



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Franchise Tax Board

FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Testing Specifications 2021

Guide for completing a testing cycle for the electronic Minimum Essential Coverage Information Reporting for Software Developers and Transmitters.

Publish Date: 08/01/2021

Contents

1	What’s New This Year	1
2	Introduction	1
2.1	Supporting Publications.....	2
2.2	Purpose.....	2
2.3	Communications.....	3
2.3.1	HCM Website	4
2.3.2	FX System Website.....	4
2.4	Federal and State Differences.....	4
3	Testing Cycle Overview	4
3.1	Who Must Test?	5
3.2	What is Needed Prior to Testing?	6
3.3	What is Tested?.....	6
3.4	Why is Testing Required?	7
3.5	When to Test?	7
4	FX System Test Transmissions.....	8
4.1	Overview of the Testing Cycle Customer Experience.....	8
4.2	Transmission Channels.....	10
4.3	Validating Manifest Elements in Test Transmissions.....	10
4.4	Receipt ID.....	11
4.4.1	Original Submitted Information.....	11
4.5	Acknowledgement Files.....	11
5	Testing Guidelines	11
5.1	Steps to Pass a Testing Cycle	12
5.2	Social Security Number (SSN) Ranges for Testing.....	13
5.3	Employer Identification Number (EIN) Ranges for Testing.....	13
5.4	Submission Narrative and Associated Test Scenarios	14

5.4.1	Federal and State Differences: Testing Process.....	15
6	Predefined Test Scenarios – 1095-B.....	16
6.1	Scenario 1.....	16
6.1.1	Scenario ID: 1-0.....	16
6.1.2	Scenario ID: 1-1.....	16
6.1.3	Scenario ID: 1-2.....	17
6.2	Scenario 2.....	18
6.2.1	Scenario ID: 2-0.....	18
6.2.2	Scenario ID: 2-1.....	19
6.3	Scenario 2C.....	20
7	Predefined Test Scenarios – 1095-C.....	20
7.1	Scenario 5.....	20
7.1.1	Scenario ID: 5-0.....	21
7.1.2	Scenario ID: 5-1.....	21
7.1.3	Scenario ID: 5-2.....	22
7.2	Scenario 5C.....	23
	Appendix – Acronyms.....	25
	Appendix – Glossary.....	26

Figures

Figure 1: Test SSN Ranges	13
Figure 2: Test EIN Ranges	14

1 What's New This Year

- New Schema Versions
 - There are new schema versions of both the File Exchange Schema and Information Returns Schema. Please refer to the updated schema files available on the [FX System page](#). Test transmissions formatted according to these schemas will be accepted starting October 4, 2021.
- New Test Cycle Process
 - Transmitters will be required to complete a testing cycle annually, in order to transmit their production files for the next tax year. The testing cycle for the 2021 Tax Year will open October 4, 2021.
 - There will be a new "Submit Test Scenarios for Evaluation" FX Portal page available in October 2021 for transmitters to indicate they have completed testing. On this page, transmitters will indicate what form type they intend to support and provide the ReceiptIDs of the transmissions they believe satisfy the required test scenarios.
 - For more information, please refer to the FTB File Exchange System - 1094 1095 Testing Specifications.
- Annual Expiration of Form Specific Production CA-TCCs
 - Production CA-TCCs will expire annually on December 15. Transmitters must complete a new testing cycle in order to continue transmitting Production files.
 - Production CA-TCCs issued after October 4, 2021 will be associated to the form type(s) indicated by the transmitter on the new "Submit Test Scenarios for Evaluation" page in FX Portal. Transmitters will only be able to transmit Production form data files for form types associated to their Production CA-TCC.
 - For more information, please refer to the FTB File Exchange System - 1094 1095 Testing Specifications.
- Transmission Channel Self-Service
 - In October 2021, transmitters will be able to self-serve and update their preferred Transmission Channel (A2A or UI) from the FX Portal.

2 Introduction

Beginning January 1, 2020, all California residents must either have qualifying health insurance coverage, qualify for an exemption from the requirement to have coverage, or

pay a penalty when they file their state tax return. In addition, insurance providers and certain employers must now report information to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) each year by March 31, with an automatic extension to May 31. For more information on the filing deadline please refer to Section 10 Time to File in the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications – Part 2. In order to transmit production data to FTB, each transmitter must first pass a testing cycle.

FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Testing Specifications contains general and program specific testing information for use with FTB's File Exchange (FX) System. The FX System testing cycle refers to the process and scenarios required to certify a transmitter can send well-formed data to FTB electronically prior to sending production data.

2.1 Supporting Publications

This publication should be used in conjunction with the most current version of the following publications:

- Pub 3895B, California Instructions for Filing Federal Forms 1094-B and 1095-B
- Pub 3895C, California Instructions for Filing Federal Forms 1094-C and 1095-C
- FTB File Exchange System – MEC IR Registration and Enrollment Guide
- FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications

Additionally, Extensible Markup Language (XML) Schemas, Business Rules, and Open API Specification documents are provided as part of the Technical Specifications Package.

