



Features and Enhancements

RAPIDS 7.8.2.23

The RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 Features and Enhancements (F&E) document provides information regarding modifications and new features that are available in the RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 software. RAPIDS Site Security Managers (SSMs) and Verifying Officials (VOs) should familiarize themselves with this document, prior to accessing this version of RAPIDS.

'WHAT'S NEW' IN RAPIDS 7.8.2.23

With RAPIDS 7.8.2.23, users will see the following new features (more detailed explanations for each feature can be found in the following sections of this document):

- **Support extension of benefits and ID card issuance to same-sex spouses**
NOTE: This functionality will be live on 3 September 2013. Users should preview the new features as shared within this document. Once released into full production, users are highly encouraged to navigate within the system and continue familiarizing themselves with the features that support extension of benefits to eligible same-sex spouses.
- **Data Lockdown Decisions Impacting RAPIDS**
 - Gender and Date of Birth (Sponsor Record)
 - Personnel (PNL) Rules
 - Unit Identification Code (UIC)
 - Reserve Component Category Code (RSVCC)
- **Support CAC issuance for Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC) Contractors**
- **RAPIDS Improvements**
 - Limitation of "Expired or About to Expire" card failure reason
 - Expanded DD Form 1172-2 "Remarks" section within RAPIDS to accommodate more text



STOP AND READ: BEFORE USING RAPIDS 7.8.2.23, A SSM MUST COMPLETE THE PREREQUISITE.

PREREQUISITE BEFORE USING RAPIDS 7.8.2.23

1. Verify that your workstation has RAPIDS version 7.8.2.23 installed. You can do this by launching the RAPIDS application and viewing the version number that appears at the bottom center of the RAPIDS loading screen.
 - If the version displayed is RAPIDS 7.8.2.23, you have been successfully upgraded.
 - **If the version displayed is NOT RAPIDS 7.8.2.23, please contact the DMDC Support Center (DSC) User Help Desk at 1-800-372-7437 or DSN 698-5000 (CONUS) / 312-698-5000 (OCONUS) to have the software installed before proceeding.**

Support Extension of Benefits and ID Card Issuance for Same-Sex Spouses

On 26 June 2013, the Supreme Court repealed section three of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Based on this decision, the Department will extend benefits and issue ID cards to same-sex spouses.

Note: As of August 2013, thirteen states (California, Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington) and the District of Columbia recognize same-sex marriage. Same-sex couples will only require a valid marriage certificate; they are not required to live in a state that recognizes same-sex marriage to be eligible for DEERS enrollment and ID card issuance.

In previous versions of RAPIDS, SSMs/ VOs would receive an error message if the gender of a spouse was the same as the Sponsor's gender. However, in RAPIDS 7.8.2.23, SSMs/VOs will now be able to add a same-sex spouse to a Sponsor's record.

Previous Versions of RAPIDS (if spouse's gender was same as Sponsor's)	RAPIDS 7.8.2.23

Adding a same-sex spouse follows the same procedures as adding an opposite-sex spouse. Valid documentation, e.g., a legal marriage certificate, is required and must be scanned for proof of eligibility for RAPIDS/DEERS benefits.

When the SSM/VO enters the same-sex marriage date as shown on the marriage certificate, RAPIDS will automatically generate an effective date for benefits. The effective date is June 26, 2013, the date of the DOMA decision, which will serve as the effective date of benefits for same-sex marriages that began before June 26, 2013. This effective date applies to all dependents of a same-sex marriage to include the spouse, stepchild(ren), and parent(s)-in-law.

Scenario 1a – Assigning the Effective Date of Benefits for Same-Sex Marriages Occurring Before DOMA Repeal. If a Sponsor's same-sex spouse/stepchild/parent-in-law arrives at a RAPIDS site and provides a valid marriage certificate with a date *prior to* the DOMA decision date (June 26, 2013), RAPIDS will assign the effective date of benefits for this relationship as June 26, 2013.

Privilege	Begin Date	2012	2013	2014	2015	End Date	Today's Status
Commissary	2013JUN26					2014AUG06	Eligible
Exchange Unlimited	2013JUN26					2014AUG06	Eligible
Morale, Welfare, Recreation (MWR)	2013JUN26					2014AUG06	Eligible

Scenario 1b – Assigning the Effective Date of Benefits for Same-Sex Marriages Occurring On or After DOMA Repeal. If a Sponsor’s same-sex spouse/stepchild/parent-in-law arrives at a RAPIDS site and provides a valid marriage certificate with a date *on or after* the DOMA decision date (June 26, 2013), RAPIDS will assign the effective date of benefits for this relationship as the actual marriage date.

