



**New York State
Personal Income Tax
Modernized e-File (MeF)
Software Developer
Acceptance Test Booklet

For Tax Year 2015**

The information presented is current as of this publication's print date.
Visit our Web site at www.tax.ny.gov for up to date information

This publication describes the New York State (NYS) Assurance Testing System procedures for software developers participating in the NYS Personal Income Tax Modernized e-file (MeF) Program. Within this publication, you are referred to as the software developers, and we are the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance (NYS).

Who must test

All software developers participating in the NYS Partnership MeF Program must test. Participating software developers and transmitters must also test with the IRS; see IRS Publication 5078 for details.

What to test

The tests verify that the e-file software creates a complete return, carries appropriate values from one line/form to another, and formats and transmits NYS returns according to the MeF specifications.

You must test all the NYS e-file forms that you support. You must inform us which e-file forms you support by completing the Letter of Intent.

Amount fields should include dollar amounts only; do not include cents (unless stated otherwise). Do not send in "0" fields with the exception of sales and use tax.

Test social security numbers (SSNs)

We will assign (by email) the test SSNs for each software developer.

Test cases to submit

You must submit the applicable test scenarios to cover all the e-file forms you support. The test number is the last 4 digits of the taxpayer ID. Each test scenario will be posted separately on our Web page.

If you do not support one or more of the forms associated with a test scenario, submit the test without the unsupported form(s). You must include the submission ID in your email for each test case you have submitted, and any changes you made to the test scenario (e.g., not supporting some forms, and the line changes as a result).

After you have completed the required tests, you may submit additional test returns not covered in our test package. Please contact us if you wish to do so.

XML only forms

Test scenarios are provided with some computation lines missing; your software should compute those lines.

XML or PDF forms

Forms that we accept in XML or PDF will be fully completed. When attaching a credit form in PDF, you do not need to enter all the data on that PDF form; you can just enter the credit amount line and transfer that amount to the applicable form.

Test case 1001 (simple IT-201) and 1002 (simple IT-203) should be tested first before testing other cases. This will ensure that common issues are resolved.

When to test

Testing with NYS is scheduled to begin when the IRS ATS system opens in November. To ensure adequate time for testing before the filing season, you should submit the initial NYS test submissions as soon as possible. We do not require you to pass the IRS testing before testing with NYS. You may conduct the IRS and NYS testing concurrently if the IRS allows it.

Transmitting test submissions

You must transmit NYS test submissions through the IRS MeF system. If your test submission is rejected by the IRS, we will not know and will not be able to retrieve it. When your test submission has been successfully transmitted to the IRS, you must provide, by email, the Submission ID of the test case, and any deviation from the test case.

Test acknowledgment

Our ATS system does not automatically send acknowledgments (ACKs). If requested, we will send one ACK to the software developers/transmitters to test the acknowledgment system.

Communicating test results

We will inform you by email when we receive your test submission, and will email you the test results. We will make every effort to provide test results to you within 48 hours, Monday through Friday.

Approval of e-file software

To be accepted into the NYS e-file program, you are required to successfully complete the NYS testing, in addition to completing the IRS testing. Once you successfully complete the NYS test, we will inform you by email that your e-file software has been approved for NYS e-file. We can also approve software by primary form: i.e., IT-201, IT-201-X, IT-203, IT-203-X, IT-370, NYC-210, NYC-208, and IT-214 (filed as a stand-alone credit form). This will allow you to release your software product in phases. For example, if requested, we can approve your software for IT-201 when you pass the tests for IT-201, and then approve your software for IT-201-X (amended) when you pass that test at a later date. A list of approved e-file software will be posted on our Web site, with a link to the software developers' Web site (if provided by the software developers).

Our contact email

NYSPITMEF@tax.ny.gov