



ATIS-0300051

**Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment
Guidelines (COCAG)**

Reissued with the resolution of Issue 858.

August 24, 2018

Copyright © 2018 by Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions

All rights reserved.

The Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines dated August 24, 2018, is copyrighted, published and distributed by ATIS on behalf of the Industry Numbering Committee (INC). Except as expressly permitted, no part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form, including electronic media or otherwise, without the prior express written permission of ATIS.

Participants in the INC and other parties are hereby authorized to reproduce this document and distribute it within their own business organizations for business purposes, provided that this notice continues to appear in the reproduced documentation. Resale is prohibited.

For ordering information, please contact:

ATIS
1200 G Street N.W., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-6380
inc@atis.org

A complete listing of INC Documents is available on the ATIS Web Site at: <http://www.atis.org/inc/incguides.asp>.

Trademark Acknowledgments

Common Language® and Telcordia® are registered trademarks and CLLI™, iconectiv®, LERG™ Routing Guide and TPM™ Data Source are trademarks and the Intellectual Property of Telcordia Technologies, Inc. dba iconectiv®.



As a leading technology and solutions development organization, the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) brings together the top global ICT companies to advance the industry's most pressing business priorities. ATIS' nearly 200 member companies are currently working to address the All-IP transition, 5G, network functions virtualization, big data analytics, cloud services, device solutions, emergency services, M2M, cyber security, network evolution, quality of service, billing support, operations, and much more. These priorities follow a fast-track development lifecycle — from design and innovation through standards, specifications, requirements, business use cases, software toolkits, open source solutions, and interoperability testing.

ATIS is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The organization is the North American Organizational Partner for the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), a founding Partner of the oneM2M global initiative, a member of and major U.S. contributor to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as well as a member of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL). For more information, visit www.atis.org.

The Industry Numbering Committee (INC) provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of North American Numbering Plan (NANP) numbering resources within the NANP area.

This document is maintained under the direction of ATIS and the INC. Suggestions for improvement of this document are welcome. They should be sent to the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, INC Staff, 1200 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005. All changes to this document shall be made through the INC issue resolution process and adopted by the INC as set forth in the *ATIS Operating Procedures*.

Notice of Disclaimer & Limitation of Liability

The information provided in this document is directed solely to professionals who have the appropriate degree of experience to understand and interpret its contents in accordance with generally accepted engineering or other professional standards and applicable regulations. No recommendation as to products or vendors is made or should be implied.

NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY IS MADE THAT THE INFORMATION IS TECHNICALLY ACCURATE OR SUFFICIENT OR CONFORMS TO ANY STATUTE, GOVERNMENTAL RULE OR REGULATION, AND FURTHER, NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY IS MADE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR AGAINST INFRINGEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. ATIS SHALL NOT BE LIABLE, BEYOND THE AMOUNT OF ANY SUM RECEIVED IN PAYMENT BY ATIS FOR THIS DOCUMENT, AND IN NO EVENT SHALL ATIS BE LIABLE FOR LOST PROFITS OR OTHER INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. ATIS EXPRESSLY ADVISES THAT ANY AND ALL USE OF OR RELIANCE UPON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS AT THE RISK OF THE USER.

NOTE - The user's attention is called to the possibility that compliance with this standard may require use of an invention covered by patent rights. By publication of this standard, no position is taken with respect to whether use of an invention covered by patent rights will be required, and if any such use is required no position is taken regarding the validity of this claim or any patent rights in connection therewith. Please refer to [<http://www.atis.org/legal/patentinfo.asp>] to determine if any statement has been filed by a patent holder indicating a willingness to grant a license either without compensation or on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions to applicants desiring to obtain a license.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section Title

