



IRS opens IDES testing and announces deadline for using prior XML schema

Closing the distance

IRS opens testing in International Data Exchange Service (“IDES”) and specifies timelines for using FATCA XML Schema versions 1.1 and 2.0

On December 15, 2016, the IRS made multiple follow-up announcements regarding the submission of FATCA reports through IDES using the updated schemas, which we previously discussed [here](#). The new FATCA XML Schema must be used for all FATCA reports beginning on January 16, 2017. As such, IDES will only accept FATCA reports using XML Schema version 1.1 until January 13, 2017 at 12:00 PM EDT. During the interim period (January 13, 2017 at 12:00 PM EDT to January 15, 2017 at 11:59 PM), the system will be unavailable due to maintenance.

Users that previously enrolled with IDES may now test file uploads using FATCA XML Schema version 2.0 and Notification XML Schema version 2.3. To assist users, the IRS has updated many of the FATCA report test and sample files using the updated schema on its [IDES Resources](#) page. Note, however, that users should not submit production files or sample files in the test environment.

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