

International Standard Serial Number (ISSN)

Presented by: Marcia Salmon

Graduate Journal Publication Symposium on
Wednesday April 8, 2009

What is an ISSN

- ❑ ISSN is an acronym for the International Standard Serial Number
 - ❑ ISSN is a standardized international code which is used to identify serial publications including electronic serials
 - ❑ The International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) consists of 8 digits with a hyphen separating the first 4 numbers and the last 4 numbers. The first 7 digits are a unique title identifier
 - ❑ ISSN should be as basic to a serial as the title
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What is an ISSN

- ❑ ISSN is independent of country of publication, language, medium and frequency of the serial
 - ❑ ISSN numbers are assigned by the ISSN national centres
 - ❑ ISSN national centres are coordinated in a network
 - ❑ ISSN are accessible through the ISSN Register
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How an ISSN is Used

- ❑ Identify a serial title
 - ❑ Accurate citation
 - ❑ Used by computers for updating and linking files, and retrieving and transmitting data
 - ❑ Method of communication between publishers and suppliers
 - ❑ Used by libraries for activities such as ordering and interlibrary loan
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ISSN FAQ

- Are ISSN assigned to electronic publications?
 - Yes. ISSN are assigned to electronic serial publications such as online journals but personal websites and weblogs are not eligible for ISSN

 - Is assignment of ISSN free?
 - Yes.
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ISSN FAQ

- When should an ISSN be changed?
 - When the title of the serial changes
 - When the medium of the serial changes such as changes from print to electronic

 - Is it possible to obtain an ISSN number before the publication of the first issue of a new serial?
 - This is known as a pre-publication ISSN, the publisher should include with the request as much information as possible such as a sample issue
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ISSN FAQ

- Is a new ISSN requested for each issue of a publication?
 - No. ISSN identifies the serial not individual issues of the serial

 - Is the ISSN mandatory?
 - In certain countries. All serial publications covered by legal deposit must have an ISSN, and thus in this case ISSN are automatically assigned
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ISSN FAQ

- Are different ISSN numbers assigned for the different versions of a publication?
 - Yes. Different medium of publication should have separate ISSN even if the title is the same.
 - Different ISSN are assigned for different language editions of a serial

 - Is the title of a publication copyrighted if it has been assigned an ISSN?
 - No. Several serials can have similar or identical titles. ISSN may be used to manage copyright issues
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ISSN National Centre in Canada

□ ISSN Canada

Library and Archives Canada

395 Wellington Street

Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4

Telephone: 819-994-6895 or

1-866-578-7777 (toll free in Canada and
the US)

Fax: 819-997-6209

E-mail: issn@lac-bac.gc.ca

Website:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/isn/041011-2000-e.html>

How to Apply for an ISSN in Canada

- Complete the online application form (<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/isn/041011-2020-e.html>)

International Standard Numbers (ISNs)

Application Form

Note:

- If you have separate editions for different languages, please fill out a separate form for each edition.
- ISSN are not assigned to personal weblogs. ISSN are assigned only on a selective basis to organizational weblogs.

* Indicates Mandatory Field

*1.

Title

Give the title exactly as it appears on the title page or title screen, disk label, cover, caption, or masthead (in that order or preference). Include the name of the responsible organization in the title if that name is linguistically inseparable from the rest of the title, e.g. "Bulletin of the Canadian Celtic Arts Association"

*2.

Beginning year and month of publication using this title

Enter the date in YYYY-MM format, eg, if the date is May 1998, enter it as 1998-05. Supply a year and month, even if you aren't sure of the exact date. If you are unsure of the exact date, please add a question mark at the end of the supplied date (e.g. 1998-05?).

3.

Number and/or date designation, if applicable

Information Required for ISSN Application Form

1. Title
 2. Beginning year and month of publication using this title
 3. Number and/or date designation
 4. Former title(s) and ISSN(S)
 5. Frequency of publication
 6. Language of publication
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Information Required for ISSN Application Form

7. Format of publication
 8. Web address (URL) of the publication
 9. Publisher
 10. City and province where publisher is located
 11. Contact person for the ISSN request
 12. Additional information, comments, questions
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ISSN Register

- All serials assigned an ISSN is included in the ISSN Register
 - The ISSN Register is an international database that includes the most comprehensive and authoritative source for the identification of serial publications world-wide
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ISSN Portal

- The ISSN register may be accessed through the ISSN Portal (<http://portal.issn.org>)



Login:

Password:

For more information about the ISSN Portal, please refer to the [Web site](#) of the ISSN International Centre

If your login and password are not accepted by the server or for any connection problems please contact portal@issn.org

Sources of Information

- ISSN International Centre

<http://www.issn.org/>

- ISSN Canada

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/issn/041011-2000-e.html>

- ISSN Portal

<http://portal.issn.org>
