

QuickAlerts Messages April 2015

QuickAlerts – April 9, 2015

Subject: Clarification regarding when the ACA Provider role should be selected on an e-file Application

The ACA Provider role is **only** for those firms that will be filing Form 8947, *Report of Branded Prescription Drug Information*, and/or Form 8963, *Report of Health Insurance Provider Information*.

A “covered entity” is the entity engaged in manufacturing or importing branded prescription drugs sold to specified government programs or the health insurance provider reporting net premiums written that files Form 8947 or Form 8963 itself.

A “third party” that plans to transmit on behalf of the covered entity would select “third party” and the related Form 8947 or Form 8963 in the application.

If you selected the ACA Provider role and you are not responsible for filing a Form 8947 or Form 8963, please delete the ACA Provider option from your e-file Application, “programs applying for” section.

QuickAlerts – April 13, 2015

Subject: Inappropriate referrals to the IRS e-help Desk are causing longer hold times

Each filing season, the e-help Desk receives phone calls from taxpayers because their tax preparer referred them for assistance resolving rejected returns, tax law and tax account matters. This increases the taxpayer’s burden and causes lengthier delays for everyone. The e-help desk cannot help these callers and must direct them to other sources for assistance – typically IRS.gov including [Publication 5136](#), IRS Services Guide.

The EPSS e-help Desk is intended specifically to assist tax professionals (Enrolled Agents, Reporting Agents, Electronic Return Originators, Certified Public Accountants, etc.) with non-account related questions and issues concerning e-products. They do not provide support to individual taxpayers experiencing e-filing issues

QuickAlerts – April 14, 2015

Subject: New IRS publication highlights tax payment options

The IRS offers many convenient ways your clients can pay their taxes. The new [Publication 5034 - Need to make a tax payment?](#) flyer outlines the options, including [IRS Direct Pay](#) and the [Online Payment Agreement tool](#). It is available in English and Spanish. Please share this publication with your clients and encourage them to pay online.

QuickAlerts – April 21, 2015

Subject: ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting on April 30, 2015

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

Thursday, April 30, 2015
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time

You must register to attend the webinar. To register for this event, use the following link:
<https://events.na.collabserv.com/register.php?id=33b766cb60&l=en-US>.

If clicking the above link does not work, please copy the entire link and paste it into your web browser.

The webinar will be streamed through WebInterpoint. Computer speakers or headphones are REQUIRED to listen to streaming audio. **There is no conference line for this meeting.**

The topic for this meeting will be to discuss the Draft Publication 5165, Guide for Electronically Filing Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns for Software Developers and Transmitters (Processing Year 2015). The draft publication will be posted to the [AIR Program Overview](#) page prior to the meeting. An additional QuickAlerts message will be issued when the presentation is posted.

You will find additional information about the AIR program on the [AIR - Did You Know?](#) page.

Send any questions about the AIR Working Group Meeting to [AIR Mailbox](#).

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers, and Issuers/Payers. This will be a technical discussion about the DRAFT Publication 5165, Guide for Electronically Filing Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns for Software Developers and Transmitters (Processing Year 2015). The draft publication will be provided prior to the working group meeting.

We will not be discussing tax law and taxpayer responsibilities.

QuickAlerts – April 24, 2015

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Operating Status

The Modernized e-File Production System is experiencing intermittent issues processing service requests, starting around 6:00 am, Eastern on 04/24/2015. The IRS is working to resolve the problem as a top priority. Please refrain from submitting service requests to the MeF Production system until further notice.

QuickAlerts – April 24, 2015

Subject: UPDATE - Modernized e-File (MeF) Operating Status

The Modernized e-File Production System is now available.

We apologize for any inconvenience this outage may have caused you.

QuickAlerts – April 25, 2015

Subject: Draft Publication 5165, "Guide for Electronically Filing Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns for Software Developers and Transmitters (Processing Year 2015)"

An early look of the "Draft" Publication 5165, which outlines the communication procedures, transmission formats, business rules and validation procedures for returns transmitted electronically

through the AIR system, has posted to the [AIR Program](#) page. To develop software for use with the AIR system, Software Developers and Transmitters should use the guidelines provided in this publication along with the Extensible Markup Language (XML) Schemas published on IRS.gov.”

A new QuickAlerts will be issued when the Final Publication 5165 is available.

Send questions related to the Publication 5165 for the AIR Working Group Meeting to [AIR Mailbox](#).

QuickAlerts – April 25, 2015

Subject: Call-in information for the ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting on April 30, 2015

Participant Instructions

The teleconference is scheduled to begin at 3:00 PM Eastern Time on April 30, 2015. You may join the teleconference 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start.

Dial-in: 1-888-621-9649 or 1-617-231-2734

Event ID: 419768

If you require a list of international dial-in numbers, visit:

<http://events.uc.att.com/events/integrate/PhoneAccessPage/OCCSAccessNumbers.asp?ExEventID=419768>