1.0	Purpose and Scope of This Document	2
2.0	Assumptions and Constraints	2
3.0	Assignment Principles	5
4.0	Criteria for the Assignment of Central Office Codes	7
5.0	CO Code (NXX) Assignment Functions.....	18
6.0	Responsibilities of Code Applicants and Holders	23
7.0	Criteria for the Transfer of Central Office Codes	34
8.0	Reclamation.....	37
9.0	Central Office Code Conservation and Jeopardy Procedures	40
10.0	Maintenance of These Guidelines	43
11.0	Responsibilities for Code Relief Planning.....	43
12.0	Appeals and Safety Valve Process.....	46
13.0	Glossary	49
14.0	References	64

Appendix A: Example of Pre-Planning Checklist

Appendix B: Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet – TN Level

Appendix C: Procedures for Code Holder Exit

Appendix D: Timelines

Appendix F: Extraordinary NPA-Specific Alternatives

Appendix G: Template for 30-day State Notification for Interconnected VoIP Providers

Note: Previous Appendices E, G, and H have been deleted.

Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request and Confirmation Forms

Part 1 - Request for NXX Code Assignment

Part 2 - Routing and Rating Information (Forms 1-8)

Part 3 - Administrator's Response/Confirmation

Part 4 - Confirmation of CO Code in Service

Part 4 PA - Confirmation of Code In Service (Submitted by the Pooling Administrator)

Note: Previous Part 2, Forms 3, 4, and 5 have been deleted.

1.0 Purpose and Scope of This Document

This document specifies guidelines for the assignment of central office codes (also referred to as CO codes in this document). The term CO code or NXX refers to sub-NPA destination codes for addressing. Sub-NPA refers to digits D-E-F of a 10-digit NANP area address, e.g., 740 is the CO code (NXX) in (201) 740-1111. Examples of uses for CO codes (NXX) for which these guidelines apply include plain old telephone service (POTS), Centrex, Direct Inward Dialing (DID), Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS), data lines, facsimile, coin phones, and customer owned pay phones. While these guidelines were developed at the direction of the FCC,¹ they do not supersede controlling appropriate NANP area governmental or regulatory principles, guidelines and requirements. These industry consensus guidelines are expected to apply throughout the NANP area subject to guidelines and constraints of the NANP area administrations unless the affected administrations direct otherwise.²

These guidelines apply only to the assignment of CO codes (NXX) within geographic numbering plan areas (NPAs). This does not preclude a future effort to address non-geographic NPAs in the same guidelines.³ CO codes (NXXs) are assigned for use at a Switching Entity or Point of Interconnection they own or control. Entities assigned CO Codes are termed “code holders.” While the ultimate delivery of any call to a CO code (NXX) need not be geographically identified, by necessity initial routing is geographically defined. Therefore, for assignment and routing purposes, the CO code (NXX) is normally associated with a specific geographic location within an NPA, from which it is assigned. For some companies this is also used for billing purposes.

2.0 Assumptions and Constraints

The development of the assignment guidelines includes the following assumptions and constraints.

- 2.1 NANP resources, including those covered in these guidelines, are collectively managed by the North American Telecommunications industry with oversight of the North American regulatory authorities. The NANP is the basic numbering scheme for the public switched telecommunications networks in the Countries⁴ that are participants in the North American

¹ This effort has been undertaken at the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in a letter to NANPA dated June 21, 1991, in an attempt to develop procedures that can be applied uniformly while using a finite numbering resource in the most efficient and effective manner possible and subsequently changed per the FCC’s Numbering Resource Optimization orders under Dockets 99-200, 96-98 and 95-116.

² The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has approved the Canadian Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines for the administration of Central Office Codes within Canadian Numbering Plan Areas (NPAs) by the Canadian Numbering Administrator (CNA). See www.cnac.ca.

³ Separate procedures apply to the assignment of NXX codes within currently assigned Service Access Codes (SACs), and others will be developed, as appropriate, as new SACs are assigned by NANPA. For example, NXX assignment guidelines for the 900 SACs are available. Separate guidelines also will be prepared to address the assignment of numbering resources reserved for non-geographic applications.

⁴ The term Country(ies) is used herein to mean a sovereign state or its geopolitical subdivision (e.g., Territory, Commonwealth or Possession). A listing of sovereign states can be found at the United Nations and/or the International Telecommunications Union websites.