Pay.gov 8.12 Release Notice

January 12, 2026

1 Introduction

This document introduces the new features included in Pay.gov release 8.12. It is intended for individuals who desire an overview of the new features contained in the release, without the level of detail that may be found in other administrative, operational, or technical documents.

Agency testing dates for Pay.gov 8.12 are January 12, 2026, through January 23, 2026. Any agency issues not identified by January 23, 2026, will not be addressed until the next Pay.gov release.

The Pay.gov 8.12 production release is scheduled for February 14, 2026.

1.1 Related Documents

Pay.gov overview and technical documents are available by request from your Bureau of the Fiscal Service representative, your Pay.gov Agency Implementation Specialist, or by download or request from the Pay.gov Agency Documentation site at https://qa.pay.gov/agencydocs/index.html. The website will be updated with the most current versions of the documents during the week of January 12, 2026.

Online help for Pay.gov's public website is available at https://pay.gov/public.

2 Overview of Pay.gov

Pay.gov offers the following major services:

1. Transactions are collected and processed by the core collection service. Transactions are submitted by any of the Pay.gov services listed below. The core service validates and manages submitted payment data, forwards it to the appropriate payment processor, and responds with information required by the service used and the agency cash flow application.

2. The *Create Transactions* function on the Agency Collection (myagency) website enables agencies to manually enter transactions in Pay.gov.

3. *Pay a Form* on the Agency Collections website enables agency users to create transactions on behalf of customers without having to use forms on Pay.gov's public website.

4. *Collections API* is a cloud-based service that enables agencies to submit non-interactive ACH Debit and Plastic Card collections to Pay.gov. The Collections API's 24/7/365 availability minimizes downtime interruptions. All submitted transactions require authentication for enhanced security.

5. *Collections API Inquiry* is a cloud-based service that enables agencies to perform ad hoc checks of transaction status if an agency does not receive a response from Pay.gov. The service also enables researching individual transaction details on an ad hoc basis.

6. *Pay.gov Web Services* allow agencies to send non-interactive and interactive collection transactions to the core collection service, and to retrieve transaction data using 2048-bit SSL encryption, certificate-based authentication, and web services.

   Pay.gov Web Services include:

   a. The *Trusted Collection Services* are a suite of web services that allow agencies to non-interactively submit transactions, either one-at-a-time or in batches, depending on the service used; retrieve the status of submitted batches; and submit queries that retrieve transaction information.

   b. The *Hosted Collection Pages* (HCP) service combines non-interactive and interactive web services to allow agencies to redirect customers to Pay.gov at the time the customer must enter their

payment data. Agencies do not record customer's payment details and only receive a Pay.gov response indicating if the payment is accepted or rejected.

c. The *eBilling Web Service* is a non-interactive service that allows agencies to set up billing accounts, send notices of payment due, and control billing account access. Agencies can specify whether or not a customer must log in to a Pay.gov account before they can access the ebill. Agencies can use the service when needed and Pay.gov processes eBilling requests upon receipt.

d. The *eBilling Online Web Service* is a non-interactive service that provides a way for agencies to create ebills using a system-to-system interface. It requires creation of line items that will be displayed to the customer. It adds the abilities (if configured) for customers to pay individual line items instead of the entire ebill, and to pay extra in addition to the ebill total. All ebills viewed online are created from a single Pay.gov-maintained template that allows for limited customization.

Agency cash flow applications using the *eBilling Online Web Service* can also be accessed on the interactive *eBilling Online Application*. The application must be used to create optional bill features and content used by the web service.

e. The *ACH Credit Web Service* is a non-interactive service that provides a way for agencies to create ACH Credit transactions on behalf of their customers through a system-to-system interface. Pay.gov records the transaction information and returns payment instructions to the agency, which in turn supplies them to the customer. The customer is obligated to complete the transaction by arranging an ACH funds transfer from their bank within 60 days, following the instructions provided. ACH Credit processing is conducted by the Credit Gateway, which informs Pay.gov and the CIR of transaction status and completion.

f. The *Billing Agreements Web Service* enables agency customers to set up a billing agreement with PayPal. The billing agreement allows customers to make payments from their PayPal accounts without having to sign in and enter the payment information.

The service is available to agencies collecting all transaction and payment information on their own systems. It is implemented by having the equivalent of an "Express Checkout" link on an agency's payment page. When clicked, the agency sends a payment authorization web service request to PayPal via Pay.gov and, if approved, follows it with a Force for the payment. This takes place in the background. The customer does not leave the agency's site.

g. The *Automatic Bill Payments Service* (AutoPay) enables payers for agency customers to set up agreements to automatically pay all bills issued to the customer by the agency. In their billing cash flow application's configuration, agencies have the option to allow agency users to set up AutoPay for a customer.

7. 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.

8. The *Billing Service* is maintained for existing Billing Service implementations only. New billing implementations should use the *eBilling Web Service.*

9. *The eBilling Online Application* allows agencies to interactively set up billing accounts, issue bills, and control bill access in real-time through an online interface. It is optimized for agencies issuing smaller numbers of bills. Agencies can create bills one-at-a-time or in batches of multiple bills. In addition, agencies can specify if signing in is required to view a bill. Agencies can use the service as needed.

