

Common Questions

Q. What are the specific business drivers for building TRS?

A. The specific drivers for this project are:

To facilitate the Collections & Cash Management Modernization (CCMM) by providing a single touch-point for all collections information

To enable TRS to support reporting of classification information for the Governmentwide Accounting (GWA) Modernization initiative

To provide business intelligence capabilities and to improve collections processes and management

Q. Will my agency still need to access CA\$HLINK II to confirm deposits once it begins using TRS?

A. Your agency will continue to have a need to consult CA\$HLINK II until all of your agency's deposit information is being reported into TRS.

Q. Will any IPAC collections be in TRS? Will any payment information be in TRS?

A. TRS will only contain revenue collections information. Intra-agency transfers and payments will be supported by separate systems.

Q. When will my agency be able to get reports from TRS?

A. General transitioning of agencies from CA\$HLINK II to TRS will begin in 2010.

Q. When will a specification for file transmissions be available?

A. A specification will be available at the end of 2009. When available, it will be posted to this website. The TRS Team encourages those interested in TRS to sign up to be notified whenever the website is updated.

Q. How current will the data in TRS be?

A. TRS will have data as soon as it becomes available from the various source systems.

Q. Exactly what data will be in TRS?

A. Financial transaction data and program data will be in TRS. Financial transaction data will include data on the following:

- Deposit vouchers – summarizing financial transactions involved in collections
- Financial transactions – providing detail of the financial instruments by which collections will be made

Program data will provide agency-specific information regarding remittances.

Q. Will TRS have all the collections information needed by my agency?

A. As the single touch-point for all agency collections activity, TRS is expected to have the information agencies currently receive from their collections agents.

Q. How long will data be there?

A. Deposit voucher and financial transaction data will be retained for seven years. Program data will be retained for a minimum of 18 months. A longer retention period is currently under consideration for program data.

Q. Will the information currently housed in CA\$HLINK II be transitioned for 7 years back, or will both systems need to be maintained simultaneously for information warehousing purposes?

A. FMS is currently working on a strategy to provide agencies with historical CA\$HLINK II data. Once all of the collections systems are reporting to TRS, FMS does not plan to maintain both systems simultaneously beyond a short transition period.

Q. Will agencies be able to submit requests for new reports or enhancements?

A. The TRS Team is currently developing processes to provide agencies with a way to submit requests for reports and enhanced functionality.

Q. Can I reclassify TAS/BETC information through TRS? If not, why?

A. No. TRS is intended to be strictly a reporting mechanism. TRS will allow users to view classifications (i.e. TAS/BETCs and/or Classification Keys) that are reported by source systems. In order to reclassify collections, agencies will submit changes directly to GWA.

Q. Will agencies be able to change ALCs and voucher numbers in TRS?

A. TRS is a reporting tool. In the future, corrections will occur in the source systems and channel applications. Until the ability to make corrections is available in the source systems, CA\$HLINK II (CLII) will retain the functionality for agencies to make corrections.

Q. How will agencies set up access with the source systems to make corrections?

A. Each source system is aware of the new CCMM requirement to provide a means for corrections in their applications. Agencies should contact their various collection programs through which data is reported to determine the access procedures for each.

Q. Will I be able to access images of checks and remittance documents through TRS?

A. In the future, TRS will provide a link to the image archive, which captures images of checks and remittance documents from ECP and PCC OTC, so that agencies can view these images through TRS.

Q. How will data in TRS be secured?

A. Access to data in TRS will be secured in accordance with Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA) and other federal laws and regulations for IT systems security that apply.

Q. What is Single Sign-On and how does it relate to TRS?

A. Single Sign-On (SSO) is the process of authenticating into a system and seamlessly signing on to other authorized applications. SSO was derived from FMS's need for a standard enterprise approach for authentication. SSO allows users to log in once and then access multiple FMS systems as authorized without needing to log in again. TRS is expected to implement SSO in the future.

Q. What bank contact information will be available in TRS?

A. In the future TRS will be able to provide ABA contact information that it receives from the Shared Accounting Module (SAM).

Q. What file formats will TRS support?

A. TRS will provide file transmissions in the standard XML schema, developed by FMS's Enterprise Data Architecture Team. This schema can be found at: <http://www.fms.treas.gov/eda/schema.html>. Files of report data will be available in formats supported by Business Objects: PDF, Excel, and comma-delimited.

Q. Will TRS require multi-factor authentication?

A. Currently, TRS requires an ID and password for access. Multi-factor authentication may be required in the future, dependent on federal laws and regulations for IT systems security and FMS security directives.

Q. What system changes will I have to make to get information from TRS?

A. FMS hopes to minimize the system changes required by your agency to receive files from TRS. If your agency uses the reporting capabilities available in TRS, you will be able to create downloadable reports that may fit your agency's system requirements and avoid major system changes. If your agency needs an automated interface to receive data, then your agency will need to use FMS's standard XML schema for automated interfaces. The standard XML schema is available at: <http://www.fms.treas.gov/eda/schema.html>.

Q. Are there any special computer or internet requirements for TRS?

A. TRS supports the two most recent versions of Internet Explorer (IE). Currently, IE 7.0 and IE 8.0 are supported. TRS has been developed and tested with these specific browsers. TRS may be used with other browsers; however, the TRS Team is unable to assist users with problems related to other browsers. Additionally, there are specific browser settings that must be enabled, such as TLS 1.0, but these settings are defaults for most Internet Explorer browsers. Additional information on these settings is provided when users enroll in TRS.

Q. How will agencies learn about progress with TRS?

A. FMS will provide agencies with information through the TRS website on an ongoing basis and through direct contact with agencies from time to time. The TRS Team encourages those interested in TRS to sign up to be notified whenever the website is updated.