QuickAlerts Messages January 2015

QuickAlerts - January 8, 2015

Subject: System Changes for Filing Season

The IRS is currently performing maintenance on the e-services Transcript Delivery System (TDS) that should be completed Sunday, January 11, 2015. Until that time, Account or Record of Account transcripts for businesses will only be delivered to the Secure Mailbox or Fax. This is a temporary measure and that only affects business transcripts.

Additionally, e-services will be unavailable Sunday, January 11, 2015, beginning at 1:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

QuickAlerts – January 15, 2015

Subject: Extended Maintenance Window for the Modernized e-File (MeF) Production Environment

The MeF Sunday maintenance build window is being extended on Sunday, January 18, 2015. The system will be unavailable from 1:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., Eastern.

The build will deploy critical system updates. This extended window only affects the MeF Production Environment.

Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF Production System during this period.

QuickAlerts – January 16, 2015

Subject: e-help Desk Service Change

Due to budget restrictions, extended weekday hours, Saturday and President's Day service is no longer available. The e-help desk page on IRS.gov lists the current hours of service.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts – January 16, 2015

Subject: 1040 Series Tax Year 2014v5.1 Business Rules

The following Business Rules have been posted on IRS.gov.

<u>Form 1040 – 2014v5.1</u> - operational in the MeF ATS environment on January 18, 2015 These Business Rules are for planning and development purposes supporting Filing Season 2015. Please refer to the version's release memo for a description.

Form 1040 - 2014v5.1 Schemas, posted December 29, 2014, will be operational in the MeF Production environment on January 20, 2015.

If additional changes to the 1040 Series Business Rules for Processing Year 2015 occur, the updated version(s) will be posted.

The Known Issues and Solutions list will be updated as needed.

If you have any questions, please send them to the MeF Mailbox.

QuickAlerts - January 20, 2015

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Starts Filing Season 2015

The 2015 filing season startup began January 9, 2015 for Business Returns and January 20, 2015 for Individual Returns.

MeF will be conducting daily maintenance from 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., Eastern until further notice. You may receive intermittent service request errors during this time window. If this occurs please submit a new request.

As a reminder, transmitters should be using "la" in the URL path when they are accessing the Production environment and "la.alt" when they are accessing the ATS environment. Please do not direct to your traffic to "la1" or "la2" unless instructed to do so.

MeF would also like to remind transmitters that <u>Prior Year Schemas</u> have changed due to XML Standardization so be sure to verify you are using the correct prior year schemas.

If you have any questions please send them to the MeF Mailbox.

QuickAlerts – January 22, 2015

Subject: ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting January 27, 2015

The next Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, January 27, 2015 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Eastern time Conference Number is 1-888-331-8226 Access Code 3600320.

The <u>Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) Program Overview page</u> on IRS.gov will have information about the presentation materials for this meeting.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers, and Issuers/Payers. This will be a technical discussion about the programming to electronically file the ACA information returns. We will not be discussing tax law and taxpayer responsibilities.

Please forward agenda items for the next Working Group meeting to airmailbox@irs.gov.

QuickAlerts – January 22, 2015

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Update on Daily Maintenance

The MeF daily maintenance from 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. Eastern will end Friday, January 23, 2015. We apologize for any inconveniences this has caused and thank you for your cooperation.

QuickAlerts - January 26, 2015

Subject: ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting January 27, 2015

The next Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, January 27, 2015 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Eastern time Conference Number is 1-888-331-8226 Access Code 3600320.

This meeting will include a walkthrough of the draft Tax Year 2014 schemas for Forms 1094-B, 1095-B, 1094-C and 1095-C. The schemas have posted to IRS.gov on the AIR schemas 2014v1.0 page.

Send any questions about the AIR schemas to airmailbox@irs.gov.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers, and Issuers/Payers. This will be a technical discussion about the programming to electronically file the ACA information returns. We will not be discussing tax law and taxpayer responsibilities.

QuickAlerts - January 27, 2015

Subject: The ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting presentation has posted to IRS.gov.

The next Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting will be held on: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Eastern time Conference Number is 1-888-331-8226 Access Code 3600320.

The <u>January 27, 2015 Presentation - ACA Form Data File Schema</u> has posted to IRS.gov. This meeting will include a walkthrough of the draft Tax Year 2014 schemas for Forms 1094-B, 1095-B, 1094-C and 1095-C. The draft schemas have posted to IRS.gov on the AIR schemas 2014v1.0 page.

Send any questions about the AIR schemas to airmailbox@irs.gov.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers, and Issuers/Payers. This will be a technical discussion about the programming to electronically file the ACA information returns. We will not be discussing tax law and taxpayer responsibilities.

QuickAlerts - January 29, 2015

Subject: Delay in receiving Modernized e-File (MeF) Acknowledgements

The length of time for the MeF System to create federal acknowledgments and make them available for retrieval is taking longer than expected. As receipts continue to increase throughout the day, the length

of time may also increase. The IRS is closely monitoring the acknowledgment rates and is working to close the gap as a top priority.

We will issue a Technical QuickAlerts once the delays are resolved.

Please monitor the MeF Status page for updates.

Thank you for your patience and support.