Scenario 2a – Adding Stepchildren/Parents-in-Law into DEERS/RAPIDS When Same-Sex Spouse Is on Sponsor’s Record. If you are adding stepchildren and parents-in-law to a Sponsor’s record AND the same-sex spouse has already been added to the Sponsor’s record, the SSM/VO will enter the actual date of marriage as the date of associating marriage or renewed sponsorship (for stepchildren) and the date of sponsorship (for parents-in-law). However, RAPIDS will assign the effective date of benefits based on the same-sex marriage date.

- For same-sex couples married before June 26, 2013 (effective date of DOMA decision):
 - Benefits for stepchildren and parents-in-law will begin on June 26, 2013.
- For same-sex couples married on or after June 26, 2013:
 - Benefits for stepchildren and parents-in-law will begin on the actual date of marriage.

Scenario 2b – Adding Stepchildren/Parents-in-Law into DEERS/RAPIDS When Same-Sex Spouse Is Not on Sponsor’s Record. RAPIDS allows SSMs/VOs to add stepchildren and parents-in-law before adding the spouse onto the Sponsor’s record. This action enables the family member to receive benefits to which they are entitled. In these cases, the SSM/VO should ask the stepchild/parent-in-law for the gender of the Sponsor’s spouse, and request the proper documentation, which will determine the effective date for benefits:

- For same-sex couples married before June 26, 2013 (effective date of DOMA decision):
 - When adding a stepchild or parent-in-law, the SSM/VO should enter June 26, 2013 as the date of sponsorship.
- For same-sex couples married on or after June 26, 2013:
 - When adding a stepchild or parent-in-law, the SSM/VO should enter the actual date of marriage as the date of sponsorship.

NOTE: The effective date of benefits is June 26, 2013 or the actual date of marriage, whichever is the later date.

Relationship Status: [Type]

Please enter the date this family member was born

Date of Birth: 2002AUG06

Select the dependent's relationship to the sponsor

Type: [Stepchild]

- Spouse
- Child
- Foster child
- Parent
- Parent-in-law
- Stepchild

date of associating marriage or renewed sponsorship: 2013JUN26

Number of: UNKNOWN

(Unknown date assumed): UNKNOWN

Privilege	Begin Date	2012	2013	2014	2015	End Date	Today's Status
Commissary	2013JUN26					2014NOV13	Eligible
Exchange Unlimited	2013JUN26					2014NOV13	Eligible
Morale, Welfare, Recreation (MWR)	2013JUN26					2014NOV13	Eligible

Eligibility Status Over the Last Three Years

Add Suspension(s)

Scenario 3 – Obtaining an ID Card in a State that Does Not Recognize Same-Sex Marriage

If a same-sex spouse arrives at a RAPIDS site in a state that does not recognize same-sex marriage, he or she is still eligible to be enrolled in DEERS by presenting the SSM/VO with valid documentation (e.g., marriage certificate). The same-sex spouse will only receive an ID card and benefits when in a benefits-eligible status.

DATA LOCKDOWN DECISIONS IMPACTING RAPIDS

DMDC is committed to maintaining the accuracy and integrity of personnel data stored in DEERS. Certain Sponsor DEERS data will be accepted only from its authoritative feed (i.e., the verifying source or Service personnel feeds). Data lockdown disables SSM and VO ability for modifying various "Person" and "Personnel" data elements. There will be instances when data presented in RAPIDS is incorrect and SSMs and VOs will need to direct the Sponsor to their Servicing Personnel Office to update the information. **Data lockdown does not apply to dependents.**

Gender and Date of Birth (Sponsor Record Only)

The Sponsor's gender and date of birth can only be updated through the authoritative feed to DEERS. Once a Sponsor's personnel category is verified, the update can only be made by the authoritative feed. To fix discrepancies, the sponsor should work with the office which owns the authoritative feed to DEERS (i.e., Human Resources, Personnel Office).

Sponsor personnel categories to be included in the lockdown for RAPIDS 7.8.2.23:

Personnel	Authoritative Feed
Uniformed Services – this includes Active, Guard/Reserve, Reserve Retiree and Academy Students	Active Component Files and Reserve Components Common Personnel Data System (RCCPDS)
Uniformed Service Retirees	Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS)
DoD Civilians	Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service (DCPAS)
Medal of Honor	Active Component Files and RCCPDS

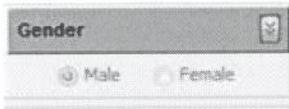
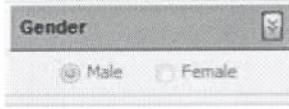
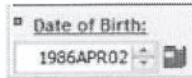
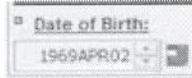
Special Scenario 1a – Multiple Personnel Categories: If the Sponsor is aligned to multiple personnel categories (e.g., DoD Civilian and Reservist), SSMs and VOs will need to direct the Sponsor to both Personnel Offices to update the information.

