QuickAlerts Messages December 2016

QuickAlerts -January 4, 2017

Subject: (Correction) Filing Season 2017/Tax Year 2016 AIR Affordable Care Act Assurance Testing System (AATS) WSDL Package

Please continue to use the AATS WSDL package titled "FS17-TY16 AATS Oct 16 through Jan Package" until January 16, 2017.

Beginning January 17, 2017, use the AATS WSDL Package titled "FS17-TY16 AATS V1 use Jan 2017 Package."

We apologize for any inconvenience the earlier QuickAlerts may have caused.

Send any questions to AIRMailbox@irs.gov.

QuickAlerts –January 9, 2017

Subject: e-Services Users Validating Identities Online and by Telephone

Recently, the IRS mailed letters to certain e-Services users asking them to revalidate their identities within 30 days. The filing season is approaching, and it is important that users complete this process within the established period.

There are two ways e-Services users can accomplish the revalidation:

- Complete the Get Transcript online process as a first time user or;
- Call the e-help desk with the Unique Security Code found on letter 5903

Here's what users need to know about the online option:

- The Get Transcript process is an online option to verify your identity, and is back online after a maintenance outage.
- You must complete the entire Get Transcript registration process, including establishing a Get Transcript user name and password.
 - Go to https://www.irs.gov/transcript and select Get Transcript Online. Then under "First Time Users," select "Get Started."
 - If you are new to this system, start the Get Transcript registration process as a First Time User.
 - You can create a new user name and password or use your e-Services user name and password.
 - Your user name and password for e-Services will remain unchanged, regardless of the user name and password you use to complete the Get Transcript Online registration.
- The Unique Security Code contained in Letter 5903 is for revalidating your identity over the telephone only and cannot be used as a replacement for the Get Transcript Confirmation Code sent to you via e-mail, the Security Code sent to you via text or the Activation Code by mail.

Here's what users need to know about the phone option:

- If you complete the online option successfully, you do not need to contact the e-Services Help Desk.
- Callers need the Letter 5903 and the Unique Security Code found on the letter.

Resources

- See Secure Access: How to Register for Certain Online Self-Help Tools
- See Tips for Successfully Authenticating Your Identity through Secure Access

See Important Update about Your e-Services Account

QuickAlerts -January 10, 2017

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

This is a reminder that Online Providers must answer the annual self-certification questions beginning October 1, to ensure they comply with <u>Publication 1345</u> 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 <u>register the URL(s)</u> 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 –January 11, 2017

Subject: AIR Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting on January 31, 2017

The next ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting (webinar) will be held:

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

The conference begins at 3:00 Eastern Time

Dial-in: 1-877-369-5243 Passcode: 0418166# (Enter the access code on your telephone keypad, followed immediately by the # symbol to bypass system prompts)

This will be a technical Webinar highlighting FS17 Lessons Learned. This Webinar will not address Tax Law or Policy issues related to the AIR Program.

You may join the teleconference 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start. You must register to attend the webinar. Participants should register for the webinar no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the day of the event.

To register for this event, use the following link:

Webinar Registration

If clicking the above link does not work, please copy the entire link and paste it into your web browser. A confirmation email will be sent within 24 hours of registration.

This virtual session will focus on General Affordable Care Act Information Returns (AIR) Program topics.

You may use your computer speakers to listen to the webinar or use the teleconference number provided above. To avoid background noise, please do not use both the computer speakers and the teleconference number.

The presentation for this meeting will be posted to the <u>AIR Program Overview</u> Page prior to the meeting. An additional QuickAlerts message will be issued when the presentation is posted.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers and Issuers/Payers.

If you are a business owner, tax manager, employee benefits manager, health coverage provider, or software developer or transmitter, you can access and review the Affordable Care Act Information Returns Corrections Process video on the IRS Video Portal.

QuickAlerts –January 11, 2017

Subject: AIR Filing Season 2017/Tax Year 2016 A2A WSDL Package Changeover

Please continue to use the AATS WSDL package titled "FS17-TY16 AATS Oct 16 through Jan Package" until January 14, 2017.

Beginning January 15, 2017, use the AATS WSDL Package titled "FS17-TY16 AATS V1 use Jan 2017 Package."

Beginning January 17, 2017, use the Production WSDL Package titled "FS17-TY16 Production WSDL Package."

We apologize for any inconvenience earlier QuickAlerts on this matter may have caused.

Send any questions to the AIR Mailbox.

QuickAlerts –January 17, 2017

Subject: ACA Information Returns (AIR) Posting Business Rules Tax Year 2015v3.0

The latest versions of Business Rules and Error Codes for Tax Year 2015 have posted to <u>IRS.gov</u> for the following forms: 1094-B, 1095-B, 1094-C, and 1095-C. The latest versions include new Error Codes and their corresponding Business Rules. There is no change to the 2015 Schema v8.0.

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

QuickAlerts -January 25, 2017

Subject: Scheduled Maintenance for the ACA Information Return (AIR) System The AIR System will be performing scheduled maintenance starting at 11:59 p.m. Eastern on January 25, 2017, through 4:00 a.m. Eastern on January 26, 2017. These builds will deploy critical system updates.

The AATS and Production environments will be unavailable during the maintenance. Please refrain from accessing the AIR System for both the A2A and UI Channels during this time.

QuickAlerts –January 31, 2017

Subject: Update for the ACA Information Returns (AIR) Working Group Meeting on January 31, 2017

The January 31, 2017 (AIR) Working Group Meeting (Webinar) Presentation materials have been posted on the AIR Program Overview page.

This webinar is schedule to begin at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. You may join the teleconference 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start.

Dial-in: 1-877-369-5243

Event ID: 0418166# (Enter the access code on your telephone keypad, followed immediately by the # symbol to bypass system prompts)

This will be a technical Webinar highlighting FS17 Lessons Learned. This Webinar will not address Tax Law or Policy issues related to the AIR Program.

You may use your computer speakers to listen to the webinar or use the teleconference number provided above. To avoid background noise, please do not use both the computer speakers and the teleconference number.

NOTE: The intended audiences of these meetings are Transmitters, Software Developers and Issuers/Payers.

If you are a business owner, tax manager, employee benefits manager, health coverage provider, or software developer or transmitter, you can access and review the Affordable Care Act Information Returns Corrections Process video on the IRS Video Portal.