2.2 Purpose

The purpose of this publication is to provide the specifications to test electronic file transfers with FTB as part of California's Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC) Information Reporting (IR) Program, one component of California's Health Care Mandate (HCM). Additionally, this publication contains guidance for transmitters about the required FTB testing scenarios to include during a testing cycle. **Please note that transmitters may send in their own additional testing transmissions, but these transmissions will not be considered for testing cycle completion and Production CA-TCC issuance.**

The procedures in this publication should be used when the following information returns transmissions are tested for process year 2022:

- Form 1094-B, *Transmittal of Health Coverage Information Returns*

- Form 1095-B, *Health Coverage*
- Form 1094-C, *Transmittal of Employer Provided Health Insurance Offer and Coverage Information Returns*
- Form 1095-C, *Employer Provided Health Insurance Offer and Coverage*

2.3 Communications

The MEC IR program uses [Subscription Services](#), FTB’s email notification service, to share information regarding program changes, technical issues, and other updates. Go to **ftb.ca.gov** and search for **subscription services** to sign up for the “Health Care Mandate” list.

A help desk has been designated as the first point of contact for Electronic Services (e-Services) Account issues. Responsible Officials should refer to the [Help](#) page for frequently asked questions or contact information for the e-Services help desk. The e-Services help desk provides assistance in the following areas:

- Registering
- Logging in
- Updating your email address

If you have an issue that prevents you from registering for or logging in to an e-Services Account, and the solution is not posted on the e-Services Help page, contact the e-Services [help desk](#).

A separate help desk has been designated point of contact for electronic filing issues. Transmitters should contact the toll-free FX System help desk. Information about how to contact the FX System help desk can be found on the [FX System webpage](#). The FX System help desk provides assistance in the following areas:

- MEC IR Enrollment Issues
- Transmission Issues
- Rejected Transmissions, Submissions, and Records
- Business Rules and Error Code Resolution

Inquiries regarding issues with the FX System and the development of the forms related to the MEC IR program may be sent to FTB using the information provided on the [FX Specifications Webpage](#).

Any known issues with the FX System will be communicated to the email address provided during e-Services registration.

2.3.1 HCM Website

For additional information about California's HCM, go to the [Healthcare Mandate webpage](#)

2.3.2 FX System Website

Additional information about the FX System can be found on the [FX System webpage](#).

2.4 Federal and State Differences

There are several differences in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Affordable Care Act Information Return (AIR) and FTB FX processes such as the schemas used. Further details on these differences are described at the end of each section in more detail.

3 Testing Cycle Overview

This section describes general information about completing a testing cycle for the MEC IR Program. A testing cycle confirms the following:

- Transmission manifest schema is well-formed.
- Transmissions pass synchronous validations by the FX Application Programming Interface (API).
- Transmission form data file schema is well-formed.
- Transmissions pass asynchronous validations by the FX Hub.
- Transmissions exactly match test scenarios described in Section [5.4.1](#) and Section [7](#).
 - This means the required test transmissions must use the exact entities, addresses, demographic information, and other properties outlined test scenarios in Section [6](#) and Section [7](#). Transmissions that are similar in nature to the outlined test scenarios, but do not use the exact same demographic data will not be considered for testing cycle completion.

After successfully transmitting the required test scenario transmissions and submitting a Test Scenario Evaluation Request via the FX Portal, FTB reviews the transmitter's test transmissions. If no issues are found with the test transmissions, FTB will issue the transmitter's Production CA-TCC. If there are issues with the test transmissions, FTB will contact the transmitter's Responsible Official with details about the issues that need to

be resolved. After that, a transmitter can transmit a new transmission that resolves the issues and submit another Test Scenario Evaluation Request.

Note: The individual transmission statuses do not reflect whether the testing cycle has been passed (e.g. a test scenario transmission in an “Accepted” status does not indicate that the testing cycle has been passed). FTB reviews test transmissions prior to issuing the Production CA-TCC as described in Section 4.1.

For more information about the FX API and FX Hub, see the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

3.1 Who Must Test?

A testing cycle must be completed annually by all participants in the MEC IR Program. This includes the following roles (as specified during MEC IR Enrollment):

- Issuers – An organization transmitting information for themselves only.
- Transmitters – An organization transmitting on behalf of one or more organizations.
- Software Developers – An organization writing origination or transmission software according to the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

Issuers and Transmitters are issued a “test” California Transmitter Control Code (CA-TCC) upon enrollment in the MEC IR Program. Once they have completed a testing cycle, their “production” CA-TCC is issued and available to use when submitting production files. Organizations enrolled only as Software Developers are only issued a “test” CA-TCC. Completion of a testing cycle for Software Developers will not result in the issuance of a “production” CA-TCC.

Throughout this publication we refer to all participants as testers. All testers must pass the same testing criteria for the forms they intend to submit production data for. Test transmissions must exactly match the test scenarios described in Section 5 and Section 6. This means the required test transmissions must use the exact entities, addresses, demographic information, and other properties outlined test scenarios in Section 5 and Section 6. Transmissions that are similar in nature to the outlined test scenarios, but do not use the exact same demographic data will not be considered for testing cycle completion.

