

QuickAlerts Messages October 2020

QuickAlerts – October 4, 2020

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

MeF Production and Testing Systems are unavailable because the maintenance window has been extended. A QuickAlerts bulletin will be issued when the systems are available.

Please refrain from transmitting to the MeF Production and Testing Systems until further notice.

Please monitor the [MeF Operational Status page](#) for any future updates.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts – October 4, 2020

Subject: Update - Modernized e-File (MeF) Operational Status

The MeF Production and Assurance Testing System (ATS) environments are fully operational now.

Thank you for your patience. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Please monitor the [MeF Operational Status page](#) for any future updates.

QuickAlerts – October 5, 2020

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Assurance Testing System (ATS) Cutover

ATS Cutover October 19, 2020 – November 2, 2020

MeF ATS is scheduled to be unavailable 9:00 a.m. Eastern time, October 19, 2020 until 9:00 a.m. Eastern time, November 2, 2020.

The TY2020/PY2021 WSDLs, schemas and business rules will be loaded during this cutover. Please note: All existing test submissions will be deleted except for those sent in during the thirty days prior to cutover.

A separate QuickAlerts bulletin will be issued announcing the Individual and Business e-File production shutdown and start-up dates when they become available.

Please monitor the [MeF Operational Status page](#) for any future updates.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts – October 13, 2020

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

This is a reminder that Online Providers must answer the annual self-certification questions beginning October 1, 2020 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, IRS also requires you to register the URL(s) for your Website 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.

QuickAlerts – October 14, 2020

Subject: Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns (AIR) Schema v1.1

Version 1.1 of AIR Schema for Tax Year 2020 is available on [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) for the following forms: 1094-B, 1095-B, 1094-C, and 1095-C. This schema is valid for AATS.

If you have any questions, please send them to the [AIR Mailbox](#).

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

QuickAlerts – October 14, 2020

Subject: Reminder - Modernized e-File (MeF) Assurance Testing System (ATS) Cutover

ATS Cutover October 19, 2020 – November 2, 2020

MeF ATS is scheduled to be unavailable 9:00 a.m. Eastern time, October 19, 2020 until 9:00 a.m. Eastern time, November 2, 2020.

The TY2020/PY2021 WSDLs, schemas and business rules will be loaded during this cutover. Please note: All existing test submissions will be deleted except for those sent in during the thirty days prior to cutover.

A separate QuickAlerts bulletin will be issued announcing the Individual and Business e-File production shutdown and start-up dates when they become available.

Please monitor the [MeF Operational Status page](#) for any future updates.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts – October 14, 2020

Subject: Scheduled Maintenance for the ACA Information Returns (AIR) System

The AIR System will be undergoing scheduled maintenance starting at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time on Saturday, October 17, 2020, until 3:00 p.m. Eastern time. The ACA Production environment will be unavailable during the scheduled maintenance.

Please refrain from accessing the AIR System via the Application to Application (A2A) and User Interface (UI) Channels during the maintenance period.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts – October 14, 2020

Subject: Affordable Care Act Assurance Testing System (AATS) Information Returns for Filing Season 2021/Tax Year 2020

AATS will be unavailable beginning Thursday, 10/27/2020, 5:00 p.m. Eastern time through Friday, 11/02/2020, 7:00 a.m. Eastern time. AIR will update programming for Filing Season (aka Processing Year) 2021 AATS during that time.

AATS will be available beginning Friday, 11/02/2020, 7:00 a.m. Eastern time, for Filing Season 2021 testing. Filing Season 2021 testing includes Tax Years 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

UI Channel users: UI Channel users are required to log in to the IRS Registered User Portal and invoke the appropriate link for AIR. The Web Services Description Language (WSDL) is not required for UI Channel users.

A2A Channel users: The AATS WSDL for Filing Season 2021/Tax Year 2020 is available. If you plan to test on or after November 2, 2020, and have not received the AATS WSDL for Filing Season 2021, then the Responsible Official, or an official identified as a Contact on the ACA Application for TCC, must send an email to AIR Mailbox with "AATS WSDL for Tax Year 2020" in the subject line. The email request must include your company name and ACA TCC. The AATS WSDL will be emailed to you upon confirmation of the contact information in the ACA Application for TCC.

Filing Season 2021/Tax Year 2020 AATS:

- Tax Year 2019 will be considered a prior year return in AATS beginning November 1, 2020.
- All transmissions to AATS, beginning November 2, 2019, must use the 2020 Manifest for Tax Years 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

Filing Season 2020/Tax Year 2019 Production is still available.

- Tax Year 2019 is still considered a current year return in the Production environment.
- Tax Years 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 are still accepted as prior year returns in the Production environment.

QuickAlerts - October 15, 2020

Subject: Correction - Affordable Care Act Assurance Testing System (AATS) Information Returns for Filing Season 2021/Tax Year 2020

AATS will be unavailable beginning Tuesday, 10/27/2020, 5:00 p.m. Eastern time through Monday, 11/02/2020, 7:00 a.m. Eastern time. AIR will update programming for Filing Season (aka Processing Year) 2021 AATS during that time.

