AEA RCT Registry Data Elements Definitions for Registration

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This document describes the definitions for data elements submitted to the AEA RCT Registry. Data elements are annotated with symbols to indicate what information is required to be submitted and which information is public or hidden. Unless otherwise noted with a symbol, all fields are public. If you have any questions about the registry, please contact support@socialscienceregistry.org.

(* = Required field)

Part I: Information provided at the time of registration

Trial Information

1. *Trial Title**
   Definition: The title of the trial.
   Field Type: free text

2. *AEA RCT Registration Number (Automatically assigned)*
   Definition: The system assigns a unique identifier to the trial upon registration.

Field Type: auto-numeric

3. *Initial Registration Date (Automatically assigned)*
   Definition: The system assigns the date in which the trial is first registered.
   Field Type: date

4. *Last Updated (Automatically assigned)*
   Definition: The system assigns the date the trial entry was last modified.
   Field Type: date/time

5. *DOI (Automatically assigned)*
   Definition: The system assigns a Digital Object Identifier.
   Field Type: auto-numeric

6. *Country** (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
   Definition: The country location of the trial.
   Field Type: multi-select picklist from ISO 3166; Kosovo added separately.
   Limit: controlled vocabulary

7. *Region*
   Definition: The regional location of the trial at the sub-national level.
   Field Type: free text

8. *Primary Investigator**
   Definition: This is the primary investigator for the trial. By default, the system assigns the trial creator to this field, however, it can be changed to another user who is listed as a collaborator.
   Field Type: single-select picklist
   Limit: controlled vocabulary
   The controlled vocabulary contains the list of users.

9. *Other Primary Investigator(s)*
   Definition: This is a list of other PIs or co-PIs listed on the trial. Includes First Name, Last Name, Affiliates, and Email.
   Field Type: free text

10. *Status**
    Definition: This defines the current status of the trial. Please select one.
    Field Type: single-select picklist
    Limit: controlled vocabulary

- In development: the trial is in the planning phase.
- Ongoing: the trial has moved into the operations phase, researchers are currently collecting data, or analysis is still being conducted.
- Completed: the trial has been finished.
- Withdrawn: the trial will not be completed. It is not intended to mean that a paper was not written.

11. *Keywords**
    Definition: Words or phrases that best define the trial. Please select as many as you consider appropriate.
    Field Type: multi-select picklist
    Limit: controlled vocabulary
    - Agriculture; Crime, Violence, & Conflict; Education; Electoral; Environment & Energy; Finance & Microfinance; Firms & Productivity; Gender; Governance; Health; Labor; Post-conflict; and Welfare

12. *Additional Keywords*
    Definition: Additional keywords or phrases that best define the trial that were not included in the controlled vocabulary for Keywords. Please enter English words which describe your trial more specifically than the above theme (e.g. job placement, voter education, conservation, etc.). For multiple keywords, put a comma between entries.
    Field Type: free text

13. *JEL Code(s)*
    Definition: This is the Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) classification system code. For example, O16 for “Financial Markets; Saving and Capital Investment; Corporate Finance and Governance.” A list of possible codes can be found at https://www.aeaweb.org/jel/jel_class_system.php. For multiple codes, put a comma between entries.
    Field Type: free text

14. *Secondary Identifying Numbers*
    Definition: An identifier(s), if any, other than the DOI or the AEARCT ID that is assigned to the trial. This includes any unique identifiers assigned by other publicly available trial registries, funders, or sponsors (e.g. ClinicalTrials.gov, ISRCT, etc.)
    Field Type: free text

15. *Abstract**
    Definition: Summarizes information about the trial. To clarify the study’s objective, please include information on: the main outcome(s), the intervention(s), the level of

randomization, eligibility criterion, population of interest, the sample size, and treatment assignment mechanism.
Field Type: free text
Limit: 10,000 characters

16. *External Link(s)*
    Definition: Links to any other related websites, documents, etc.
    Field Type: url

17. *External Link Description*
    Definition: File name or description of linked content.
    Field Type: free text

Dates

18. *Trial Start Date**
    Definition: The date at which you consider your trial starts. For example, when you start collecting baseline data or when your intervention starts if there is no baseline data collection. If the trial has not started, enter the planned start date.
    Field Type: date (Format: YYYY/MM/DD)

