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Automated Analytics: One Byte at a Time

DNP Analytics is well known for assisting agencies in assessing their data quality and testing internal controls in place; but the DNP Analytics team also offers an array of innovative products and services. A key area where DNP Analytics can provide value to your agency is through automated analytics services. DNP Analytics can develop automated reports for your agency to incorporate into its processes around identifying and preventing improper payments. DNP will work with your agency to break this process into multiple, easy-to-manage steps.

First, DNP will partner with your agency in a proof of concept project. The proof of concept allows DNP to showcase the value the project will provide to your agency, which can assist in gaining necessary leadership and legal approvals in future iterations of the project. DNP Analytics will schedule periodic meetings with your agency throughout development of the proof of concept deliverables, to ensure the deliverables meet your agency’s needs.

Once DNP delivers the proof of concept project to your agency, your agency will then need to provide feedback on the delivered results: do the results help your agency with its business problem? Did the project results help identify potential improper payments? Is the information presented in a way that is most useful to your agency? Can the results be further refined based on your agency’s internal procedures? Feedback on the deliverable is critical to ensure the future automated solution is useful and actionable for your agency.

Once your agency confirms that the concept is proven and would like to move forward with the automated solution, DNP will then work with your agency to gain needed legal and leadership approvals to generate the automated report for your agency. DNP Analytics will work with your team to present the report.

Contact the DNP mailbox @ donotpay@fiscal.treasury.gov, if you are interested in partnering with DNP Analytics in creating an automated solution for your agency.
Dissect Your Data Using the DNP Data Integrity Dashboard

DNP Analytics recently developed the Data Integrity Dashboard to help agencies better understand their payment data. DNP’s Data Integrity Dashboard provides federal agencies that use Payment Automation Manager (PAM) a quick, comprehensive assessment of their payment data. This dashboard can assist in assessing data quality and identifying potential issues with key data elements such as Tax Identification Numbers (TIN) and names. By providing agencies more information around their payment data and the potential issues within the data, agencies can take directed actions to research and strengthen data quality, and ultimately help reduce improper payments.

DNP’s dashboard uses an agency’s payment data from PAM to provide an overall assessment and insights into the details of its data. The dashboard categorizes information by Agency Location Code (ALC) and payment type, which can help agencies pinpoint where potential data issues lie within their programs. The dashboard also provides information about the specifics of potential data quality weaknesses and their impact on payments, such as number of payments or the dollar values tied to the identified potential data issues.

One of DNP’s goals when designing the data integrity dashboard was to make the information easy to digest and use. DNP achieved this goal by including a variety of informational graphs as well as detailed tables that enable agencies to gain a complete understating of their data landscape. Dashboard users can effortlessly learn about their potential data problems such as the type of issue, scale of the issue, the ALCs impacted by the issue, and different payment types affected. Another key feature of DNP’s Data Integrity Dashboard is that it can be customized to suit different agencies’ needs. DNP understands that each agency has a different threshold when it comes to dealing with its payment data. Agencies can determine their baseline threshold for this dashboard to ensure that this tool works for them. Agencies can decide to use this tool for a point-in-time assessment of their payment data or to establish a baseline and compare data quality over multiple time periods to identify underlying trends. In addition to providing an assessment of an agency’s data quality, this dashboard also provides a comparison to peer agencies to help users learn how their overall data quality compares to similar agencies. If you are interested in using the Data Integrity Dashboard to assist with your data quality needs, contact the DNP mailbox at donotp@fiscal.treasury.gov.

[See full dashboard graphic on page 4.]
DNP Data Integrity Dashboard

[Agency Name] Data Quality Dashboard Fiscal Year (FY) 2019

TIN Quality
- Evaluation of your agency’s TIN.

Impact
- Summary of invalid TINs and dollar amount at risk.

Peer Comparison
- Your agency’s TIN quality compared to the average.

Name Quality by ALC

TIN Quality
- High-level view of quality of payment data.

TIN Quality by ALC

Data Quality Insights
- Insights to help you interpret the data.

