



Gender Field Updates

AWARDS INFORMATION SHEET

In order to keep AWARDS up-to-date and Federally certified, we are busily preparing for a new round of Meaningful Use Certification. As part of this work, we are required to make changes to some key demographic fields. Specifically, Race, Ethnicity, Primary Language, and Gender will all see some modifications. The changes around Gender will be the most comprehensive, and will offer much more flexibility than exists today. We are very excited about these changes, as they address requests we have heard from many of you. But as these modifications will change how current Gender related data displays in AWARDS, it is important for you and all the other AWARDS users at your agency to understand the upcoming changes.

In short, here is what you can expect regarding *existing* AWARDS fields/options:

- **Race** - If not already configured as such in your database, this option will be modified to be a multi-select list, and to include a new "Declined to Specify" selection.
- **Ethnicity** - If not already configured as such in your database, this option will be modified to include a new "Declined to Specify" selection.
- **Primary Language** - If not already configured as such in your database, this option will be modified to include a new "Declined to Specify" selection.
- **Gender** – There will now be increased flexibility in how you can document an individual's Gender, using the following three fields:
 - Gender Identity
 - Sex at Birth
 - Sexual Orientation

This document outlines the upcoming Gender changes. Please share it with staff as needed to help them prepare.

GENDER IDENTITY

Existing Gender data will be brought in to this field. This option will replace the old Gender field in all AWARDS reports that pull in "Gender." It will be turned on globally for all agencies upon deployment, and will be required. An Optional Enhancement document will be available allowing agencies to modify both the field label and selection list.

The default selection list for this field will be the same as the existing Gender field, with the addition of "Choose not to disclose." The options are:

- Male
- Female
- Trans-Male
- Trans-Female
- Choose not to disclose

SEX AT BIRTH

This field will be optional and if turned on, existing Gender data will be mapped to the appropriate selection options in this list. An Optional Enhancement document will be available, allowing agencies to opt into having this field display after deployment.

If turned on, the new default selection list for this field will be:

- Male
- Female
- Unknown

The following table summarizes the mapping of selections.

Prior Gender Value/Selection	New Sex at Birth Value/Selection
Male	Male
Female	Female
Trans-Male	Female
Trans-Female	Male
	Unknown (new option)

If turned on, these updates will also be made on ReportBuilders throughout AWARDS.

The selection list for this field will be configurable, however Male, Female and Unknown cannot be removed.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

This field will be optional. An Optional Enhancement document will be available, allowing agencies to opt into having this field display after deployment.

This field will display the following default selection list, but this list can also be configured to fit agency needs:

- Lesbian, gay or homosexual
- Straight or heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Something else, please describe (with corresponding text field)
- Don't know
- Choose not to disclose

If turned on, this field will also be added to any ReportBuilders that display gender fields.