

Alabama Test Package



Alabama Corporate/Partnership Income Tax Returns Tax Year 2009



Alabama Department of Revenue
Corporate/Partnership Income Tax Electronic Filing
Publication AL4162 (7/2009)

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ALABAMA BUSINESS ACCEPTANCE TESTING SYSTEM Forms 20C, 20C-C, 20S, 65 AND PTE-C for TAX YEAR 2009

Purpose Of Testing:

The purpose of testing prior to live processing is to ensure that:

1. Filers transmit in the correct format and meet Alabama Modernized e-File (MeF) electronic filing specifications;
2. Returns have few validation or math errors;
3. Alabama Revenue Department (Department) can receive and process the electronic returns;
4. Developers understand and are familiar with the mechanics of electronic filing.

Who Must Test:

All software developers are required to perform their created tests before acceptance into the Department's electronic filing program for the 2010 filing season (Tax Year 2009). Anyone who plans to transmit returns to the Department must complete communications testing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and be accepted. Prior to testing, all software developers and transmitters must have obtained an Electronic Transmitter Identification Number (ETIN), Electronic Filer Identification Number (EFIN) and password through the IRS application process. Refer to IRS Publication 3112, IRS e-file Application Package for Form 8633 procedures. For the On-Line application procedures refer to the <http://www.irs.gov/efile/article/0,,id=106801,00.html> URL.

Tests:

Each Software Vendor will create their own test package to adequately test schedules and return/form types supported by their software. Software does not have to provide for all forms or schedules, nor for all occurrences of a particular form or schedule. You must advise the E-File Coordinator of all limitations to your Software package at the time of first contact, before testing begins. You must test the complete form for all forms you plan to support 20C/20C-C/20S/65/PTE-C with no field limitations except for the number of occurrences. Return/form types must be correctly prepared and computed before transmitting the test.

The Department strongly recommends each return be run against a parser prior to being transmitted to the Department. The Department will run each return against a parser. **Test returns must be transmitted to the Department in .PDF format prior to submission of the electronic version of that test return.**

Every conceivable condition cannot be represented in any test package therefore vendors may test additional conditions they feel are appropriate after they have passed testing, as long as they use the predefined FEINs and Name Controls.

Attachments (PDFs):

Test scenarios containing required attachments to be sent in .PDF format must be attached. The purpose of the test is to verify the transmission and receipt of the required attachments not the content.

Formatting the Entities:

Refer to XML efile Types for proper formatting for the business name lines and address. No commas or periods are allowed. Example:

Test Scenario

HELP

2300 MCCLELLAN AVE SUITE 450

PENNSAUKEN, NJ 08109-4613

XML Format

HELP For All Inc (BusinessNameType)

2300 MCCLELLAN AVE SUITE 450 (AddressType)

PENNSAUKEN (AddressType)

NJ (AddressType)

08109-4613 (AddressType)

Populating Data in the Test Cases:

Do not transmit blank data elements. Do not enter zeros where you have no entry unless the form or instructions specifically instruct you to do so. For example, if you have no NOL Carryforward, do not enter a zero for that data element. It should be left blank and not transmitted in the XML return data.

When You Are Ready To Test:

Prior to submitting test files you must contact either the Corporate Income Tax E-File Coordinator or e-mail corporate.efile@revenue.alabama.gov to obtain a test ID. This test ID will be used in the element `Header\HdrCode\SoftwareDeveloper\DeveloperID`. After you have completed testing you will use your EFIN. The test ID's assigned will only be used in the test environment. A database consisting of the EFIN of the software developers who have completed testing with the Department will be maintained. If the EFIN transmitted in the element

Electronic Signatures

As with any corporate/partnership income tax return submitted to the Department on paper, an electronic corporate/partnership income tax return must be signed by an authorized corporate/partnership officer and the paid preparer, if applicable.

The AL8453-C “Corporate/Partnership Income Tax Declaration for Electronic Filing” authorizes the origination of the electronic submission of the return prior to the transmission of the return. The Declaration includes the taxpayer’s declaration that the return is true, correct and complete, as well as the taxpayer’s Consent to Disclosure. The Consent to Disclosure authorizes the Department to disclose information to the taxpayer’s Authorized IRS e-file Providers. Intermediate Service Providers, Transmitters and EROs are authorized by taxpayers to receive acknowledgement of receipt or reason for rejection of the electronic return from IRS. **If the electronic return data on a corporate/partnership income tax return is changed after the taxpayer has signed the Declaration, the taxpayer must sign a new declaration if the amounts differ.**

The Form AL8453-C must be completed and signed by all required parties and retained along with a copy of the electronic return. Do not submit this form to the Alabama Department of Revenue unless requested to do so.

See Appendix I for the AL8453-C

Reviewing BATS Test Files and Making Corrections

You may transmit as many test returns as necessary until you receive no error messages, all “Business Rules” violations must be corrected in order to pass BATS testing. **Software will only be passed upon error free transmission of all tests.**