Pay.gov creates bills and access codes and sends billing notifications to customers upon receipt and validation of the agency request.

10. The *Reporting Service* provides online and downloadable reports, which allow agencies to reconcile transactions with reports from other financial applications, such as the Collection Information Repository (CIR) or plastic card settlement agents.

11. The *Activity File Service* provides a number of different Activity Files that enable agencies to download information about transactions and payment methods taking place on a given day. A separate machine account (Pay.gov MGA role) is required for download. Agencies can use Activity Files to reconcile their collection transactions.

    Activity Files are not available through the Reporting Service. They are available only using the Activity File Service, Activity File Servlet, or system-to-system download.

Please contact your Bureau of the Fiscal Service representative or Pay.gov Customer Service if you are interested in using a Pay.gov Web Service.

3   Pay.gov 8.12 Enhancements and Changes

This section summarizes the major enhancements and changes included within this Pay.gov release.

3.1 System Improvements

- Pay.gov is implementing numerous changes to enhance availability and security, while aligning with the Federal Cyber Executive Order and Zero-Trust Architecture mandates. Additionally, Pay.gov software integrations and infrastructure components are being updated. These enhancements and modifications continue to modernize the underlying code base and provide stability to the Pay.gov system.

4   Documentation

Documentation has been updated and will be available at https://qa.pay.gov/agencydocs/starting the week of January 12, 2026.

5 Testing Environments

Service	Testing URL
Public Website	https://qa.pay.gov
ACH Credit Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSAchCreditService
Create Transactions	https://qa.pay.gov/myagency/ (select Create Transactions tile)
Collections API	
Collections API ACH Debit	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/ach/v1/debits
Collections API ACH Prenotification	https://stg.api/collections.pay.gov/ach/v1/prenotifications
Collections API ACH Cancel	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/ach/v1/cancelations
Collections API Plastic Card Sale	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/plastic-card/v1/sale
Collections API Plastic Card Authorization	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/plastic-card/v1/authorization
Collections API Plastic Card Force	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/plastic-card/v1/force
Collections API Plastic Card Void	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/plastic-card/v1/void
Collections API Plastic Card Refund	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/plastic-card/v1/refund
Collections API Inquiry Service	https://stg.api.collections.pay.gov/inquiry/v1/inquiry
eBilling	
eBilling Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/ebilling/services/eBillingService
Access Code Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/accesscode/services/AccessCodeService
eBilling Online Application	https://qa.pay.gov/myagency (select eBilling Online tile)
eBilling Online Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/EBillingOnlineService/1.0/

Service	Testing URL
Forms	
Forms Service	https://qa.pay.gov/public/ (select Forms to test with)
Pay a Form	https://qa.pay.gov/myagency/ (select Pay A Form tile)
Hosted Collection Pages (HCP)	
Hosted Collection Pages version 2.0	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/2.0/
Hosted Collection Pages version 2.1	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/2.1/
Hosted Collection Pages version 2.2	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/2.2/
Hosted Collection Pages version 3.0	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/3.0/
Hosted Collection Pages version 3.1	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/3.1/
Hosted Collection Pages version 3.2	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/3.2/
Hosted Collection Pages version 3.3	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSOnlineService/3.3/
Hosted Collection Pages User Redirect	https://qa.pay.gov/tcsonline/payment.do?token={InputValue}&tcsAppID={InputValue}
Trusted Collections Web Services (TCS)	
TCS Batch Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/tcsbatch/services/TCSBatchService
TCS Batch Results Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/tcsbatchresults/services/TCSBatchResultsService
TCS Plastic Card Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/services/TCSPlasticCardService/2.0

Service	Testing URL
TCS Single Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/tcscollections/services/TCSSingleService
TCS Single Credit Card SOAP Webservice	http://tstsoap.pfsweb.com:80/Pay.Gov.WebService.1.0.0.0/PayGovTCSSingleService.asmx
TCS Multiple Item Query Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/tcsmultipleitemquery/services/TCSMultipleItemQueryService
TCS Single Query Web Service	https://qa.tcs.pay.gov/tcssinglequery/services/TCSSingleQueryService
Reporting	
Activity Files	https://qa.pay.gov/ActivityDownload/ActivityDownload
Reporting Service	https://qa.pay.gov/myagency/ (select the Reporting tile)
Report Download Servlet	https://qa.pay.gov/paygov/ReportDownloadServlet

6 Customer Support

Customer support is provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Assistance with accessing the websites, hosted forms processing, collections, and other services is provided for agency customers. Technical support for agencies is also available, including problems with collection applications, balancing payments, database integrity, information security, and other issues relating to the smooth operation of the services provided by Pay.gov.

6.1 Contact Information

Hours:	8:00 am to 7:00 pm Eastern Time
	Monday through Friday, closed bank holidays
Phone:	(800) 624-1373
Email address:	pay.gov.clev@clev.frb.org