

# System Testing Regulation



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Acronyms used in this module:

- APD** – Advance Planning Document
- APDU** – Advance Planning Document Update
- FFP** – Federal Financial Participation
- FNS** – Food and Nutrition Service
- IAPD** – Implementation Advance Planning Document
- UAT** – User Acceptance Testing

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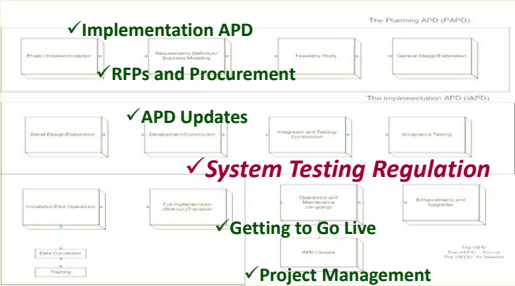
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You are here...

- ✓ APD Overview
  - ✓ Planning APD
    - ✓ Implementation APD
      - ✓ RFPs and Procurement
    - ✓ APD Updates
      - ✓ **System Testing Regulation**
    - ✓ Getting to Go Live
    - ✓ Project Management



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### Learning Outcomes

After completing this module, learners will know:

- ❖ What a Test Plan should contain
- ❖ Documentation to be submitted to FNS for UAT
- ❖ Documentation to be submitted to FNS for Pilot Testing



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### System Testing Regulation

- ❖ Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill) requires states to **adequately test** before and after implementation of a new system to include FNS evaluation of Testing Data before the Secretary can approve the system to be implemented more broadly.
- ❖ FNS Published a Final Rule on January 2, 2014, to **require System Testing**

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### System Testing

- ❖ Effective March 3, 2014, new requirements for system testing were implemented
- ❖ State Agencies are now required to provide to FNS:
  - ✓ A Test Plan
  - ✓ Results of User Acceptance Testing (must receive FNS concurrence before expanding to Pilot)
  - ✓ Results of Pilot Testing (must receive FNS concurrence before expanding to Statewide Implementation)

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### System Testing Impact

- ❖ FNS expects **Minimal Impact** on workload
- ❖ Most State Agencies already include testing in the overall Project Management and Risk Management planning process.

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### What Should be Included in a Test Plan?

- ❖ Type of Testing to be Performed, such as:
  - ✓ Unit testing
  - ✓ Integration testing
  - ✓ Performance testing
  - ✓ End-to-End testing
  - ✓ User Acceptance testing
  - ✓ Regression testing

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### What Should be Included in a Test Plan?

- ❖ Organization of the Test Team and associated responsibilities
  - ✓ Specify number and skill sets of staff to include Program staff, development and/or integrator staff, and quality assurance staff.
  - ✓ Identify who is responsible for testing management and oversight
  - ✓ Itemize testing software, equipment, workstation and testing facilities

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**What Should be Included in a Test Plan?**

- ❖ Testing Schedule to include, at a minimum, following milestones:
  - ✓ Pre-testing validation of functional requirements
  - ✓ Accepting system for UAT
  - ✓ Training on system and test procedures
  - ✓ UAT timeframe
  - ✓ UAT testing results (FNS approval required)
  - ✓ System acceptance for pilot implementation and testing

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**What Should be Included in a Test Plan?**

- ❖ In addition, the plan should also address:
  - ✓ Pilot testing results (FNS approval required)
  - ✓ System acceptance for implementation and Statewide roll-out
  - ✓ Statewide roll-out
  - ✓ Warranty period

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**What Should be Included in a Test Plan?**

- ❖ Acceptance testing methodology. Acceptance testing is the point at which the State agency "accepts" the system. The Plan should describe the methodology for:
  - ✓ Functional requirements testing
  - ✓ Error condition handling and destructive testing
  - ✓ Security testing
  - ✓ Recovery testing
  - ✓ Controls testing
  - ✓ Stress and throughput performance testing
  - ✓ Regression testing

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### What Should be Included in a Test Plan?

- ❖ Go/No-Go Criteria
  - ✓ Criteria should be specific and measurable
  - ✓ Include actual test results that need to be met
  - ✓ Identify staff responsible for verifying criteria and has authority to make the go/no-go decision

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### What Should be Included in a Test Plan?

