QuickAlerts Messages October 2023

QuickAlerts – October 3, 2023

Subject: AATS Shutdown/Cutover for Filing Season 2024/Tax Year 2023.

The AATS environment will be unavailable beginning Monday, October 30, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern time through Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern time.

IRS will update AATS programming for Filing Season 2024/Tax Year 2023 during that time. Please do not attempt to access the Application to Application (A2A) and User Interface (UI) Channels during the Shutdown period.

The AATS environment will be available beginning Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 9 a.m. Eastern time, for Filing Season 2024/Tax Year 2023 testing, which includes Tax Year(s) 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

Beginning November 1, 2023:

• Tax Year 2023 will be the current year in AATS

• Tax Year(s) 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 will be accepted as prior year returns in AATS

The Production environment will be still available during the AATS Shutdown, except for the routine maintenance window that occurs each Sunday.

• Tax Year 2022 is still the current year in Production

• Tax Year(s) 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 are still accepted as prior year returns in Production

QuickAlerts – October 4, 2023

Subject: Annual Self-Certification and E-file Application URL Registration

ATTN: Authorized IRS e-file Providers/EROs

This is a reminder that all Online Providers must complete the annual self-certification questions beginning October 1, 2023, to ensure they comply with Publication 1345 IRS e-file security, privacy, and business standards.

If you are an Authorized IRS e-file Provider who owns or operates a website(s) that collects, transmits, stores or processes taxpayer information, the IRS also requires you to register those URL(s) on your e-file Application. The annual certification process includes the registration of these Websites.

If you have not previously registered your URL(s), select the URL collection link on the e-file Application information page menu to register.

Subject: Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) Working Group Meeting

Attention: Software Developers and Information Return Transmitters

Please join us for an Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) Working Group Meeting. This call is intended for software developers, transmitters and states interested in the IRIS system.

The purpose is to provide IRIS-related information that can better help users avoid unnecessary filing errors, address any known issues or workarounds and to provide important filing dates and deadlines. Please plan to join the webinar.

[Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) Working Group Meeting](#)

Wednesday, October 11

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

Online event

Subject: Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) Working Group Meeting (Updated Link)

Attention: Software Developers and Information Return Transmitters

Please join us for an Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) Working Group Meeting. This call is intended for software developers, transmitters and states interested in the IRIS system.

The purpose is to provide IRIS-related information that can better help users avoid unnecessary filing errors, address any known issues or workarounds and to provide important filing dates and deadlines. Please plan to join the webinar.

[Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) Working Group Meeting](#)

Wednesday, October 11

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

Online event

Subject: Form 1040 Series Business Rules and Schema are Available.

Attention: Software Developers, Return Transmitters and Authorized IRS e-File Providers/ERO's

Tax Year 2023 / Processing Year 2024 Business Rules and Schema

- Form 1040 Series 2023v4.0
- Form 2350 2023v1.1
- Form 4868 2023v1.1
- Form 56 CUv23.1
- Form 9465 CUv25.1
-
Tax Year 2022 / Processing Year 2024 Schema Only

- Form 1040 Series 2022v5.5 (Revised)

Software Developers and State organizations may download Modernized e-File (MeF) schemas and business rules from their e-Services mailbox. To access these files, you must have:

- An active e-Services account
- An e-File application with the Software Developer or State provider option with the associated tax type of 1040, 2350, 4868, 56 or 9465

Please visit the Modernized e-File (MeF) Schemas and Business Rules page on IRS.gov for more information about MeF Schemas and Business Rules.

You may have several messages in your account. Please open all of them to find the set you would like to download. After 60 days the messages are purged. If you have the appropriate role and do not have these files available for download within 48 hours, please contact the MeF Mailbox with the Company Name, ETIN and Schema Package(s) with Tax Year needed.

Subject: New Modernized e-File (MeF) Business Returns Schema and Business Rules are Available.

Attention: Software Developers, Return Transmitters and Authorized IRS e-file Providers/EROs.

Tax Years 2023 and 2024 / Processing Year 2024 Schemas and Business Rules are available.

Current Year Schemas and Business Rules:

- Form 720   TY 2024Q1v2.1
- Form 720   TY 2024Q2v2.1
- Form 720   TY 2024Q3v2.1
- Form 720   TY 2024Q4v2.1
- Form 990x   TY 2023v3.1
- Form 990-T   TY 2023v4.0
- Form 1041   TY 2023v4.0
- Form 1065   TY 2023v4.0
- Form 1120x   TY 2023v4.0
- Form 1120-POL   TY 2023v4.0

- Form 5227   TY 2023v2.0

Prior Year Business Rules Change Pages Only:

- Form 1065   TY 2022v4.2

Note: If only minor changes occur, Software Developers are not required to use the new version. If the major number changes, all software must reflect the new version.

Please visit the [Modernized e-file (MeF) Schemas and Business Rules](#) page on IRS.gov for more information about Schemas and Business Rules.

