ASP.NET MVC: ValidationSummary

The ValidationSummary helper method generates an unordered list (ul element) of validation messages that are in the ModelStateDictionary object.

The ValidationSummary can be used to display all the error messages for all the fields. It can also be used to display custom error messages. The following figure shows how ValidationSummary displays the error messages.

Edit

Student

- The Name field is required.
- The Age field is required.

Name [   ]

Age [   ]

[Save]

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ValidationSummary

ValidationSummary() Signature

MvcHtmlString ValidateMessage(bool excludePropertyErrors, string message, object htmlAttributes)

Visit MSDN to know all the overloads of ValidationMessage() method ⬀.
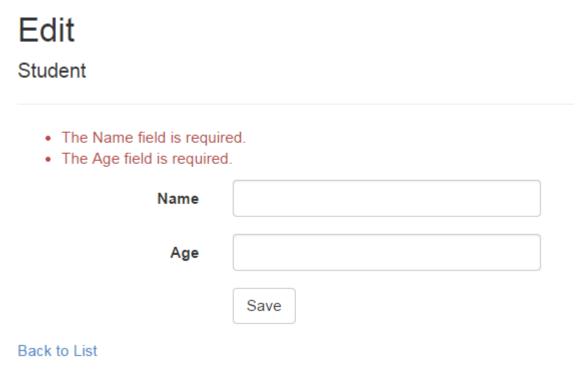
Display Field Level Error Messages using ValidationSummary

By default, ValidationSummary filters out field level error messages. If you want to display field level error messages as a summary then specify excludePropertyErrors = false.

Example: ValidationSummary to display field errors

```
@Html.ValidationSummary(false, "", new { @class = "text-danger" })
```

So now, the following Edit view will display error messages as a summary at the top. Please make sure that you don't have a ValidationMessageFor method for each of the fields.

Edit

Student

- The Name field is required.
- The Age field is required.

Name

Age

Save

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Error Message using ValidationSummary

Display Custom Error Messages

You can also display a custom error message using ValidationSummary. For example, we want to display a message if Student Name already exists in the database.

To display a custom error message, first of all, you need to add custom errors into the ModelState in the appropriate action method.

Example: Add error in ModelState

```
if (ModelState.IsValid) {

    //check whether name is already exists in the database or not
    bool nameAlreadyExists = * check database *

    if(nameAlreadyExists)
    {
        ModelState.AddModelError(string.Empty, "Student Name already exists.");

        return View(std);
    }
}
```
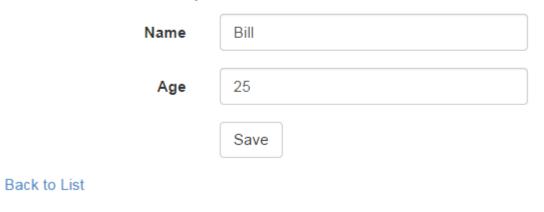
As you can see in the above code, we have added custom error messages using the ModelState.AddModelError method. The ValidationSummary method will automatically display all the error messages added into ModelState.

Edit

Student

- Student Name already exists.

Name | Bill

Age | 25

[Save]

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Display error message using ValidationSymmary

Thus, you can use the ValidationSummary helper method to display error messages.

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