AATS will be available beginning Monday, 11/02/2020, 7:00 a.m. Eastern time, for Filing Season 2021 testing. Filing Season 2021 testing includes Tax Years 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

UI Channel users: UI Channel users are required to log in to the IRS Registered User Portal and invoke the appropriate link for AIR. The Web Services Description Language (WSDL) is not required for UI Channel users.

A2A Channel users: The AATS WSDL for Filing Season 2021/Tax Year 2020 is available. If you plan to test on or after November 2, 2020, and have not received the AATS WSDL for Filing Season 2021, then the Responsible Official, or an official identified as a Contact on the ACA Application for TCC, must send an email to AIR Mailbox

with "AATS WSDL for Tax Year 2020" in the subject line. The email request must include your company name and ACA TCC. The AATS WSDL will be emailed to you upon confirmation of the contact information in the ACA Application for TCC.

Filing Season 2021/Tax Year 2020 AATS:

- Tax Year 2019 will be considered a prior year return in AATS beginning November 2, 2020.
- All transmissions to AATS, beginning November 2, 2020, must use the 2020 Manifest for Tax Years 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015.

Filing Season 2020/Tax Year 2019 Production is still available.

- Tax Year 2019 is still considered a current year return in the Production environment.
- Tax Years 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 are still accepted as prior year returns in the Production environment.

QuickAlerts - October 15, 2020

Subject: MeF Form 94x Third Quarter Filing Tax Year 2020

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

IRS has completed updating the MeF system so filers may report the deferred amount of the employee share of social security tax.

Please begin e-filing Form(s) 94x Third Quarter Tax Year 2020 returns that have an amount on Page 3, Line 24 (Deferred amount of the employee share of social security tax not withheld and included on line 13b).

Questions or comments may be directed to the [MeF Mailbox](#).

QuickAlerts - October 15, 2020

Subject: MeF Form 94x Third Quarter Filing Tax Year 2020

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

IRS has completed updating the MeF system so filers may report the deferred amount of the employee share of social security tax.

Please begin e-filing Form(s) 94x Third Quarter Tax Year 2020 returns that have an amount on Page 3, Line 24 (Deferred amount of the employee share of social security tax not withheld and included on line 13b).

Questions or comments may be directed to the [MeF Mailbox](#).

QuickAlerts - October 15, 2020

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

The MeF Production system will be unavailable due to scheduled maintenance from 7:00 a.m. Eastern time, October 17, 2020 through 7:00 a.m. Eastern time, October 18, 2020.

Please refrain from transmitting to the MeF Production system during this maintenance.

Please monitor the [MeF Operational Status page](#) for any future updates.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

QuickAlerts - October 19, 2020

Subject: New Form 1040 Series Business Rules and Schemas are Available

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

Software Developers and State organizations may access and download schemas and business rules from their e-Services mailbox. To access these files, you must have an active e-Services account and be listed on an e-File application with the provider option of Software Developer or State. A Software Developer provider option with an associated tax type of 1040, 56, 2350, 4868 or 9465 may access the files.

Tax Year 2020/Processing Year 2021, Business Rules and Schemas are available.

Business Rules and Schemas:

- 1040 Series 2020v4.0
- Form 56 CUv21.0
- Form 2350 2020v3.0
- Form 4868 2020v3.0
- Form 9465 CUv24.0

Tax Year 2019/Processing Year 2020, Schemas are available.

Schemas:

- 1040 Series 2019v5.3

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 more than one message in your account. Please open all of them to find the set you would like to download. Messages remain for 30 days then are purged. If you have the appropriate role and do not have these files available for download in your e-Services mailbox within 48 hours, please contact the [MeF Mailbox](#) with the Company Name, ETIN and Schema Package(s) with tax year needed.

QuickAlerts - October 19, 2020

Subject: New MeF Business Returns Schemas and Business Rules are Available

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

Software Developers and State organizations may access and download Schemas and Business Rules from their e-Services mailbox. To access these files, you must have an active e-Services account and be listed on an e-File application with the provider option of Software Developer or State. The Software Developer provider option must have an associated tax type of 720, 94x, 990-N, 990x, 1041, 1065, 1120, 1120-POL, 2290, 7004, 8849 and 8868.

Tax Year 2020 / Processing Year 2021 Schemas and Business Rules are available.

Current year Schemas and Business Rules:

- Form 1065 2020v4.0
- Form 1120x 2020v4.0
- Form 7004 2020v2.0
- Form 720 2021v3.0
- Form 2290 2020v4.0
- Form 8849 2021v2.0
- Form 1041 2020v2.2
- Form 990x 2020v3.0
- Form 990N 2020v3.0
- Form 1120POL 2020v3.0
- Form 8868 2020v2.0
- Form 94x Annual 2020v1.1
- Form 94x Quarterly 2021v1.1

Prior year Schemas and Business Rules:

- Form 1065 2019v5.3
- Form 1120x 2019v5.2
- Form 1041 2019v1.6
- Form 990x 2019v5.2
- Form 1120POL 2019v5.2

Prior Year Business Rule Change Pages (only):

- Form 1041 2018v5.2

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 more than one message in your account. Please open all of them to find the set you would like to download. Messages remain for 30 days then are purged. If you have the appropriate role and do not have these files available for download in your e-Services mailbox within 48 hours, please contact the [MeF Mailbox](#) with the Company Name, ETIN and Schema Package(s) with Tax Year needed.