3.2 What is Needed Prior to Testing?

Prior to completing a testing cycle, each tester needs an active “test” CA-TCC. To obtain the “test” CA-TCC, each transmitter must:

- Register for an e-Services Account
- Enroll for the MEC IR Program
- Enrollment is in an “Approved” status

Once registered for an e-Services Account, the organization can submit the MEC IR Enrollment Form. After enrollment is approved by FTB, the transmitter is issued an active “test” CA-TCC to use when transmitting information returns. For more information about registering for an e-Services Account and enrolling for the MEC IR Program, refer to the File Exchange – MEC IR Registration and Enrollment Guide publication.

Testers using the Application to Application (A2A) channel (described in Section [4.2](#)) will also be issued a Secret Key to authenticate their transmission. A2A testers must also register the software package(s) they plan to use for transmitting files. Once the software package is registered, an Application Identifier (app_id) and Application Key (app_key) are issued for each software package to use in A2A transmission. For more information on how to register software packages, refer to the FTB File Exchange System – Registration and Enrollment Guide publication. For more information about how to use the app_id and app_key, refer to the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

3.3 What is Tested?

FTB requires all testers to annually pass the scenarios as described in Section [5.4](#).

Note: Test transmissions must exactly match the test scenarios described in Section 6 and Section 7. This means the required test transmissions must use the exact entities, addresses, demographic information, and other properties outlined test scenarios in Section 5 and Section 6. Transmissions that are similar in nature to the outlined test scenarios, but do not use the exact same demographic data will not be considered for testing cycle completion.

3.4 Why is Testing Required?

The purpose of completing an annual testing cycle prior to submitting production files is to ensure that:

- FTB can receive and process the electronic Information Returns.
- Testers can send electronic Information Returns and retrieve acknowledgements.
- Testers use the correct FTB format and electronic filing specifications for the FX System.
- Testing helps transmitters identify bugs within their own systems that may impact filing.

An annual testing cycle allows any system issues, integration issues, or transmission issues to be researched and resolved in advance of the filing due date.

Additionally, each transmitter's Production CA-TCC expires annually on December 15. This means that they will need to complete a new testing cycle using the latest schema version in order to be issued a new Production CA-TCC, so that they can transmit production data for the next filing season.

3.5 When to Test?

In order to provide adequate testing time, the Testing Cycle for the next year's filing season opens on October 4th 2021. For example, for Tax Year 2021 Information Returns that will be filed in Process Year 2022, the Testing Cycle opens in October 2021.

- For Existing Transmitters:
 - Your Production CA-TCC for the current filing season will expire on December 15. Therefore, you need to complete a new testing cycle using the latest schema version in order to be issued a new Production CA-TCC for the next filing season. That Testing Cycle will open in October and must be completed prior to submitting production data for the next filing season. The new Production CA-TCC may be used to transmit information returns for the latest tax year and any previous tax years, using the latest schema version.
Note: FTB review of Test Scenario Evaluation Requests may take additional time closer to the filing deadline, so be sure to plan to test far enough in advance to allow for timely filing of your production data.
- For New Transmitters:
 - Enrolled between October and May:

- After your enrollment has been approved, you may begin testing immediately using the latest schema version available. After successfully completing your testing cycle, you will be issued a Production CA-TCC that may be used to transmit information returns for the latest tax year and any previous tax years, using the latest schema version.
Note: FTB review of Test Scenario Evaluation Requests may take additional time closer to the filing deadline, so be sure to plan to test far enough in advance to allow for timely filing of your production data.
- Enrolled between June and September:
 - After your enrollment has been approved, you may begin testing immediately using the currently supported schema. However, the Production CA-TCC issued to you from that testing cycle will expire December 15. That means you will need to complete a new testing cycle using the latest schema version available, starting in October, in order to receive a Production CA-TCC that can be used to transmit information returns for the next tax year and any previous tax years.
Note: FTB review of Test Scenario Evaluation Requests may take additional time closer to the filing deadline, so be sure to plan to test far enough in advance to allow for timely filing of your production data.

For a summary of key testing and filing dates, please refer to the Important Dates table on the [FX System webpage](#).

4 FX System Test Transmissions

This section describes the general process for submitting test transmissions.

4.1 Overview of the Testing Cycle Customer Experience

Using the information provided in Section [5.4](#), the tester creates the applicable XML files for the scenarios they will test. The tester will send the files to the FX System based on the transmission channels referenced in Section [4.2](#). The tester will provide the ReceiptIds for the applicable test transmissions for evaluation once testing has been completed as described in Section 5.1.

Some fields within the schema are optional because required data varies among reporting types. It is essential for the filer to review the form instructions, schemas, and business rules to identify the required data for that specific reporting type. Form instructions, schemas, and business rules provide guidance for required data and explain the codes to enter depending on filing needs.

For more information about how to fill out the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Forms 1094-B and 1095-B, see Pub 3895B, *California Instructions for Filing Federal Forms 1094-B and 1095-B*. For more information about how to fill out the IRS Forms 1094-C and 1095-C, see Pub 3895C, *California Instructions for Filing Federal Forms 1094-C and 1095-C*.

Business Rules and XML schemas validate the filing requirements identified in the form instructions and ensure all required validations are accounted for. All data provided in submissions are subject to XML schema and business rule validations. Inclusion of blank tags, empty tags or null tags will result in rejection of the transmission. For more information about the XML schemas and business rules, see the information provided in the Technical Specifications Package.