Special Scenario 1b – Multiple Personnel Categories: If the Sponsor is aligned to multiple personnel categories and only one personnel category is included in the lockdown (see table above), then the Sponsor's gender and date of birth will still be locked down.

Special Scenario 2 – Joint Service Marriages: As previously mentioned, the data lockdown does not apply to dependents (e.g., spouse). Therefore, when a Sponsor is added to another Sponsor's record as a dependent, the SSM/VO will be able to update the dependent's record. To ensure accurate data, SSMs and VOs will need to inform the Sponsor who was added as a dependent to contact their Personnel Office to coordinate any gender and/or date of birth changes on their own Sponsor record.

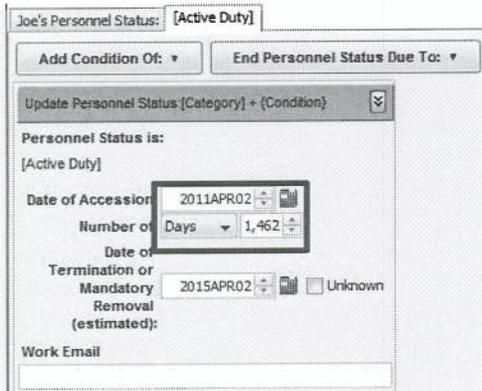
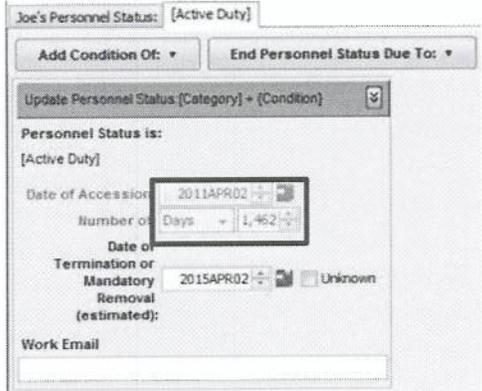
Sponsor Confirmation Tab: The confirmation tab shows the confirmation status of the Sponsor's record. An authoritative feed, such as a Service feed, Trusted Associate Sponsorship System (TASS), or Civilian Master feed, sends verified information to DEERS. Once the data is confirmed by the authoritative feed, the *Confirmation Status* column displays "Verified," and the data is locked down.

Description	Value	Confirmation Date	Confirmation Status
Name	James R, Joel J	2013APR02	Unverified
Identifier	858-78-7893	2013APR02	Unverified
Date Of Birth	1966APR02	2013APR02	Unverified
Blood Type	Unknown	2013APR02	Unverified
[Reserve] Effective Dates	2011APR02 - 2015APR02	2013APR02	Verified
[Reserve] UIC	W1234567	2013APR02	Unverified
[Reserve] Component Category	Selected Reserve	2013APR02	Unverified
[Reserve] Pay Grade	E07	2013APR02	Unverified
[Reserve] + [On Active Duty] Effective Dates	2013APR01 - 2014APR02	NONE	Verified

Previous RAPIDS Versions & Unverified Data	RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 After Data is Verified
GENDER	
	
NOTE: Sponsor's gender is locked once the record is saved to DEERS.	
DATE OF BIRTH	
	

Personnel (PNL) Rules

All Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve personnel Begin Dates will be locked down if verified by a Service Personnel source.

Previous RAPIDS Versions & Unverified Data	RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 After Data is Verified
PERSONNEL BEGIN DATES	
	

Unit Identification Code (UIC)

The UIC will be locked down if it has been verified by an authoritative feed.

Previous RAPIDS Versions & Unverified Data	RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 After Data is Verified
UNIT IDENTIFICATION CODE	

Reserve Component Category Code (RSVCC)

The RSVCC will be locked down if it has been verified by an authoritative feed.

NOTE: RAPIDS will continue to allow the addition of Merchant Marines RSVCC.