19. *Intervention Start Date**
    Definition: The date that the intervention starts, or the date by which you expect the intervention to start. In the case in which you have several interventions that start at different times, this field gives you the lower time limit of all of them.
    Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)

20. *Intervention End Date**
    Definition: The date that the intervention ends, or the planned end date of administering the intervention. In the case in which you have several interventions that end at different times, this field gives you the upper time limit of all of them.
    Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)

21. *Trial End Date**
    Definition: The date by which you expect to complete a report after analysis of data, or the date on IRB closure notification.
    Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)

Sponsors & Partners (optional)

22. *Sponsor Name (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime*)
    Definition: The name of the sponsor who is contributing monetary or material support for this trial.
    Field Type: free text

23. *Sponsor Location (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)*
    Definition: The location where the sponsor has its main headquarters.
    Field Type: free text

24. *Sponsor Website (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)*
    Definition: The website for the sponsor.
    Field Type: url

25. *Partner Name (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)*
    Definition: An organization or organizations that are involved in implementing the intervention (ie. questionnaire design, sampling,treatment(s),) or the data collection (ie. data processing / analysis,etc.). Do not include here the financial sponsors.
    Field Type: text

26. *Partner Type (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)*
    Definition: The organization type of the partner.
    Field Type: single-select picklist
    Limit: controlled vocabulary
    - Government; Municipality; NGO; Private Company; N/A

27. *Partner Website (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)*
    Definition: The website for the partner.
    Field Type: url
    Limit: controlled

Experimental Details

28. *Intervention: Public*
    Definition: This field provides a detailed summary of the intervention(s): what is the intervention(s), who is the target group of the intervention(s), and what is the intended purpose(s). This is a public field viewable to all, once the trial is registered.
    Field Type: free text

Limit: 10,000 characters

29. *Intervention: Hidden*
    Definition: This field provides a detailed summary of the intervention(s) that the trial authors might not want to reveal until the end of the trial, i.e. key details of the intervention(s) that may reveal too much information at the beginning of the trial. This is a hidden field that is not viewable to the public until the trial is completed.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

30. *Primary Outcomes (end points)**
    Definition: This field outlines each primary outcome measure for the trial. It asks for specific outcome variables (indicators) of interest for the trial (those upon which final impact will be measured).
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

31. *Primary Outcomes (explanation)*
    Definition: This field is used to describe each primary outcome measure for the trial, which includes an explanation of how primary outcome variables are constructed from the main variables/indicators.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

32. *Secondary Outcomes (end points)*
    Definition: This field outlines each secondary outcome measure for the trial. It asks for specific outcome variables (indicators) of interest for the trial.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000characters

33. *Secondary Outcomes (explanation)*
    Definition: This field is used to describe each secondary outcome measure for the trial, which includes an explanation of how secondary outcome variables are constructed from the main variables/indicators.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

34. *Experimental Design: Public**
    Definition: This field describes the manner in which the trial will be designed. Specifically, it describes the model, treatment groups and number of arms, target

sample group and sample size, and how the group will be enrolled. This is a public field viewable to all, once the trial is registered.
Field Type: free text
Limit: 10,000 characters

35. *Experimental Design: Hidden*
    Definition: This field describes details of the trial design that the trial authors might not want to reveal until the end of the trial. This is a hidden field that is not viewable to the public until the trial is completed.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

36. *Randomization Method**
    Definition: This field describes the method authors will use for randomization. For example, through public lottery, randomization done in office by a computer, coin flip, etc.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

37. *Randomization Unit**
    Definition: This field describes the level at which randomization will take place: (e.g., individual, firm, school, experimental sessions). If there are more than one level of randomization, it should be explained (e.g. group level randomization for some treatment, and individual randomization for some treatments).
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

38. *Was the treatment clustered**
    Definition: This field asks whether the treatment was clustered into groups for the randomization (as opposed to being randomized by individual subjects).
    Field Type: binary
    Limit: controlled
    - Yes; No

39. *Planned Number of Clusters (unit of randomization)**
    Definition: This field describes how many groupings or clusters will be sampled, and asks to define the cluster unit (e.g. 200 schools).
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

40. *Planned Total number of observations**
    Definition: This field describes the total maximum recruitment of participants or individuals for the trial, across all treatment arms (e.g., 10,000 pupils).
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

