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## Operating expenditures file description

The operating expenditures file contains information about disbursements disclosed on FEC reports, including operating expenditures reported on:

- Form 3, Line 17 for House and Senate committees
- Form 3P, Line 23 for Presidential committees
- Form 3X, Lines 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), and 21(b) for PAC and Party committees

For electronic filing committees, operating expenditures are available from the 2004 election cycle to the present.

For paper filing committees, operating expenditures are available starting October 2005 through the present.

The file contains information about the committee making the disbursement, the report where the operating expenditure is disclosed, the entity receiving the disbursement, the disbursement's date, amount, purpose, and additional information about the operating expenditure (if provided). The end-of-line (EOL) marker is line feed '\n' (LF, 0x0A, 10 in decimal).

## Operating expenditures file format

Column name	Field name	Position	Null	Data type	Description	Example data
CMTE_ID	Filer identification number	1	N	VARCHAR2 (9)	Identification number of committee filing report. A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a committee by the Federal Election Commission	C00100005
AMNDT_IND	Amendment indicator	2	Y	VARCHAR2 (1)	Indicates if the report	A

					being filed is new (N), an amendment (A) to a previous report, or a termination (T) report.	
RPT_YR	Report year	3	Y	Number(4)		2018
RPT_TP	Report type	4	Y	VARCHAR2 (3)	Indicates the type of report filed. <u>List of report type codes</u>	12G
IMAGE_NUM	Image number	5	Y	VARCHAR2 (11) or VARCHAR2(18)	11-digit Image Number Format YYOORRRFFFF YY - scanning year OO - office (01 - House, 02 - Senate, 03 - FEC Paper, 90-99 - FEC Electronic) RRR - reel number FFFF- frame number  18-digit Image Number Format (June 29, 2015) YYYYMMDDSSPPPPPPPP YYYY - scanning year MM - scanning month DD - scanning day SS - source (02 - Senate, 03 - FEC Paper, 90-99 - FEC Electronic) PPPPPPPP - page (reset to zero every year on January 1)	201810170912341
LINE_NUM	Line number	6	Y		Indicates FEC form line number	17
FORM_TP_CD	Form type	7	Y	VARCHAR2 (8)	Indicates FEC Form	3
SCHED_TP_CD	Schedule type	8	Y	VARCHAR2 (8)	Schedule B - Itemized disbursements	SB
NAME	Contributor/Lender/Transfer Name	9	Y	VARCHAR2 (200)		XYZ Printing
CITY	City	10	Y	VARCHAR2 (30)		Alexandria
STATE	State	11	Y	VARCHAR2 (2)		VA
ZIP_CODE	ZIP code	12	Y	VARCHAR2 (9)		22201
TRANSACTION_DT	Transaction date (MMDDYYYY)	13	Y	DATE		05112018
TRANSACTION_AMT	Transaction amount	14	Y	NUMBER (14,2)		512.34
TRANSACTION_PGI	Primary general indicator	15	Y	VARCHAR2 (5)		P2018
PURPOSE	Purpose	16	Y	VARCHAR2 (100)		Printing yard sig
CATEGORY	Disbursement category code	17	Y	VARCHAR2 (3)	001-012 and 101-107	006
CATEGORY_DESC	Disbursement Category Code Description	18	Y	VARCHAR2 (40)	<u>List of Disbursement Category Codes and their meaning</u>	Campaign mate

MEMO_CD	Memo code	19	Y	VARCHAR2 (1)	'X' indicates that the amount is NOT to be included in the itemization total.	X
MEMO_TEXT	Memo text	20	Y	VARCHAR2 (100)	A description of the activity. Memo Text is available on itemized amounts on Schedule B. These transactions are included in the itemization total.	Credit card payr AmEx 5/1/18
ENTITY_TP	Entity type	21	Y	VARCHAR2 (3)	ONLY VALID FOR ELECTRONIC FILINGS received after April 2002. CAN = Candidate CCM = Candidate committee COM = Committee IND = Individual (a person) ORG = Organization (not a committee and not a person) PAC = Political action committee PTY = Party organization	ORG
SUB_ID	FEC record number	22	N	NUMBER (19)	Unique row ID	12345678912345
FILE_NUM	File number/report ID	23	Y	NUMBER (7)	Unique report id	1197685
TRAN_ID	Transaction ID	24		VARCHAR2 (32)	ONLY VALID FOR ELECTRONIC FILINGS. A unique identifier associated with each itemization or transaction appearing in an FEC electronic file. A transaction ID is unique for a specific committee for a specific report. In other words, if committee, C1, files a Q3 New with transaction SA123 and then files 3 amendments to the Q3 transaction SA123 will be identified by transaction ID SA123 in all 4 filings.	SB17.4326
BACK_REF_TRAN_ID	Back reference transaction ID	25	Y	VARCHAR2 (32)	ONLY VALID FOR ELECTRONIC FILINGS. Used to associate one transaction with another transaction in the same report (using file number, transaction ID and back reference transaction ID). For example, a credit card payment and the subitemization of specific purchases. The back reference transaction ID of the	SB17.8690

					specific purchases will equal the transaction ID of the payment to the credit card company.	
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NEED HELP?

[Get help from the FEC by phone or email](#)

This information is not intended to replace the law or to change its meaning, nor does this information create or confer any rights for or on any person or bind the Federal Election Commission or the public.

The reader is encouraged also to consult the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (52 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.), Commission regulations (Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations), Commission advisory opinions and applicable court decisions.