must be transmitted in valid XML format.
Are there changes we need to make for this submission to work?	Once you transmit the file it will appear on the NYTD portal. At this point you can review it for compliance and decide whether to fix any errors or submit it as is.
What kind of feedback are you looking for from this pilot?	Anytime type of feedback is acceptable. The purpose of this pilot is to get input from the States on all aspects of the site.
Also, when looking at the "Record Level Compliance" from NDRU, we are receiving multiple errors of " <i>The youth is not in a baseline or follow-up population (based on element 36) therefore element 34 must be blank. It has a value of "participated."</i>	Thanks for sending the files. After taking a quick look at your file I believe your problem is stemming from the listed birthdays. In the records that receive an error on E34, they turned 17 in the 2010 fiscal year, but your file is for the 2011A report period. Therefore these youth would not be eligible for the baseline population for the 2011 year.
Can we submit files for future Report Periods?	No, the system is currently set up to accept transmissions for the current Report Period. In the future you will be able to submit Corrected/Subsequent files for previous reporting periods.
Why does my transmission not appear in the Portal immediately after I send it?	For the purposes of this pilot we are manually reviewing the files before we post them to the portal in order to ensure that the Transmission and Loading procedures are accurate. In the future this process will be automated and transmitted files will appear in the portal shortly after a successful transmission.