

FINra®

Web EFT-to-API Migration Updates

October 16, 2024

New CE Status

- A new “NOTREQUIRED” status for FINRA Regulatory Element CE will be implemented on October 26 for fully terminated individuals.
 - Status will display in XML reports and Composite Individual dataset/seed.
- The following updated XML schemas are available at finra.org/webefit/schema:
 - Individual Information Report
 - Post Annual Continuing Education Report
- Changes have already been applied in QA and firms can test via Web EFT and/or API using already existing test credentials.
- For general questions about CE statuses, please refer to the link below or contact the main FINRA Support Center.
 - <https://www.finra.org/registration-exams-ce/continuing-education>

Renewal Processing

- FINRA's 2025 renewal calendar is available online:
 - <https://www.finra.org/registration-exams-ce/broker-dealers/annual-renewal>
- Users are able to test post-dated termination uploads in QA for Forms U5 and BR as of October 14.
 - Applies to both Web EFT and API.
- When testing via API, please keep in mind that there are no more batch filings so uploading large numbers of post-dated test filings is not necessary.
 - Overall system processing capacity is lower in QA than in production.
- A full list of renewal schedule impacts to Web EFT and the API will be distributed in the coming weeks.
 - Please plan to forward the schedule to staff at your firm who may support Web EFT but are not Web EFT contacts.

Reminder – Web EFT Sunset

- Web EFT will be sunset on April 30, 2025. All currently available XML reports and batch upload functionality will be COMPLETELY RETIRED as of that date.
 - <https://developer.finra.org/news/web-eft-retirement-update>
- Migrating firms must have active production API credentials as of November 15, 2024, and maintain them to continue accessing Web EFT until April 30.
 - Firms with active API credentials will automatically receive the additional time to migrate. There is no need to contact FINRA to ask for confirmation.
 - Firms without active API credentials on November 15 will no longer have Web EFT access after that date. FINRA has reached out to firms without credentials to confirm their intentions.
 - See the Appendix at the end of this presentation if your firm needs to get started.
- Other previously announced changes effective November 15, 2024:
 - Retire Web EFT mailbox and consolidate all communication through api_developer@finra.org.
 - No longer processing new or upgraded Web EFT subscription requests.

Recent API Developments

- **September 23 New Data Mapping Versions: Individual and Branch updates.**
 - <https://developer.finra.org/news/mapping-documents-composite-branch-and-composite-individual-datasets>
- **October 1 Release Notes: Individual, Branch and Accounting updates.**
 - <https://developer.finra.org/release-notes/october-1st-2024-release-notes>
- **October 10 Release Notes: Added NRF submission capability.**
 - <https://developer.finra.org/release-notes/october-10th-2024-release-notes>
 - Also added more U4/U5 JSON samples.

Reminders About API Data

- Social Security Numbers (SSN) will not be available in any API datasets.
 - Previous SSN fields in Web EFT reports will not be mapped.
- **(Updated)** Due to FBI requirements, fingerprint card statuses will not be included in the Composite Individual dataset/seed.
 - A separate endpoint to deliver fingerprint details is under construction and will require separate credentials, terms & conditions, and auditing by the firm. Delivery timeline is TBD.
- Large-scale data reconciliation using Composite Individual Seed dataset will typically not be necessary. However, each firm can evaluate and determine their approach.
 - See limits on seed file generation in “Dataset Details” on the DFO website.
- Smaller, legacy API datasets are labeled as “Deprecated” and will be retired next year:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/news/announcing-retirement-legacy-individual-and-branch-datasets>

Common API Questions

- **Is there a special onboarding process for firms using a third-party vendor?**
 - No, the firm should follow the normal process for onboarding to the API platform. The firm can then use the self-service API Console to create a Client ID to share with the vendor.
 - When sharing a Client ID with a vendor, we recommend clearly identifying the firm.
- **Can an existing Client ID be transferred to a different person?**
 - No, the API Console does not support transferring Client IDs. The user who created the Client ID will need to delete the old ID and then create a new one.
 - For information about credential and usage limits, please review the FAQs at the very bottom of this page: <https://developer.finra.org/fees>.
- **Does testing in QA require separate credentials?**
 - Yes, firms onboarded to the production API can request corresponding QA access: https://developer.finra.org/docs#getting_started-api_platform_basics-qa_test_environment.
 - If you need assistance with an existing QA account, contact FINRA at api_developer@finra.org.

Common API Questions

- There are some lists of allowed values (enums) that are not provided in the currently available mapping. Where can I find those?
 - Since the existing lists of allowed values are not changing as part of the migration, firms can continue to rely on the lists provided in the legacy [Web EFT schemas](#).
- What information should I provide when reporting a possible API issue to FINRA?
 - The following details are very helpful when troubleshooting potential issues:
 - Endpoint URL (production or QA)
 - API Request ID (located in header)
 - Client ID used to call the API
 - Individual or branch CRD #
 - Exact error message and any logs
 - JSON payload (with sensitive data removed)

API Communications

- Web EFT sunset milestones, FAQs, and previous webinar slides are posted online:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/webeftsunset>
 - For questions not already answered online: api_developer@finra.org
- Webinars are planned for the third Wednesday of each month from 1-2pm ET through November 2024.
 - Agendas and connection information will be sent monthly via broadcast email.
- Office hours will typically be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month through November 2024 for technology staff to discuss development topics.
 - Exact dates and times will be included in each invitation, along with registration link.
 - Attendees are able to submit questions and propose topics in advance.

(Continue sending XML batch questions to WebEFT.Support@finra.org until Nov. 15)



APPENDIX – GETTING STARTED

Onboarding to the API Platform

- Detailed steps are provided on the DFO website, including links to screenshots:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/APICredentials>
- Summary of process:
 - SAA requests admin access to API Console in FINRA Gateway (form available at link above).
 - SAA grants “User” entitlement to API Console to themselves and others.
 - Users with console access are then able to create API credentials (including for vendors).
 - Invoices available in E-Bill a month after creating first credential.
 - Please coordinate with team/individual listed under “Firm Billing Info”.
 - For more about fees, including for affiliate firms, see FAQs at the bottom of this page:
<https://developer.finra.org/fees>
- After provisioning the first production machine-to-machine credential, access to the QA API Console can be requested by following the steps here:
 - https://developer.finra.org/docs#getting_started-api_platform_basics-qa_test_environment

Help Getting Started

- Information about authorization, headers, troubleshooting, etc.:
 - https://developer.finra.org/docs#getting_started-api_platform_basics-authorization
- Sample API call using Postman:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/UsingPostmantocalltheFINRAAPIPlatform>
- Recorded webinars for Form U4 and Composite Individual:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/webinars>
- Support FAQs:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/support>
- Explore non-registration datasets included in your subscription:
 - <https://developer.finra.org/catalog>

Suggested Use of Individual Datasets

Use Composite Individual Seed dataset for initial database population (not intended to be used regularly)

Call Individual Delta on a chosen cadence to receive a list CRD #'s who have had changes since the last call

Use the list of CRD #'s to call the Composite Individual dataset and download updates for each individual

Suggested Submission API Workflow

