
Matching Records in WISCAT

One of the decisions that must be made when matching records in WISCAT, is whether to match an existing record or find another source for a new bibliographic record. This decision can impact the quality and integrity of your online catalog as well as use of the statewide database. As always, use your judgment in determining if you have the same "bibliographic" entity as an existing record in WISCAT. You may find a "near-hit" record that, after a little editing in your local catalog, can be made to fit the item you are cataloging. If you cannot find a matching record in WISCAT, you may download a near-hit record to edit locally, and then submit that corrected MARC record back to WISCAT as a new title. However, remember to fully edit that record (including LCCN, ISBN, edition, dates, etc.), or your holding will be matched back to the "near-hit" record.

You may use the following guidelines for matching records in WISCAT:

MATCH your record to WISCAT under the following conditions:

1. If the publication date is the same, but there is a difference in the printing or copyright date. New printings are considered the same as an added copy.
2. If the only difference is an ISBN, but all of the other data is the same.
3. If there is merely a difference in binding. Generally speaking, you can match a book club edition to the regularly published edition, if you can tell that the item is bibliographically identical. (However, be careful not to match abridged or large print editions to the regularly published edition).
4. If there is a discrepancy in the choice or form of an author's name. Main entries and other author access points are not considered part of the bibliographic description, and so are not used to match records in WISCAT.
5. If you are not satisfied with the completeness or accuracy of the WISCAT record. Do not add a new record to WISCAT just because you don't like the record you see. If the item is the same, match your holding to WISCAT, then download and edit the record to your liking in your local system. You may report incorrect bibliographic records to the WISCAT staff for correction.

DO NOT MATCH your record to WISCAT if you can determine that the item in hand is truly a *different bibliographic edition* of the work. Consult the Glossary in AACR2 for a definition of "edition". Generally, consider that it is a different edition whenever:

1. There is an explicit indication of a change or correction in the content.
(e.g. "revised" "corrected" "with a new introduction by..." "newly updated", etc.)
2. Anything in the following areas differs significantly:
 - Title and statement of responsibility
 - Edition
 - Publisher
 - Publication date (i.e. more than two years)
 - Physical description (pages differ, and probably not due to counting differently)
 - Series
 - LCCN and ISBN (if available)