Each transmission to the FX System must include a new Unique Transmission Identifier (UTID). For more information about the UTID, see the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

Note: When resubmitting a rejected transmission, make sure a new UTID is generated for the resubmission.

Once the transmission processes, a status will be provided in the acknowledgement. The provided status is not reflective of whether or not the transmission has passed testing, but rather indicates if the structure of the transmission was valid and well formed. The Receipt ID (described in Section [4.4](#)) is used to retrieve the acknowledgement after FTB processes the transmission. Information regarding retrieving the acknowledgement is included in the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

Once a test transmission receives the "Accepted" status, the submitter can then test the correction process using the Correction Scenarios. The ReceiptId of the test transmission in the "Accepted" status should be used in any subsequent Correction Scenarios.

4.2 Transmission Channels

The FX System has the following two transmission channels for submitting data as part of a testing cycle:

- User Interface (UI) Channel – provides a secure, web browser-based method for submitting XML forms that comply with the file schemas.
- Application to Application (A2A) Channel – a RESTful API that facilitates A2A information exchange over a standard HTTPS connection.

More information about the two channels and how to use them can be found in the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

4.3 Validating Manifest Elements in Test Transmissions

Test transmissions must include the following elements in the manifest:

- The Transmission Manifest's **TransmissionCategory** set to "T".
- The Transmission Manifest's **TransmissionChecksum** has been calculated for the most current version of the form data file using SHA 256. If any updates are made to the form data file after the checksum has been calculated, the checksum will need to be recalculated following the update.
- The Transmission Manifest's **TransmissionSchemaVersion** is the most current "InformationReturns_vX.X" schema. This should also match the Transmission schema version provided in the form data file.
- The Transmission Manifest's **SubmissionCount** should match the number of 1094s contained within the transmission data file.
- The "test" CA-TCC is required as part of the Unique Transmission ID (UTID, found in the Transmission Manifest's TransmissionId). The FX API will extract the CA-TCC from the UTID and verify the CA-TCC is an active "test" CA-TCC. If the CA-TCC is not a "test" CA-TCC or is not active, the transmission will be rejected.
- A Form Type Code (Transmission Manifest's FormType) to identify the forms that are being submitted. The Form Type Code must be either "IRS1094/1095B" or "IRS1094/1095C."

For more information on the transmission manifest, see the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication and the XML Schemas in the Technical Specifications Package.

4.4 Receipt ID

The tester will receive a Receipt ID as part of the synchronous session when submitting a transmission to the FX System, given the transmission passes the synchronous validations. The Receipt ID will either be returned in the Response (A2A Channel) or on a web page in the FX Portal (UI Channel). The tester retains the Receipt ID to request the acknowledgement for that transmission and to make any future corrections to that transmission if necessary.

4.4.1 Original Submitted Information

For corrections and resubmissions the form data file must contain the OriginalSubmittedInformation element. This will identify the ReceiptId, SubmissionId, and potentially RecordId of the information to be corrected from the original transmission. For more information on corrections and resubmission please refer to Section Y of FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications – Part 2 or samples found within the InformationReturns schema zip file.

4.5 Acknowledgement Files

Upon receipt of the test transmission, and after synchronous validations have passed, FX Hub will execute XML schema validations and business rule validations on the Information Returns. Any condition which triggers an error will be identified and reported in the acknowledgement file. The test transmission status is not reflective of whether or not the transmission has passed testing, but rather indicates if the structure of the transmission was valid and well formed.

For more information about retrieving the acknowledgement file, refer to the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

5 Testing Guidelines

The following rules apply to test transmissions:

- A transmission must contain one manifest file and one form data file.
- The transmission manifest must identify the TransmissionCategory as "T".
- The CA-TCC included in the UTID must be an active "test" CA-TCC.
- The form data file must contain at least one submission.

- The form data file exactly matches the below provided testing scenario entity, individual, and demographic data.
- Each submission must contain a header, a transmittal (Form 1094-B or Form 1094-C) and one to many information returns (Form 1095-B or Form 1095-C).
- All submissions within a transmission must only contain one type of form (1094-B/1095-B or 1094-C/1095-C).
- Each 1094 and 1095 record must indicate the test scenario ID.

Note: Failure to include test scenario IDs and otherwise adhere to these test transmission rules may lead to delays in processing test transmissions and subsequently delay or prevent the issuance of your “production” CA-TCC.

More information about the structure, requirements, and definitions of transmissions and submissions can be found in the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication.

5.1 Steps to Pass a Testing Cycle

After a transmitter has registered for an e-Services Account and enrolled in the MEC IR Program (see the FTB File Exchange System – MEC IR Registration and Enrollment Guide publication for details), the following steps must be completed.

1. Submit test transmissions for the required scenarios (as described in Section 5.4)
2. Receive an “Accepted” status for all required scenarios
3. Provide ReceiptIds of applicable test transmissions via the “Submit Test Scenarios for Evaluation” FX Portal page.
4. Await FTB feedback for test transmissions which may take up to 5 business days.
 - a. If your test transmissions pass testing, the Responsible Official will be notified and issued your production CA-TCC
 - b. If your test transmission doesn’t pass testing, the Responsible Official will be provided with feedback for the necessary corrections to be made in order to pass testing. The transmitter will need to submit new transmissions with the described corrections made. The ReceiptIds of the new transmissions will also need to be provided via the “Submit Test Scenarios for Evaluation” FX Portal page as described in Step 3.

