

Central Accounting and Reporting System (CARS) Release 6.0

CARS Release 6.0 is an upcoming release scheduled for deployment in July 2025 that will bring an enhanced user experience consistent with other Fiscal Accounting applications.

This new user experience may impact agency users that:

- Use the User Interface (UI) for submitting transactions in ATM or pulling reports and statements in Account Statement
- Leverage RPA automation tools

The CARS Program will host a short series of pre-recorded webinars to help agencies prepare for the release. Each session will be posted on the Fiscal Service website for future reference along with other resources. For access to the resources users can check out: <u>Central Accounting Reporting System Reference</u> <u>and Guidance</u> and <u>Central Accounting Reporting System Training</u>

Common Frequently Asked Questions

• My agency leverages RPA tools in CARS. How does this release impact me?

There are changes that will impact agency bot users. Please check out the released webinars and job aids posted on the CARS Treasury Website. Bot users were invited to log into the system prior to go live to see changes.

• What training is available for users to prepare for CARS Release 6.0?

Pre-recorded webinars will be published on the Fiscal Service Website along with various job aids for CTA and Account Statement.

• Will agencies be able to test the new release before it is deployed in the Production environment in Summer 2025?

No. Currently there are no plans for agencies to be able to test the new release before it is deployed in the Production environment.



• Will the new release require users to re-register or agencies to re-enroll in CARS?

No. The new release is simply introducing an enhanced user experience; agencies and users are encouraged to check out webinars and job aids posted on the CARS Treasury website.

• Why is Treasury introducing these changes to CARS?

This release is intended to provide users with a modernized user experience that is consistent with other Fiscal Accounting applications. This release also allows Treasury to maintain technical currency of the CARS application architecture.

ATM Release Frequently Asked Questions

• Are there changes to the ATM bulk file?

No. The bulk file layout remains the same, however you will see a new and refreshed view meant to enhance the user experience. This enhanced view includes a method to simply drag and drop the file into CARS for upload. Note that TDO Non-Reporter option (224) is no longer available.

• When doing a reclass transaction do I still enter the TAS the same way?

No. Search functionality has been simplified by allowing the user to search for a TAS by using their AID and Main account. Short Handed Component TAS- SHAC

• Are there any major feature changes to ATM?

Yes. The ability to conduct an NTDO Non-Reporter transaction (1219/1220) is no longer available from the user interface. It must occur in Bulk File.

• I primarily use ATM through the UI. How does this release impact me?

Two significant changes to the UI:

1) For NTDO Non-Reporters, the 1219/1220 screen is no longer available through the user interface.



2) The ability to do a reclass using string format has been removed.

Outside of that, you will benefit from modernized user experience and optimized user interface layouts. Additionally, the UI design and the overall user experience will be consistent with other Fiscal Accounting applications.

Account Statement Release Frequently Asked Questions

• Are there changes to the Account Statement Search Functionality?

Yes. Users can now multi-select CGAC TAS records when searching in Account Summary, Expenditure Activity and Transaction Inquiry; string TAS search functionality will be retired.

• Will I be able to download search results in string format?

No. Users can still download ALC Statement and Account Statement Transaction reports in String format. String format will not be available for Summary or Activity reports. Please review materials from Fiscal Service website for guidance on downloading Transaction reports in string format.

• Will the drill down functionality still be available in Account Statement?

No. To narrow down search results from summary to activity to transactions, users can toggle to the appropriate inquiry, refine search criteria and run search. Users will be unable to drill down directly from table results.

• Can users still reclass transactions from Account Statement?

Moving from Account Statement transaction inquiry into reclass module will no longer be supported. This update reduces dependencies and paves the way for improving reclass traceability.

• I have less than 10 agencies in my Access Group will I be impacted?

Yes. The "All" agency selection will no longer be available for users with 10 agencies or less in their Access Group. Users will select one agency before performing a search. This was done to improve overall performance for Account Statement.