TIN Type Quality by ALC
Measuring DNP Success through Customer Feedback

Do Not Pay (DNP) provides valuable information to help agencies make informed decisions about improper payments. That help can come in many ways, from partnering with DNP Analytics to matching payee information in the DNP Portal. In order to measure the effectiveness of a partnership with DNP, customer feedback is essential; it helps to document outcomes ensuring that DNP provides information that is accurate, insightful, and actionable.

As part of a standard analytics project, detailed record and match information is provided to an agency for review; this format allows the agency to provide feedback after it completes research to validate DNP findings. Providing feedback on the results of DNP analytics projects is a powerful method for agencies to identify improper payments post-payment and to prevent improper payments in the future. DNP Analytics uses agency feedback to refine its analysis and identify opportunities for your agency to prevent potential improper payments.

Agencies may also provide feedback on the match results that are received in the DNP Portal from any of the matching methods. Agencies can record feedback using the Outcome tool to document if the match information aided in preventing an improper payment. The “Payments” function also allows agencies to add comments to adjudicated payments when they are submitted.

Throughout the duration of the Portal’s re-architecture initiative, agency participants had the opportunity to provide feedback in usability sessions. These meetings allowed Portal users to view mockups of upcoming aesthetic and functional changes to various aspects of the Portal’s interface. User feedback in the usability sessions was crucial to ensure that changes to Portal provided value to end users.

For more information on how to provide the best feedback possible for a DNP analytics projects and match results in the DNP Portal, please contact the DNP mailbox at donotpay@fiscal.treasury.gov.
With the passing of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in March, funds were appropriated to assist individuals and businesses impacted by the economic hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic. A portion of the over $2 trillion economic relief package was earmarked for state, local, and tribal governments as part of the Coronavirus Relief Fund. With the quick turnaround of these payments going out to individuals and entities in need, improper payments can occur. Do Not Pay can help state agencies with the identification and prevention of possible improper payments.

- Ensuring eligibility requirements are met – Through DNP Analytics, CARES Act payments that have been disbursed can be reviewed to ensure that meet eligibility requirements.
- Pre-award and pre-payment checks – The DNP Portal can be used for pre-award and pre-payment eligibility verification through our online search functionality or through bulk file matching.
- Timely return on DNP matches – Regardless of what DNP service you utilize, your DNP Agency Specialist will ensure your project is slotted and executed in a timely manner.

DNP is ready to have conversations with your program(s) today related to the review of CARES Act payments or any other federally funded, state-administered programs. To begin discussions related to your program’s needs, please contact the DNP State Agency Lead, Jon Ortiz, at Jon.Ortiz@fiscal.treasury.gov or 202-874-9579.
Do Not Pay Eligibility Verification Solution for State Agencies

Do Not Pay has recently expanded our analytics services for state agencies to assist in their eligibility verification and data quality analysis of their federally funded payments to mitigate risk associated with improper payments. Through a multi-level analytics review, this solution helps agencies assess existing payment processes to pinpoint areas of opportunity where internal controls could be strengthened. This solution is ideal for state oversight agencies or state agencies that administer funds for Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Unemployment Insurance (UI) beneficiaries or providers. However, DNP can adjust this solution to fit your agency’s specific payment eligibility needs.

This solution will help our state agency partners by:

- Determining Eligible Recipients – DNP data sources (death, debt, debarment) are matched to ensure program eligibility requirements are met and the recipient is, in fact, the individual or entity that should receive the funds.
- Ensuring Accurate Payments – Duplicative payments and suspicious payment amounts are flagged for review to ensure payment integrity.
- Validating Internal Controls – This solution can identify areas of improvement in an agency’s payment process and demonstrate proficiencies through an external, independent review.

Several of our state partners have already taken advantage of using this eligibility verification solution with great results. To schedule an overview of our analytics services and discuss your agency’s needs, please contact the DNP State Agency Lead, Jon Ortiz, at Jon.Ortiz@fiscal.treasury.gov or 202-874-9579.
Announcements

**October 24, 2020:** Release 6.4 Payments Migrated to Redesigned Portal

**January 9, 2021:** Release 7.1 Whitelist Management Migration to Redesigned Portal

Please visit our Training website to access instructional videos and slides pertaining to these upgrades.

[https://fiscal.treasury.gov/dnp/training.html](https://fiscal.treasury.gov/dnp/training.html)