Once all required test scenarios transmissions have an “Accepted” status and you have provided the ReceiptIds of the transmissions via the “Submit Test Scenarios for Evaluation” FX Portal, FTB will review the test outcomes and issue the “production” CA-TCC. If after 5 business days your “production” CA-TCC has not been issued, contact the

FX System help desk, please note this may take additional time closer to the filing deadline. Information on how to contact the FX System help desk can be found at the link in Section [2.3](#).

5.2 Social Security Number (SSN) Ranges for Testing

Social Security Numbers (SSNs) provided to FTB in a testing cycle must match the valid SSN testing ranges defined in this section. When the transmission has a TransmissionCategory of "T", per Business Rules 1095B-120 & 1095C-130 use the valid ranges for SSNs as shown in [Figure 1](#), below.

SSN RANGE
000-00-0001 through 000-00-0100
000-00-0101 through 000-00-0200
000-00-0201 through 000-00-0300
000-00-0301 through 000-00-0400
000-00-0401 through 000-00-0500
000-00-0501 through 000-00-0600
000-00-0601 through 000-00-0700
000-00-0701 through 000-00-0800
000-00-0801 through 000-00-0900
000-00-0901 through 000-00-1000

Figure 1: Test SSN Ranges

These test SSN ranges align with the ranges defined by the IRS, however FTB does not have the requirement for using specific name controls based on the SSN range.

5.3 Employer Identification Number (EIN) Ranges for Testing

Per Business Rules 1094C-80, 1094C-100, 1095B-100, and 1094B-040 the Employer Identification Numbers (EINs) provided to FTB in a testing cycle must match the valid EIN testing ranges defined in this section. The valid ranges for EINs in a testing cycle are shown in [Figure 2](#), below.

EIN RANGE
00-0000001 through 00-0000100
00-0000101 through 00-0000200
00-0000201 through 00-0000300
00-0000301 through 00-0000400
00-0000401 through 00-0000500
00-0000501 through 00-0000600
00-0000601 through 00-0000700
00-0000701 through 00-0000800
00-0000801 through 00-0000900
00-0000901 through 00-0001000

Figure 2: Test EIN Ranges

These test EIN ranges align with the ranges defined by the IRS, however FTB does not have the requirement for using specific name controls based on the EIN range.

5.4 Submission Narrative and Associated Test Scenarios

[Table 1](#), below, identifies the required test scenarios based on the required submissions for an organization. FTB is requiring Predefined Test Scenarios be submitted to complete a testing cycle. FTB does not support criteria based testing at this time, which means the test transmission must exactly match the entity, individual, and demographic data below. Each submission narrative (found in [Section 6](#) and [Section 7](#)) contains all the information needed to complete the required forms and to prepare the XML. It is also essential that the transmitter carefully read the following publications:

- Pub 3895B, California Instructions for Filing Federal Forms 1094-B and 1095-B
- Pub 3895C, California Instructions for Filing Federal Forms 1094-C and 1095-C

These publications describe how to use federal forms for state purposes.

Correction test scenarios are also provided (indicated by a "C" in the scenario ID).

Predefined scenarios provide specific test data within the submission narrative for each required form line. Each scenario narrative has been designed to primarily test the functionality of the business rules.

Predefined Scenarios have answer keys that are provided so the tester can check the values submitted. These answer keys are provided as a helpful resource of sample XML files that indicate the structure of the expected transmission to FTB. Please note that FTB expects each transmitter’s test transmissions to be unique while still exactly matching the outlined test scenarios, so ensure that the files you generate for testing have current, unique timestamps to prevent any potential delays in processing.

During the testing cycle review, each scenario submitted will be checked against the answer keys and must match to pass the testing cycle.

Failure to include test scenario IDs in the form data file can lead to delays in processing test transmissions and the subsequent issuance of your “production” CA-TCC.

Table 1: Predefined Scenarios

Required Submissions	Scenarios Required
1094/1095-B	Scenario 1 Scenario 2 Scenario 2C
1094/1095-C	Scenario 5 Scenario 5C

5.4.1 Federal and State Differences: Testing Process

Key differences from IRS AIR testing process are described in [Table 2](#), below.

Table 2: IRS and FTB Testing Process differences

IRS	FTB
Allows for both criteria based and predefined scenario testing	Allows for only predefined scenario testing
Does not require correction transmission testing	Requires correction transmission testing
Only tests once	Requires annual testing

6 Predefined Test Scenarios – 1095-B

The scenarios defined in this section are intended to closely align to the predefined test scenarios for the 2020 IRS Affordable Care Act Assurance Testing System (AATS). Though the information in these scenarios is not specific to California residents, the testing scenarios still match the intent to validate that electronic Information Returns are filed correctly. Please note that FTB expects each transmitter's test transmissions to be unique while still exactly matching the outlined test scenarios below, so ensure that the files you generate for testing have current, unique timestamps to prevent any potential delays in processing.

6.1 Scenario 1

Using the latest 1094-B and 1095-B schemas, prepare a transmission for Tax Year 2021 for an insurance provider. In this scenario, Hidetestone is the provider who will be reporting health coverage information for two responsible individuals.

