



## **Version 4.5 Release Notice**

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February 16, 2010

*Financial Management Service*





## 1 Introduction

This document introduces the new features of Pay.gov release 4.5. It is intended for individuals who desire an overview of the new features contained in this release, without the level of detail that may be found in other administrative, operational, or technical documents.

Pay.gov 4.5 will be available for agencies to test in the agency testing environment (<https://qa.pay.gov/>) on February 28, 2010; the formal testing window will last from February 28 to March 12. We encourage all agencies, particularly those using activity files, to test their applications and ensure that the changes introduced in this release do not adversely affect processing. Please see section 4.3 for information about the activity file changes.

The Pay.gov 4.5 release will be deployed into the production environment on March 14, 2010. The deployment will take place between 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. Eastern Time; agencies will experience a service interruption during this period.

## 2 Related Documents

The documents listed below are either referenced in this notice or provide supplemental information. Please contact your FMS representative to obtain them or download them from the Pay.gov agency documentation Web site, located at <https://qa.pay.gov/agencydocs/>. The web site will be updated with the most current versions of the documents the week of February 28, 2010.

- *Pay.gov Overview Guide*
- *Pay.gov User Guide*
- *Agency Configuration Template (ACT)*
- *Agency Guide to the Collections Service*
- *Agency Guide to the Forms Service*
- *Agency Guide to Company Profiles*
- *Agency Guide to the Reporting Service*
- *Agency Guide to the Billing Service*
- *Agency Guide to Access Control*
- *Agency Guide to Payer Profiles*
- *Agency Guide to Trusted Collection Services (TCS)*
- *Open Collections Interface (OCI) Reference Guide*
- *Trusted Collection Services (TCS) Technical Reference Manual*

## 3 Overview of Pay.gov

Pay.gov offers four major services:

1. The *Collection Service* collects and processes agency transactions, including collections originating from an agency web page, collections originating from a form hosted on Pay.gov, or collections in response to a bill notifying users of a required payment. Agencies may also use the collections control panel (CCP) to manually enter transactions in Pay.gov.

As part of the Collections Service, the *Trusted Collection Services* offer agencies a secure way to connect to Pay.gov, send non-interactive collections transactions, and retrieve transaction data using 128-bit SSL encryption, certificate-based authentication, and web services. This service is in beta testing at this time; please contact your FMS representative if you wish to be considered for participation in the beta test.

2. The *Forms Service* hosts agency forms, which can be configured to closely emulate their paper counterparts, including OMB and agency control numbers, Paperwork Reduction Act and Privacy Act notices, and instructions.
3. The *Billing Service* allows agencies to send payment due notifications by email, which include links directing users to the Pay.gov billing page, where the information can be reviewed and payment can be made.
4. The *Reporting Service* provides online reports and downloadable activity files which allow agencies to reconcile transactions with reports from other financial applications such as CA\$HLINK or plastic card settlement agents.

## 4 Pay.gov 4.5 Enhancements and Changes

This section describes the major enhancements and changes included in the Pay.gov 4.5 release.

### 4.1 Collections Service

- Added support for AMEX line item detail information.
- Modified the Collections Control Panel to mask plastic card account numbers correctly on the plastic card refund screen and the plastic card force screen.
- Updated plastic card transaction history to clearly display the current status of a transaction where a refund has been issued and the refund has been voided.

### 4.2 Trusted Collection Services

Please refer to the *TCS Technical Reference Manual* for more detailed information about the changes listed in this section.

- Created and deployed the TCS Batch service.
- Created and deployed the TCS Batch Results service, which will be used by agencies to obtain transaction-level results.
- Renamed the existing TCS Date Query service; the service is now called TCS Multiple Item Query. The structures of both the agency request to Pay.gov and the Pay.gov response have changed slightly.
- Updated WSDL and XSD files will be deployed.

### 4.3 Reporting Service

- Rewrote the following activity files using a different technology to improve application performance and stability: ACH activity file, billing activity file, credit card (CC) activity file, collections activity file, collections activity file v2, the form activity file, and the form activity file XSL.

While we do not anticipate that the activity file rewrites will cause any processing issues, agencies using any of these activity files should conduct thorough testing to ensure that their systems can process the new files.

**Note:** These activity file changes will be piloted in the agency testing environment **only**. The new activity files will **not** be deployed to the production environment as part of Pay.gov 4.5. Agencies that experience difficulties retrieving their activity files in the agency testing environment should contact Pay.gov Technical Support for assistance.

- The use of HTTPS GET within the request for an activity file will no longer be allowed; agencies must now use POST within the request; refer to the *Agency Guide to the Reporting Service* for more information about requesting activity files. Agencies unable to meet this requirement in time for the release may use the online report interface to manually download their activity files.
- Two minor formatting changes were made to the ACH activity file: the file creation date will now always use a two-digit month, with a leading zero if necessary (for example, “02” will be used for February instead of the current “2”); and the `payments_count`, `agency_memo`, and `number_of_payment` elements will now be indented consistently underneath their parent element.

#### 4.4 Web Pages

- Updated the text of the warning banner on the Pay.gov footer and the interstitial login pages to comply with FMS policy.

## 5 Customer Service

Customer service is provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Assistance with accessing the website, hosted forms processing, collections, and so on is provided for agency customers. Technical support is also available for problems such as balancing payments, database integrity, information security, and other issues relating to the smooth operation of the services provided to agencies.

### 5.1 Contact Information

*Mailing address:* Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland  
ATTN: eGov Customer Service (Pay.gov)  
1455 East Sixth Street  
Cleveland, OH 44114

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