

PACER Quarterly Announcements

July 2021 | pacer.uscourts.gov

New PCL APIs Coming Soon; Legacy PCL Retiring in December

API Release

In late summer/early fall 2021, application programming interfaces (APIs) for the PACER Case Locator (PCL) and PACER authentication will be released. The new APIs will simplify access to PACER and PCL data for automated script users.

APIs in QA

In July, the new APIs and documentation will be available in the QA environment at qa-login.uscourts.gov/file-case/developer-resources. This will allow users to prepare for the release and test scripts as part of their development life cycle process.

To use QA, you need a PACER account in that environment. If you do not have one, register for a test account at qa-pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/pscof/registration.jsf. You may skip the credit card portion of the registration, as there is no charge to search in QA. Your account will be activated overnight.

NOTE: The QA environment is a testing site that may occasionally be unavailable due to maintenance. In addition, there may be features in QA that are not currently available in the Production environment.

Legacy PCL

Following the PCL API release, the legacy PCL website (pcl-legacy.uscourts.gov) will be retired on Dec. 31, 2021. At that point, the updated PCL (pcl.uscourts.gov), which launched in December 2017, will be the only source for PCL access.

For More Information

For more API information, check out the PCL API Q&A here: pacer.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/files/PCL_API_TownHall_QAs_Dec2020.pdf.

If you need help setting up a QA account, contact the PACER Service Center at (800) 676-6856 or pacer@psc.uscourts.gov.

Sign Up for PACER Announcements

You can sign up on the PACER website to receive PACER announcements by email. Visit pacer.uscourts.gov and go to the Email Updates section on the bottom right.

Enter your email address and click **Sign up** to have the latest PACER news delivered right to your inbox.

User Tips & Reminders

Getting Faster, More Efficient PSC Support via Email

When you contact the PACER Service Center (PSC) for help, please include the following information in your message to ensure you get the help you need, when you need it:

- Account number and username
- Specific federal court your issue involves, if applicable
- Your specific issue (e.g., login reset questions)

NOTE: The PSC cannot locate accounts by state bar number.

PACER Fee

Remittance Address

Please note the current PACER fee remittance address. To avoid a payment delay, mail checks to the following address:

**U.S. Courts: PACER
P.O. Box 5208
Portland, OR 97208-5208**

Updating Your Account

To update your PACER account information:

- Visit Manage Your Account at pacer.uscourts.gov.
- Click **Manage Your Account**.
- Click **Manage My Account Login**.

OR

- Click **Log in to...** at the top right on pacer.uscourts.gov.
- Click **Manage PACER Account** and log in to **Manage My Account**.

Questions or comments regarding information in the announcement?

Email pacer@psc.uscourts.gov or call (800) 676-6856.

NextGen CM/ECF Resources

The PACER website offers a wealth of information on converting to NextGen CM/ECF. The NextGen section of the site walks users through the steps they need to take to prepare for the upgrade.

Go to pacer.uscourts.gov and click **Move to NextGen CM/ECF**. Then select **Get Ready for NextGen CM/ECF** to find out more about:

- The benefits of NextGen.
- How to smoothly transition to NextGen.
- Changes to PACER Administrative Accounts (PAAs).

PSC Information

PSC hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CT, Monday through Friday.

The PSC is closed for the following holidays:

Labor Day: September 6
Columbus Day: October 11
Veterans Day: November 11
Thanksgiving: November 25
Christmas: December 24

Billing Information

- PSC accepts Discover, VISA, MasterCard, and American Express. Log in to Manage Your Account at pacer.uscourts.gov to pay by credit card.
- PSC federal tax ID: 74-2747938.
- A fee of \$53 will be assessed if your payment is returned.
- Accounts with credit cards on file will be auto-billed up to 7 days prior to the due date.

14 Courts Convert to NextGen in Q2

In the second quarter, 14 courts implemented the next generation case management/electronic case files (NextGen CM/ECF) system:

- Alabama Middle District
- California Central Bankruptcy
- Florida Middle District
- Illinois Central District
- Illinois Northern Bankruptcy
- Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (JPML)
- Maryland Bankruptcy
- Michigan Eastern Bankruptcy
- New York Northern Bankruptcy
- Oklahoma Eastern Bankruptcy
- South Dakota District
- Utah Bankruptcy
- Vermont District
- Virginia Eastern District

To date, 138 courts have converted. The following information covers what you should do when your court announces it will convert.

- If you have a PACER account, ensure it is upgraded. Log in to Manage Your Account at pacer.uscourts.gov.
- If you do not have a PACER account, use this link to create one: pacer.uscourts.gov/register-account.
- After your court converts, you must link your e-filing account to your PACER account.
 - ◆ For an overview on linking, go to: pacer.uscourts.gov/file-case/get-ready-nextgen-cmecf.
 - ◆ For instructions on linking accounts, go to: pacer.uscourts.gov/help/cmecf.

Continue to check your court's website for more information on when it will convert to NextGen.

PACER Fees: How Users Are Charged

Access to case information through PACER costs \$.10 per page. If you accrue \$30 or less in a quarter, your fees are waived. The following describes how PACER fees are applied.

- Fees are \$.10 per page, with a cap of \$3.00 (30 pages) for:
 - ◆ Case documents (excluding transcripts)
 - ◆ Docket sheets
 - ◆ Case-specific reports
- The fee cap **does not** apply to:
 - ◆ Transcripts
 - ◆ Non-case-specific reports
- Court hearing audio files via PACER cost \$2.40 per file.

There is no additional fee to print or save information after accessing. Your PACER account will be billed for all use.

To learn more about PACER fees, the electronic public access fee schedule is available at: uscourts.gov/services-forms/fees/electronic-public-access-fee-schedule.