6.1.1 Scenario ID: 1-0

1094-B Submission Narrative Information

- Filer's Name: Hidetestone
- Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000151
- Name of person to contact: Bertha Logan
- Contact telephone number: 5551352468
- Address Line 1: 975 Adler Lane
- Address Line 2: Suite 312
- City: New York
- State: NY
- ZIP Code: 10023
- Total number of Form 1095-B submitted: 2

Signature (JuratSignaturePIN), title (Title), and date (SignatureDate) can be omitted.

6.1.2 Scenario ID: 1-1

1095-B Record Narrative Information

- Part I Responsible Individual

- Business Name: Hide Nursing Care
- TIN: 000000152
- Address: 4435 Chestnut Avenue
- City: Madison
- State: NC
- ZIP: 27025
- Origin of Health Coverage: D – Individual Market Insurance
- Part II Information about Certain Employer-Sponsored Coverage
 - (do not complete)
- Part III Issuer or Other Coverage Provider
 - Name: Hidetestone
 - Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000151
 - Contact phone number: 5551352468
 - Address Line 1: 975 Adler Lane
 - Address Line 2: Suite 312
 - City: New York
 - State: NY
 - ZIP Code: 10023
- Part IV Covered Individuals – Hanna lives in a nursing care facility and was covered for at least one day from January 1st to January 31st.
 - Individual 1
 - Name: Hanna Martin
 - SSN: 000-00-0101

6.1.3 Scenario ID: 1-2

1095-B Record Narrative Information

- Part I Responsible Individual
 - Name: Dolly Martinez
 - DOB: 02/06/1973
 - Address: 1313 Buckthorn Lane
 - City: Washington
 - State: DC
 - ZIP: 20026
 - Origin of Health Coverage: D – Individual Market Insurance
- Part II Information about Certain Employer-Sponsored Coverage
 - (do not complete)

- Part III Issuer or Other Coverage Provider
 - Name: Hidetestone
 - Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000151
 - Contact phone number: 5551352468
 - Address Line 1: 975 Adler Lane
 - Address Line 2: Suite 312
 - City: New York
 - State: NY
 - ZIP Code: 10023
- Part IV Covered Individuals – Dolly and her spouse were covered for at least one day per month for each month June 1st through December 31st (inclusive).
 - Individual 1
 - Name: Dolly Martinez
 - DOB: 02/06/1973
 - Individual 2
 - Name: Edward Martinez
 - SSN: 000-00-0120

6.2 Scenario 2

Using the latest 1094-B and 1095-B schemas, prepare a transmission for Tax Year 2021 for an insurance provider. In this scenario, Worktesttwo is the issuer who will be reporting health coverage information, purchased through the SHOP program, for one responsible individual and will complete 1095-B Part II Employer-Sponsored Coverage for Workshoptwo.

6.2.1 Scenario ID: 2-0

1094-B Submission Narrative Information

- Filer's Name: Worktesttwo
- Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000215
- Name of person to contact: Fred Lincoln
- Contact telephone number: 5555372511
- Address: 2277 Holly Place
- City: Washington
- State: DC
- ZIP Code: 20022
- Total number of Form 1095-B submitted: 1

Signature (JuratSignaturePIN), title (Title), and date (SignatureDate) can be omitted.

6.2.2 Scenario ID: 2-1

1095-B Record Narrative Information

- Part I Responsible Individual
 - Name: Vicky Willhelm
 - SSN: 000-00-0211
 - Address: 2255 Oak Ave
 - City: Dublin
 - State: OH
 - ZIP: 43016
 - Origin of Health Coverage: A – Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP)
- Part II Information about Certain Employer-Sponsored Coverage
 - Name: Workshoptwo
 - Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000250
 - Address: 1095 Cedar Lane
 - City: Westerville
 - State: OH
 - ZIP: 43081
- Part III Issuer or Other Coverage Provider
 - Name: Worktesttwo
 - Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000215
 - Contact telephone number: 5555372511
 - Address: 2277 Holly Place
 - City: Washington
 - State: DC
 - ZIP: 20022
- Part IV Covered Individuals – Vicky and her spouse were covered for at least one day per month for each month January 1st through September 30th (inclusive)
 - Individual 1
 - Name: Vicky Willhelm
 - SSN: 000-00-0211
 - Individual 2:
 - Name: Wilfred Willhelm

- SSN: 000-00-0212

6.3 Scenario 2C

You must submit Scenario 2 and have an “Accepted” acknowledgement before you can submit Scenario 2C. The information from the “Accepted” acknowledgement in Scenario 2 will be used to submit the correction. FTB does not need to have completed evaluation of the “Accepted” Scenario 2 transmission prior to transmitting Scenario 2C transmission, however the Scenario 2 transmission must be in an “Accepted” status. This scenario is designed to correct an error on the 1095-B that was identified by the transmitter in the previously submitted Scenario 2-1. Scenario 2C will be submitted as a correction record of a previously accepted original submission. The FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication provides additional information about submitting correction records.

It was previously reported that Vicky and Wilfred Willhelm were covered by Worktesttwo, through SHOP, for at least one day per month, during the months of January 1st through September 30th (inclusive). It has now been determined that they were not covered by this plan in the month of September. They were instead covered by this plan for at least one day per month during the months of **January 1st through August 31st** (inclusive).

