

FAQ#: CMS-14142

Question: Why is ARTERM not a valid value on the term validation table, STVTERM?

Answer: ARTERM is considered to be a fill value to handle non-student (term irrelevant) receivables used to consistently populate the term field on the TBRACCD records with a value that is NOT NULL.

ARTERM is a behind the scenes, hard-coded key-word which enables the single receivable table TBRACCD, to handle both student (term-based) and non-student (term irrelevant) receivables. It enables the system to populate a NOT NULL value in the term field (TBRACCD_TERM_CODE) complying the database definition of this field for the (term irrelevant) records posted to the TBRACCD table. ARTERM is not a valid "term" value and therefore it does not belong in a term validation table. Allowing it would cause it to appear as a choice in the LOVs for all term code fields that could be used in places that would be inappropriate.

For example: If the value ARTERM were to be entered on one of the AR Student forms, such as TSAAREV or TSADETL, there would be no address types and sequences associated to these records and you would have transactions that billing could not handle. If the value ARTERM were to be entered on one of the student forms having a term field, a user could create record with this value. In any case, you would have records that in the student system that would cause unpredictable result in the database system.

Therefore, the SunGard Higher Education ActionLine does not recommend adding the value, ARTERM, to the STVTERM table or its LOVs for any reason. Adding ARTERM to the list of values by inserting it in the term validation table (STVTERM) is an unsupported practice that will cause possible data corruption and unpredictable results.

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