41. *Sample size (or number of clusters) by treatment arms**
    Definition: This field describes the sample size or clusters by treatment arms. Arm type(s) identify the role of the intervention that participants receive. Types of arms include experimental arm(s) and no intervention arm. For example, the trial includes 50 schools in the control, 50 schools receive the teacher training treatment, 50 schools receive the scholarship treatment, and 50 schools receive both treatments.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

42. *Power calculation*
    Definition: This field describes how the trial is powered. Specifically, the minimum detectable effect size for main outcomes, including the unit, standard deviation, and percentage.
    Field Type: free text (no greek/latin characters)
    Limit: 10,000 characters

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Information

43. *Did you obtain IRB approval*
    Definition: This question asks whether the trial has been approved by an IRB. If applicable, you have the option to complete the IRB Name, Approval Date, and Approval Number. Researchers may enter multiple IRBs.
    Field Type: binary
    Limit: n/a
    - Yes; No
      Note: If "Yes", there is the option to include IRB Name, IRB Approval Date, and IRB Approval Number, if applicable.

44. *IRB Name*
    Definition: The name of the institution or organization listed on the award letter. This field is conditional on answering "Yes" to IRB approval.
    Field Type: free text

45. *IRB Approval Date*
    Definition: The date the IRB protocol was approved by the institution. This field is conditional on answering “Yes” to IRB approval.
    Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)

46. *IRB Approval Number*
    Definition: The numerical or alphanumeric combination found on the approval letter. Varies by institution. Researchers may enter n/a for no approval number. This field is conditional on answering “Yes” to IRB approval.
    Field Type: free text

Docs & Materials (optional)

In this section, you can upload any document that you think may be useful to others to interpret your work or as they design their own work, including survey instruments, proposal(s), and protocols submitted to IRB, or others. These documents will be kept private until you authorize their release, or check the “Make document public?” box. Allowed file types: txt pdf doc docx odt xls xlsx jpg jpeg gif png.

47. *Document Name* (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
    Definition: The name of the document that is being uploaded.
    Field Type: free text

48. *Document Type* (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
    Definition: The type of document which is being uploaded.
    Field Type: single picklist
    Limit: controlled vocabulary
    - IRB Protocol; Proposal; Survey Instrument; Other

49. *Custom Type* (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
    Definition: This field describes the document types that do not match the picklist provided.
    Field Type: free text

50. *Description* (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
    Definition: This field describes the document that was uploaded.
    Field Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

Analysis Plan (optional)

Here, if you wish, upload an analysis plan(s) with as much details as you would like. You can do this at any point in the process or not at all. If a new copy is uploaded, the system will track all the versions and the date at which they were submitted. Note: the information is private by default until the PI authorizes the release (to the public or to a specific person). Allowed file types: txt pdf doc docx odt xls xlsx jpg jpeg gif png.

51. *Title* (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
    Definition: The title of the analysis plan document that is being uploaded.
    Field Type: free text
52. Upload Limit: txt pdf doc docx odt xls xlsx jpg jpeg gif png

Part II: Information provided when trial is complete or withdrawn

Study Status

1. *Study Withdrawn*
   Definition: This describes the final state of the trial, whether it was completed or withdrawn. Withdrawn means the trial did not or will not be completed. It is not intended to not mean that a paper was not written.
   Field Type: binary
   - Yes; No

   Note: If "Yes", the date and the reason the study was withdrawn will be required. The withdrawal reason is a hidden field.

2. *Study Withdrawal Date (*Conditionally required field)
   Definition: This field is the date the trial was withdrawn. If "Yes" to study withdrawal, this field is required.
   Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)

3. *Study Withdrawal Reason* (Hidden by default, can be made public at anytime)
   Definition: This field describes the cause for which the study was withdrawn. This field is only made available upon request to the Principle Investigator. If "Yes" to study withdrawal, this field appears, but it is not required.
   Field Type: free text
   Limit: 10,000 characters

4. *Intervention Completion Date*
   Definition: This field is the date the intervention was completed.
   Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)

5. *Data Collection Complete*
   Definition: This field is a binary field that asks about the status of data collection.
   Field Type: binary
   Limit: controlled vocabulary
   - Yes; No

   Note: If "Yes", a number of questions related to the data and analysis become available.