Use the same information from Scenario 2, with the correction above. Ensure you set the Corrected Indicator appropriately. Use scenario IDs 2C-0 and 2C-1 in lieu of 2-0 and 2-1.

7 Predefined Test Scenarios – 1095-C

The scenarios defined in this section are intended to closely align to the predefined test scenarios for the 2020 IRS AATS. Though the information in these scenarios is not specific to California residents, the testing scenarios still match the intent to validate that electronic Information Returns are filed correctly. Please note that FTB expects each transmitter’s test transmissions to be unique while still exactly matching the outlined test scenarios below, so ensure that the files you generate for testing have current, unique timestamps to prevent any potential delays in processing.

7.1 Scenario 5

Using the latest 1094-C and 1095-C schemas, prepare a transmission for Tax Year 2021 for an Applicable Large Employer (ALE). In this scenario, Carrtestfive is the ALE who will

be reporting employer provided self-insured health coverage information for two employees.

7.1.1 Scenario ID: 5-0

1094-C Submission Narrative Information

- Part I ALE Information
 - Name: Carrtestfive
 - Employer Identification Number (EIN): 00-0000710
 - Address: 109 Cypress Cove
 - City: Wimberley
 - State: TX
 - ZIP: 78676
 - ALE Point of Contact: Carla Hayes
 - ALE Point of Contact Phone Number: 5551552899
 - Number of 1095-Cs Included with Transmittal: 2

Signature (JuratSignaturePIN), title (Title), and date (SignatureDate) can be omitted. Part II (ALE Member Information), Part III (ALE Member Information – Monthly), and Part IV (other ALE Members of the Aggregated ALE Group) can also be omitted.

7.1.2 Scenario ID: 5-1

1095-C Record Narrative Information

- Part I Employee
 - Name: Scarlett Camen
 - SSN: 000-00-0701
 - Address: 420 Falcon Lane
 - City: San Juan Capistrano
 - State: CA
 - ZIP: 92693
- Part I Employer
 - ALE contact phone: 5551552899
- Part II Employee Offer of Coverage
 - Carrtestfive chooses to enter a Plan Start Month of January (“01”) showing the month in which the plan year begins.

- Carrtestfive made a Qualifying Offer of minimum essential coverage providing minimum value for their full-time employee, Scarlett Camen, with the employee required contribution equal to or less than 9.5% of mainland single federal poverty line and at least minimum essential coverage offered to her spouse from January 1st to December 31st (inclusive).
- Carrtestfive has indicated with Safe Harbor Codes that the employee enrolled in the health coverage offered from January 1st to December 31st (inclusive).
- **Note:** There are two correct ways to complete this form. In this scenario entries for the Offer of Coverage Code and Safe Harbor Codes should be entered in the All 12 months column.
- Part III Covered Individuals – Carrtestfive offers self-insured coverage and will check the checkbox in Part III and list the covered individuals including the employee listed in Part I. Scarlett and her spouse, Colin were enrolled in the coverage “All 12 Months” by the plan that was offered by her employer.
 - Individual 1
 - Name: Scarlett Camen
 - SSN: 000-00-0701
 - Individual 2
 - Name: Colin Camen
 - DOB: 04/07/1980

7.1.3 Scenario ID: 5-2

1095-C Record Narrative Information

- Part I Employee
 - Name: Jeremy Martin
 - SSN: 000-00-0111
 - Address: 42 Main Street
 - City: Kansas City
 - State: MO
 - ZIP: 64111
- Part I Employer
 - ALE contact phone: 5551552899
- Part II Employee Offer of Coverage

- Carrtestfive chooses to enter a Plan Start Month of January (“01”) showing the month in which the plan year begins.
- Carrtestfive made an Offer of Coverage for an Individual coverage HRAt to their part-time employee, Jeremy Martin, from January 1st to December 31st (inclusive).
- Carrtestfive has chosen not to include any Safe Harbor Codes.
- **Note:** There are two correct ways to complete this form. In this scenario, entries for the Offer of Coverage Code should be entered in each month’s column.
- Part III Covered Individuals – Carrtestfive offers self-insured coverage and will check the checkbox in Part III and list the covered individuals including the employee listed in Part I. Jeremy was covered “All 12 Months” by the plan that was offered by his employer. While it is understood that there are two correct ways to complete Part III, in this Scenario, please select the “Covered all 12 months” check box rather than entering data in each of the 12 monthly check boxes where applicable.
 - Individual 1
 - Name: Jeremy Martin
 - SSN: 000-00-0111

7.2 Scenario 5C

You must submit Scenario 5 and have an “Accepted” acknowledgement before you can submit Scenario 5C. The information from the “Accepted” acknowledgement in Scenario 5 will be used to submit the correction. FTB does not need to have completed evaluation of the “Accepted” Scenario 5 transmission prior to transmitting Scenario 5C transmission, however the Scenario 5 transmission must be in an “Accepted” status.

This scenario is designed to correct an error on the 1095-C that was identified by the transmitter in the previously submitted Scenario 5-1. Scenario 5C will be submitted as a correction record of a previously accepted original submission. The FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Technical Specifications publication provides additional information about submitting correction records.

