



**Date:** October 20, 2025

**To:** TY2025 MeF Software Developers

**From:** Montana Department of Revenue

**Subject:** 2025 ATS Testing Opening Date

The Montana Department of Revenue is pausing 2025 ATS Testing. This pause is to accommodate the updates to the authentication header as published by the FTA e-Standards on 17 October 2025. This schema was updated to include the state authentication header elements included in the IRS return header. This StateIndividual schema is a major version change, which means it is not backward compatible. The StateIndividual schema is available for city/state use in the FTA State Exchange System (SES).

**PLEASE NOTE:** The IRS is working on modifications to the authentication header elements for business/estate schemas, which should be published on **November 6**. The FTA e-Standards committee will then modify the state schemas to align with the IRS. We estimate an updated state schema will be available after **November 13**. This means that the state authentication header for business/estate will be changed later after the IRS publishes their schema.

The current pause will be in effect from 12:00 p.m. MST on 27 October 2025 until 12: 00 p.m. MST on 28 October 2025 for:

- ☒ E-File
- ☒ Individual Income Tax

Please contact the MeF Testing Coordinators at [DORMeFTest@mt.gov](mailto:DORMeFTest@mt.gov) if you have any questions or concerns.

You will not be authorized to submit Production returns until you've completed development and testing. You must have your first test submission by December 16, 2025.

If you need to make any changes to your LOI please submit an amended LOI for review and approval to [DORe-Services@mt.gov](mailto:DORe-Services@mt.gov).