Software Developers and State organizations may download Schemas and Business Rules from their e-Services mailbox. To access these files, the following is needed:

- Active e-Services account
- Listed on an e-File application with the provider option of Software Developer or State
- Software Developer must have an associated tax type of 720, 990, 1041, 1065, 1120, 5227.

You may have several messages in your account. Please open all of them to find the set you would like to download. After 60 days the messages are purged. If you have the appropriate role and do not have these files available for download within 48 hours, please contact the [MeF Mailbox](#) with the Company Name, ETIN and Schema Package(s) with Tax Year needed.

QuickAlerts – October 13, 2023

Subject: Scheduled Maintenance for the Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) System

The AIR Production and ACA Assurance Testing System (AATS) systems will be unavailable due to scheduled maintenance from Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 12:00 a.m. Eastern time until 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Please do not attempt to access the Application to Application (A2A) and User Interface (UI) Channels during the maintenance period.

Please monitor the [AIR System Operational Status](#) page for any updates.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts – October 17, 2023

Subject: Existing Non-U.S. Filing Information Returns Electronically (FIRE) Customers

Audience: Payroll Industry, Tax Professionals, Small Business and Self Employed, Tax Exempt and Government Entities, Financial Institutions

If you are a non-U.S. customer and have not been able to complete an Information Returns (IR) Application for Transmitter Control Code (TCC) for access to the FIRE System:

- Your FIRE TCC for filing Form 1042-S and Form 1099 will remain available for filing. No additional actions are required.
- The IRS is aware that some foreign individuals who are acting on behalf of their foreign employer (e.g., Foreign Entities, Foreign Financial Institutions, Qualified Intermediaries, etc.) may not be able to obtain an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) or Social Security number (SSN) to complete the IR Application

for TCC. We continue to explore other ways for taxpayers to authenticate their identities, including a government-sponsored option.

Reminder: Starting tax year 2023 (calendar year 2024), if you have 10 or more information returns, you must file them electronically. Find details on [final e-file regulations](#) on IRS.gov.

Visit [Filing Information Returns Electronically (FIRE)](#), for more information.

QuickAlerts – October 17, 2023

Subject: Existing Non-U.S. Filing Information Returns Electronically (FIRE) Customers

Audience: Payroll Industry, Tax Professionals, Small Business and Self Employed, Tax Exempt and Government Entities, Financial Institutions

If you are a non-U.S. customer and have not been able to complete an Information Returns (IR) Application for Transmitter Control Code (TCC) for access to the FIRE System:

- Your FIRE TCC for filing Form 1042-S and Form 1099 will remain available for filing. No additional actions are required.
- The IRS is aware that some foreign individuals who are acting on behalf of their foreign employer (e.g., Foreign Entities, Foreign Financial Institutions, Qualified Intermediaries, etc.) may not be able to obtain an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) or Social Security number (SSN) to complete the IR Application for TCC. We continue to explore other ways for taxpayers to authenticate their identities, including a government-sponsored option.

Reminder: Starting tax year 2023 (calendar year 2024), if you have 10 or more information returns, you must file them electronically. Find details on [final e-file regulations](#) on IRS.gov.

Visit [Filing Information Returns Electronically (FIRE)](#), for more information.

QuickAlerts – October 19, 2023

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Extended Maintenance Window

All services except "SendSubmissions" will be unavailable for the Application to Application (A2A) channel for MeF Production System on Sunday, October 22, 2023, from 12:01 am. until 3:00 pm. Eastern time.

All services will be unavailable for the Internet Filing Application (IFA) channel for MeF Production System on Sunday, October 22, 2023, from 12:01 am. until 3:00 pm. Eastern time.

Assurance Testing System (ATS) will be operational starting from Monday, October 23, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Eastern time and will support the WSDLs for Tax Year 2023 / Processing Year 2024 (WSDL version R10.7) only. Please monitor the [MeF Operational Status](#) page for any future updates.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Subject: Form 1040 Series Schema are Available.

Attention: Software Developers, Return Transmitters and Authorized IRS e-File Providers/EROs

Tax Year 2021 / Processing Year 2022 Schema Only

- Form 1040 Series 2021v5.4

Software Developers and State organizations may download Modernized e-File (MeF) schemas and business rules from their e-Services mailbox. To access these files, you must have:

- An active e-Services account
- An e-File application with the Software Developer or State provider option with the associated tax type of 1040, 2350, 4868, 56 or 9465

Please visit the Modernized e-File (MeF) Schemas and Business Rules page on IRS.gov for more information about MeF Schemas and Business Rules.

You may have several messages in your account. Please open all of them to find the set you would like to download. After 60 days the messages are purged. If you have the appropriate role and do not have these files available for download within 48 hours, please contact the MeF Mailbox with the Company Name, ETIN and Schema Package(s) with Tax Year needed.