It was previously reported that Scarlett and Colin were covered for all 12 months and that spouse Colin Camen’s birthdate on file was 04/07/1980. It has now been determined that the correct birthdate for Colin should be **04/07/1981** and that Colin was only covered for the months from **January 1st to October 31st** (inclusive).

Use the same information from Scenario 5, with the correction above. Ensure you set the Corrected Indicator appropriately. Use scenario IDs 5C-0 and 5C-1 in lieu of 5-0 and 5-1.

Note: Do not include records that are not being corrected in the correction transmission. Since the correction is for the Camen family records, do not include the Jeremy Martin's record since no change is being made to Jeremy's record.

Appendix – Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
A2A	Application to Application
AATS	Affordable Care Act Assurance Testing System
ACA	Affordable Care Act
ALE	Applicable Large Employer
API	Application Programming Interface
App_id	Application Identifier
App_key	Application Key
CA-TCC	California Transmitter Control Code
EIN	Employer Identification Number
FTB	Franchise Tax Board
FX	File Exchange
HCM	Health Care Mandate
IR	Information Reporting
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
MEC	Minimum Essential Coverage
SSN	Social Security Number
UI	User Interface
UTID	Unique Transmission Identifier
XML	Extensible Markup Language

Appendix – Glossary

Term	Definition
CA-TCC (California Transmitter Control Code)	<p>The CA-TCC is a five-digit hexadecimal number left-padded with "0". There are two versions of the CA-TCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Test: The Test CA-TCC is issued upon enrollment approval and is used to transmit test transmissions. ○ Production: The Production CA-TCC is issued upon completion of the required annual testing cycle (see the FTB File Exchange System – 1094 1095 Testing Specifications for more information on the required annual testing cycle) and is used to transmit production transmissions containing real MEC IR data. <p>The CA-TCC is the last colon separated component of the UTID (found in the manifest file).</p>
Form Data File	<p>The Form Data File is one component of the transmission and includes submissions of forms 1094/1095-B or 1094/1095-C data.</p>
FX API	<p>A sub-system within the FX System that performs synchronous validations and issues FXE error codes when necessary.</p>
FX Hub	<p>A sub-system within the FX System that performs asynchronous validations and generates the acknowledgement file.</p>
FX Portal	<p>A sub-system within the FX System that allows transmitters to communicate information with FTB, including enrolling for the MEC IR Program, transmitting information return files, and retrieving acknowledgements.</p>
FX System	<p>The File Exchange (FX) System is comprised of the following three sub-systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FX Portal • FX API • FX Hub
Hexadecimal	<p>The UTID can only contain hexadecimal values (0-9 and a-f).</p>

Manifest	The Manifest is one component of the transmission and contains the transmitter’s information and data describing the transmission.
SHA256 Hash	SHA-256 stands for Secure Hash Algorithm 256-bit and is a calculation process used to secure the transmission.
Submission	The combination of a single header, a single transmittal (Form 1094-B or Form 1094-C) and its associated information returns (Form 1095-B or Form 1095-C). For example, a submission is either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Header, one Form 1094-B, and one or more Form(s) 1095-B or • One Header, one Form 1094-C, and one or more Form(s) 1095-C
SubmissionCount	The SubmissionCount is located in the manifest file. It is the number of 1094s in the form data file. The submission count in the Manifest file should match the number of 1094s within the transmission.
SYSID	The SYSID is a four-digit hexadecimal number left-padded with “0”. All MEC IR transmissions use SYSID 0001 . The SYSID is the second colon separated component of the UTID (found in the manifest file) and will always be “ 0001 ”.
Transmission	A unique package of digital documents comprising of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manifest, describing the transmitter, transmission, and the payload • Form Data File, containing one or more submissions in XML format
TransmissionCategory	The TransmissionCategory is located in the manifest file. It indicates whether the transmission is a Test transmission or a Production transmission. The TransmissionCategory should correspond with the type of CA-TCC used (e.g. Test transmissions use a Test CA-TCC). Test transmissions have a TransmissionCategory of “T” and Production transmissions have a TransmissionCategory of “P”.
TransmissionChecksum	The TransmissionChecksum is located in the manifest file. The value of the TransmissionChecksum is the SHA256 hash of the form data file. This value helps link the manifest file to its associated form data file.

TransmissionSchemaVersion	The TransmissionSchemaVersion is located in the manifest and is the version of the schema being used for the transmission. Starting October 2021, the current supported schema will be "InformationReturns_v2.0". This should match the value provided in the form data file.
UTID (Unique Transmission Identifier)	The UTID, also known as the TransmissionID, is the transmitter-provided unique identifier for a transmission. All transmissions must have a unique UTID. The UTID is comprised of a UUID, a SYSID, and a CA-TCC, separated by colons. The UTID is found in the manifest file.
UUID (Universal Unique Identifier)	The UUID is defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Request for Comments (RFC) 4122 as a 128-bit number represented by 32 hexadecimal [0-9 & A-F] digits separated into five, hyphen-separated groups. 89971352-c160-4e39-a0c2-c0582777c3d4 is an example of an RFC 4122-compliant UUID. Do not use your Secret Key as the UUID. The UUID is the first colon separated component of the UTID (found in the manifest file).