6. *Data Collection Completion Date*
   Definition: The field is the date the data collection was completed. It is only available if data collection on the trial was completed.
   Field Type: date (YYYY/MM/DD)
   Limit: controlled vocabulary

7. *Final Sample Size: Number of Clusters (Unit of Randomization)*
   Definition: This field describes the units actually treated (for example, 198 Schools) in the final analysis. It is only available if data collection on the trial was completed.
   Field Type: free text
   Limit: 10,000 characters

8. *Attrition Correlation with Treatment*
   Definition: This field asks whether attrition correlates with the treatment. Do the characteristics of those who drop out of the study differ in different treatment groups? This can be shown by summarizing baseline characteristics of those who drop out of the study, separately for each of the treatment groups, and testing whether the differences along any specific characteristic are statistically significant, and whether all differences are jointly statistically significant. It is only available if data collection on the trial was completed.
   Field Type: binary
   Limit: controlled vocabulary
   - Yes; No

9. *Final Sample Size: Total Number of Observations*
   Definition: This field describes the total number of units observed (for example, 9,500 pupils) in the final survey. It is only available if data collection on the trial was completed.

Field Type: free text
Limit: 10,000 characters

10. *Final sample size (or number of clusters) by treatment arms*
    Definition: This field describes the sample size or number of clusters by each treatment arm (for example, 50 schools in the control, 50 schools receive the teacher training arm, 50 schools receive the scholarship arm, and 50 schools receive both training and scholarship). It is only available if data collection on the trial was completed.
    Field type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

Data Publication

11. *Public Data*
    Definition: This field asks whether data is publicly available for this trial.
    Field Type: binary
    Limit: controlled vocabulary
    - Yes; No

      Note: If "Yes", a URL will be required for the published dataset related to this trial.

12. *Public Data URL* (Conditionally required field)
    Definition: The field is the URL for the publicly available data related to this trial. This field is required if a dataset is publicly available.
    Field Type: url

13. *Restricted Access Data*
    Definition: This field asks if there is a restricted access dataset that is available upon request.
    Field Type: binary
    Limit: controlled vocabulary
    - Yes; No

      Note: If "Yes", a contact email address will be requested for the restricted access dataset related to this study.

14. *Restricted Access Data Contact*

Definition: The field is the email contact for the restricted access data related to this trial.
Field Type: email

15. *Program Files*
    Definition: This field asks whether program files are publicly available for this trial.
    Field Type: binary
    Limit: controlled vocabulary
    - Yes; No

    Note: If "Yes", a URL will be required for the program files related to this trial.

16. *Program Files URL* (Conditionally required field)
    Definition: The field is the URL for the publicly available program files related to this trial.
    Field Type: url

Papers

Relevant paper(s) - is there a working paper or publication available to share? [Add a paper]

17. *Paper Abstract*
    Definition: This field contains the abstract of the paper.
    Type: free text
    Limit: 10,000 characters

18. *Paper Citation*
    Definition: This field is the citation for the paper. We recommend using the Chicago Manual of Style.
    Type: text

19. *Paper DOI/URL*
    Definition: This field contains the DOI or URL for the paper.
    Type: url

Reports & Other Materials

Note: If a researcher chooses to upload a document to a trial using the "Upload a document" button, then the following fields are available.

20. Document Description (Conditionally required field)
    Definition: This field is the description of the referenced document. It should be short, as it will be used to generate the citation for uploaded document only.
    Type: text

21. Document Upload (Conditionally required field)
    Definition: This field contains the document upload.
    Type: file upload
    Limit: txt pdf doc docx odt xls xlsx jpg jpeg gif png

22. *Citation (Automatically assigned)*
    Definition: This field is a citation for the referenced document. For document uploads, it is created automatically for this document and will be made available in the Post-trial section of the published version.
    Field Type: text

Note: If a researcher chooses to link a document to a trial using the "Add an external document" button, then the following fields are available.

23. Document Description (Conditionally required field)
    Definition: This field is the description of the uploaded document. It should be short, as it will be used to generate the citation for the uploaded document.
    Type: free text

24. *Paper DOI/URL (*Conditionally required field)
    Definition: This field contains the DOI or URL for the paper.
    Type: url

25. *Citation (*Conditionally required field)
    Definition: This field is a citation for the referenced document. For document uploads, it is created automatically for this document and will be made available in the Post-trial section of the published version. For linked documents, the authors of the trial must add the citation.
    Field Type: text
    Limit: 10,000 characters