New York State
Department of
Taxation and Finance

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New York State Fiduciary Modernized e-File (MeF) Software Vendor Acceptance Test Booklet

for

Tax Year 2014

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 Fiduciary Modernized e-file Program. Within this publication, you are referred to as the software developers, and we are the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

Who must test

All software developers participating in the NYS Fiduciary Modernized e-file 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. Please email us if you have not done so.

All tax forms must be transmitted in xml, not pdf. Amount fields should include dollar amounts only, do not include cents (unless stated otherwise).The return will reject if cents are included.

Test EINs

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

Test Cases to Submit

You must submit the applicable test scenarios to cover all the efile forms you support. The test number is the last 4 digits of the taxpayer ID. Each test scenario will be posted separately on our webpage. The test scenarios do not include lines which your software is expected to compute.

If you do not support one or more of the forms associated with a test scenario, submit the test without the unsupported form(s). After you have completed the required tests, you may submit additional test returns not covered in our test package. You must include the submission ID in your e-mail 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).

When to test

Testing with New York State 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 to the IRS MeF system. If your test submission passes the IRS validation, we will retrieve your test submission. If your test submission is rejected by the IRS, you must correct the error and re-transmit. When your test has been transmitted to the IRS, you must

inform us by email. This email must include the Submission ID of the test case(s) being submitted, and any deviation from the test data.

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.

Test acknowledgment

We will not send acknowledgments (ACK files) for test submission received. We will send one ACK to new software developers/transmitters to test the acknowledgment system. We will inform the new software developers/transmitters when the ACK file will be sent.

New York State efile Signature Requirement

We require tax preparation software to display Signature Declaration text and Certification checkbox to users for each tax document prepared. The box cannot have a default check within the box when it is displayed to the user. For additional information, see Publication 90, *Fiduciary Modernized e-file Handbook for Software Developers.*

Approval of e-file software

In order 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 a software by primary form: i.e. Form IT-205 and IT-370-PF. This will allow you to release your software product in phases. For example, if requested, we can approve your software for IT-205 when you pass the test for Form IT-205, and then approve your software for Form IT-370-PF when you pass that test at a later day. A list of approved e-file software packages 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

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