# QuickAlerts Messages October 2026

## QuickAlerts–October 01, 2026

**Subject: Form 1040 Series Extensions Tax Year 2026, Business Rules and Updated Schema are available**

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

**Tax Year 2026/Processing Year 2027, Business Rules and Updated Schema:**

- Form 4868 2026v3.0_Update
- Form 2350 2026v3.0_Update

**Please note: Only Schema files are being updated. Original Business Rules are included to make a complete Extension package.**

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 MeF Mailbox with the Company Name, ETIN and schema package(s) with tax year needed.

## QuickAlerts–October 02, 2026

**Subject: Correction - Information Returns Intake System (IRIS) A2A Schema and Business Rules are Available**

**Attention: Software Developers and Information Return Transmitters**

Correction - IRIS Prior Year Schema Packages

The IRS is providing a correction to a previously issued QuickAlert regarding the availability of IRIS Prior Year Schema packages for Tax Years 2017 through 2022.

The IRIS Prior Year Schema packages for Tax Years 2017–2022 are not currently available. The previous QuickAlert incorrectly indicated that these packages were available and directed filers to contact the Help Desk for assistance.

No action is required at this time. Please do not contact the Help Desk to request these schema packages.

The IRS will issue a QuickAlert when the Tax Years 2017–2022 Prior Year Schema packages are available, including information on how to access them.

We apologize for any confusion caused by the previous communication.

## QuickAlerts–October 07, 2026

**Subject:** IRIS 'SchemaVersionNum' 5.0.7 Required for TY2022 - TY2026

**Attention:** Software Developers and Information Return Transmitters

Effective October 7, 2026, all IRIS transmissions for Tax Year 2022 through Tax Year 2026 must use 'SchemaVersionNum' 5.0.7 found in the Secure Object Repository (SOR) Schema Package released on 9/24/2026.

This is an update to clarify the transmission XML to reflect 5.0.7 in the 'SchemaVersionNum' element for TY2022-TY2026 beginning October 7, 2026.

Action Required:

- TY2026: Use 'SchemaVersionNum' 5.0.7
- TY2025: Use 'SchemaVersionNum' 5.0.7

New Prior Year Version Requirement:

- TY2022 through TY2024
- Add new required data element 'SchemaVersionNum'
- Use 'SchemaVersionNum' 5.0.7

Transmissions using an incorrect 'SchemaVersionNum' will fail schema or system validation.

The Schema Package Version identifies the version of the IRIS SOR Package released by the IRS.

The 'SchemaVersionNum' is a data element within the IRIS XML transmission that identifies the schema version used to validate the transmission.

The version numbers serve different purposes and should not be expected to match. Filers should use the applicable 'SchemaVersionNum' value specified by the IRS for the tax year and IRIS environment being tested.

The current schema package version numbers and value for the data element 'SchemaVersionNum' that should be used are:

- TY2026 Schema v1.2 and Business Rules v1.2: 'SchemaVersionNum' element is 5.0.7
- TY2025 Schema v3.1 and Business Rules v2.1: 'SchemaVersionNum' element is 5.0.7
- TY2024 Schema v2.1 and Business Rules v2.1: 'SchemaVersionNum' element is 5.0.7
- TY2023 Schema v2.1 and Business Rules v2.1: 'SchemaVersionNum' element is 5.0.7

TY2022 Schema v2.1 and Business Rules v2.1: 'SchemaVersionNum' element is 5.0.7

## QuickAlerts–October 13, 2026

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

The AIR Production environment for the UI and A2A channels will be unavailable on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, from 9:00 am EST to 4:00 pm EST.

Please do not attempt to access the Production environment during the maintenance window. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Please do not attempt to access the AIR Production or AATS environments via 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 13, 2026

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

The AIR Production environment for the User Interface (UI) and Application to Application (A2A) channels will be unavailable on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Eastern time.

Please do not attempt to access the Production environment during the maintenance window. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Please monitor the AIR System Operational Status page for any updates.

### QuickAlerts–October 16, 2026

**Subject:** Affordable Care Act (ACA) Assurance Testing System (ATS) Opening Date

**Attention:** Transmitters, Software Developers, and Issuers

The AATS environment will be available beginning Friday, October 16, 2026, for Filing Season 2027/Tax Year 2026 testing, which only includes Tax Year 2026. Prior year testing will not be available at this time.

### QuickAlerts–October 23, 2026

**Subject:** Modernized e-File (MeF) Production Shutdown

**MeF Production Shutdown**

To prepare for the upcoming Filing Season for Tax Year 2026 and to ensure all Individual and Business Returns for Tax Year 2025 e-filed through the MeF system are processed in a timely manner, the following production shutdown and acknowledgment retrieval schedule has been established.

**MeF Production Shutdown Schedule:**

• The shutdown for “Send Submissions” will begin at 11:59 a.m. Eastern Time on Saturday, December 26, 2026.
• Transmitters may continue to use all other service requests, except “Send Submissions,” until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Saturday, December 26, 2026.
• States may continue to use all service requests necessary to retrieve and process state submissions, in accordance with the shutdown activities noted above. MeF recommends that states adjust their processing schedules to ensure submissions are retrieved in time to validate returns and issue acknowledgments.
• Any acknowledgments not retrieved by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on December 26, 2026, will not be accessible until MeF reopens for production in January 2026.

Please note: The MeF Assurance Testing System (ATS) will remain operational during this cutover period.

For future updates, please monitor the MeF Operational Status page.