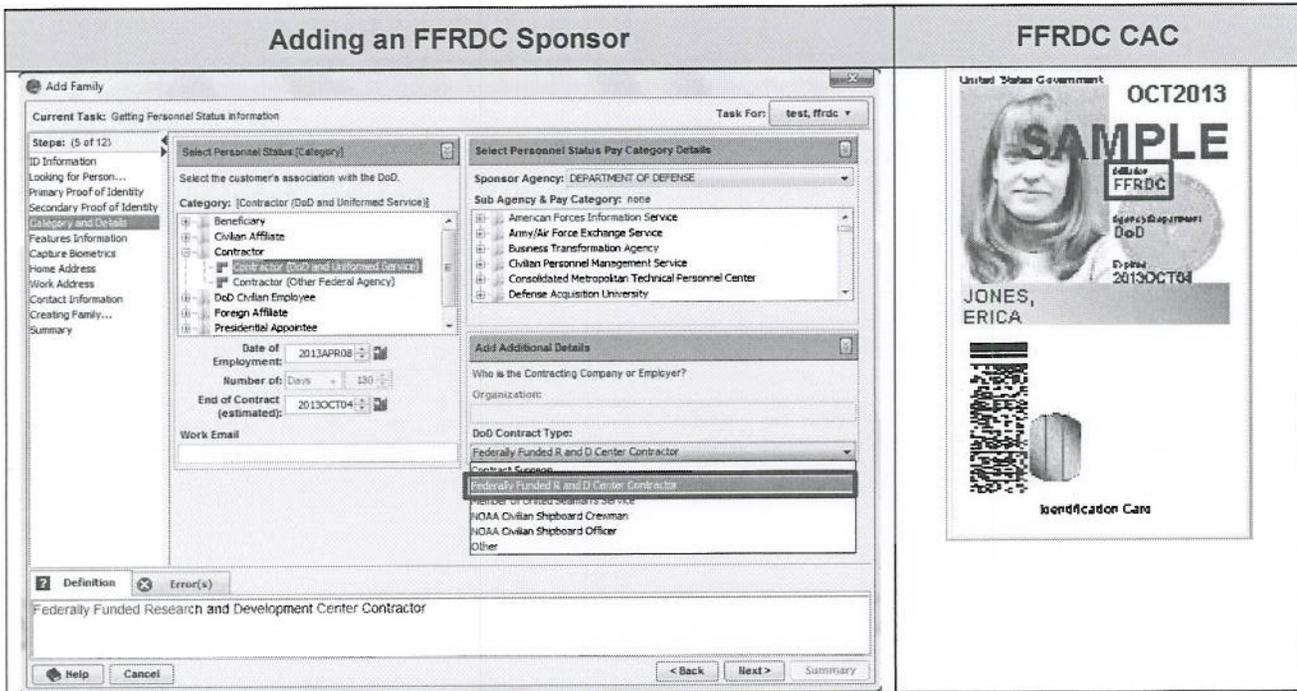
Previous RAPIDS Versions & Unverified Data	RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 After Data is Verified
RESERVE COMPONENT CATEGORY CODE	

NOTE: In the case of emergencies (e.g., an immediate deployment), SSMs/VOs should contact their Service Project Officer (SPO) to assist with correcting data. The SPO should always be contacted when Sponsors benefits are affected or when there is an immediate deployment condition.

The attached Personnel Data Lockdown Assistance Matrix provides the points of contact to refer your customers for assistance in updating their record (see column B). Once corrected in the authoritative source, the data will be sent to DEERS and displayed properly in RAPIDS. If the customer returns to the RAPIDS site and indicates that they updated the authoritative source but the information is still not present in DEERS based on the timeline identified in the matrix (see column C), then **ONLY** the RAPIDS operator should contact the SPO (see column D) for further assistance.

SUPPORT CAC ISSUANCE FOR FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER (FFRDC) Contractors

RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 will allow SSMs/VOs to issue Common Access Cards (CACs) to Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) contractors. FFRDC contractors support the government in various fields, including analysis, engineering, and research and development. When issuing CACs to FFRDC contractors, SSMs/VOs will select FFRDC from the DoD Contract Type, and the CAC will display “FFRDC” in place of “Contractor” for the Affiliation on the surface of the CAC.



RAPIDS IMPROVEMENTS

Limitation of "Expired or About to Expire" card failure reason

SSMs and VO's will no longer be able to select "About to Expire" for the card termination reason in the ID Card Wizard if the current date is more than 90 days from the card expiration date. Example: Today's date (3 April 2013) and Expiration date (20 August 2013). RAPIDS will not display "About to Expire" in the drop-down list for the card termination reason.

Expanded DD Form 1172-2 "Remarks" section within RAPIDS to accommodate more text

RAPIDS 7.8.2.23 will allow users to fill the entire section of the DD Form 1172-2 "Remarks" section with text within the RAPIDS Forms Wizard. Earlier versions of RAPIDS would truncate the text.

If you experience any issues as a result of the software upgrade, please verify that your workstations are properly configured. If the issues persist, contact the DMDC Support Center (DSC) User Help Desk at 1-800-372-7437 or DSN 698-5000 (CONUS) / 312-698-5000 (OCONUS).