- ❖ Contingency Plans
  - ✓ Address steps to be taken in response to an excessive failure rate or "no-go" decision. Examples include
    - ✓ delaying or revising staffing plans
    - ✓ rescheduling training
    - ✓ adjusting pilot plans
    - ✓ redeploying of testing resources such as space, staff, servers, equipment
  - ✓ Identify who has authority to activate contingency procedures and how the decisions will be made
  - ✓ Demonstrate the State is prepared to adjust and continue testing when necessary

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### When Should the Test Plan be Submitted?

- ❖ Preliminary test plan should be submitted in the initial IAPD
- ❖ Final test plan at least 60 days before testing begins
- ❖ Test results throughout the testing phase
- ❖ Test plan does not require formal FNS approval
- ❖ FNS will review test plan to ensure testing processes and methodologies are adequate

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### What Does the State have to Submit for FNS Approval?

- ❖ Documentation of the results of UAT must be submitted for FNS approval before a State can proceed from UAT to Pilot.
- ❖ Documentation of the Pilot test results must also be submitted to FNS for approval before the system can be implemented more broadly and to continue Federal funding.

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### What Should UAT Documentation Contain?

- ❖ Itemization of testing goals achieved, such as:
  - ✓ Number of test scenarios completed
  - ✓ Total universe of defects found by severity level
  - ✓ Number of defects resolved by severity level and successfully regression tested
  - ✓ Number of defects outstanding by severity level

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### What Should UAT Documentation Contain?

- ❖ Results of conversion test runs
- ❖ Status of interface testing
- ❖ Results of system security testing
- ❖ Other pertinent readiness issues such as network, facility, equipment, training
- ❖ Go/No-Go decision with justification of decision to either move forward or delay project

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### What Should Pilot Documentation Contain?

- ❖ Itemization of pilot testing goals in process or achieved, such as:
  - ✓ Number of cases processed in new system
  - ✓ Total universe of defects going into pilot by severity level
  - ✓ Number of new defects by severity level
  - ✓ Number of defects by severity level resolved and regression tested
  - ✓ Number of defects outstanding by severity level

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### What Should Pilot Documentation Contain?

- ❖ Results of conversion to pilot
- ❖ Management strategy for post-conversion clean-up required
- ❖ Assurance by interface partners they are satisfied with functionality of interfaces
- ❖ Other pertinent readiness issues such as network, facility, equipment, training
- ❖ Go/No-Go decision with justification of decision to either move forward to full implementation or delay project

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### Testing Regulation

- ❖ Changes the due date of an APDU

FROM

• 90 DAYS  
• AFTER

TO

• 60 DAYS  
• PRIOR

To the expiration of FFP (= the date of the last approved APD)

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## Testing Regulation

- ❖ Specifies that the threshold for service agreements applies to federally aided public assistance programs, rather than SNAP alone.
- ❖ Provides clarification and updates which have occurred since it was last updated in 1996.

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## Review - Learning Outcomes

After completing this module, learners will know:

- ❖ What a Test Plan should contain
- ❖ Documentation to be submitted to FNS for UAT
- ❖ Documentation to be submitted to FNS for Pilot Testing



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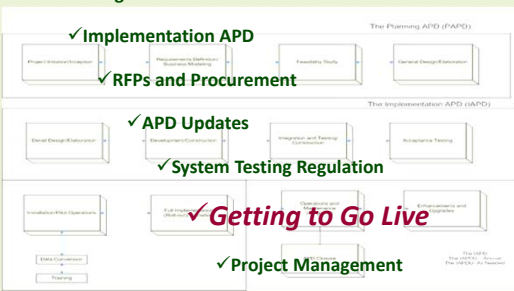
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## Your next goal...

- ✓ APD Overview
- ✓ Planning APD
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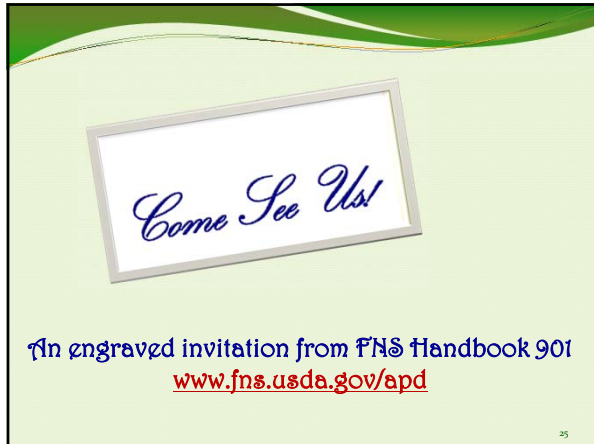
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