



ERS Technology Update 10

for developers of Student Management Systems

Introduction

This document informs vendors of student management software systems (SMS) of upcoming changes to the Electronic Receipting System (ERS), to enable them to incorporate those changes into their maintenance programme.

FFTO 2011 changes

The TEC have been tasked with making changes to ERS to enable the capture of data as specified by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). We have, however, also been constrained to making changes that enable capture of required data while limiting those changes to functionality that will not adversely affect SMS users..... - using SMS applications that have not been upgraded to implement these changes.

Although the TEC would like to see these new schema implemented, we acknowledge that the time available to implement, develop and test any required changes, may preclude this from happening. The changes to the ERS application have therefore been limited to ensure backwards compatibility with previous schema while attempting to enable ERS to capture as much data as possible without affecting SMS users/vendors.

Design documentation

The [ERS developers](#) web page has been updated and now presents both the new and previous schema versions (ERS Schema version 2.0 and 2.1):

- The XML schema files have all been updated to version 2.1, even if they have not changed.
- Detailed XML documentation has been generated from each schema file. These can be accessed individually via links on the developer web page and are also included in the "ers-schema-21.zip" file.
- The file "ERS Schema V2_1 changes.txt" identifies all changes made to the various schema.

ERS eligibility codes

- Issue 7 of ERS Technology Update (6 December 2006) advised a change to eligibility codes as follows:
The "yte" and "tops" schema have been modified to reflect the new eligibility rules. The "C39" and "C40" values have been removed and replaced with "C80" and "C81".
- Issue 9 of ERS Technology Update (February 2008) advised that the C39 and C40 eligibility codes were planned for removal in the next ERS maintenance release – which at that time was unscheduled.
- These codes have now been removed (March 2011).

Outstanding tasks

Several tasks are outstanding at the time of writing. Many of these have not been able to be undertaken, and are as yet unscheduled, as the TEC could not be certain of the state of vendor SMS systems with regard to which schema they would deploy.

These tasks include:

- Full schema re-write.
Several of the schema need to be re-written (and potentially separated) to allow desired function. (ie removal of redundant travel and bank account fields from TOP schema)
- Integrate LMO's with LNAAT data
- Associate new LMO's (EM6 and EM7) to Benefit types
- Add Post code field
- Update ERS Web Services Interface Developer Guide

Outage notifications

The [TEC Help Desk](#) emails outage notifications to vendors. Please make sure you inform your clients when outages are planned.

Contact details

Please notify the [TEC Help Desk](#) if any of your contact details have changed.