

BUSINESS ONLINE BANKING Positive Pay

ALERUS

Treasury Management Solutions Center

800.279.3200 | treasury@alerus.com

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Positive pay is a transaction management system that offers both check positive pay and ACH positive pay. It provides business clients a powerful fraud prevention tools tailored to their transaction management needs. The positive pay system allows users to issue checks and create ACH rules, allowing the platform to verify transactions during the clearing process. If items do not match the preloaded information, the user can review and decision any exceptions.

The positive pay application includes the following features:

- Issued check management (Including file mapping)
- ACH positive pay rules management
- Check file maintenance
- Access to daily exceptions (check and/or ACH)

Exception Processing

Exceptions are transactions that have posted to your business account but do not match a previously issued item or ACH authorization rule. If you import issued checks and have scrubbing enabled, you will be notified by 8 a.m. CT if you have exceptions to decision. If you are not importing issued items, or don't have scrubbing enabled, you will be notified after the nightly update (typically by 5 a.m. CT) if you have exceptions to decision. Exceptions must be completed by the cut-off time the same business day. Any items not decisioned prior to cut-off will be processed according to the account's default decision. To find the exception decision cut-off time, please refer to the treasury management cut-off and retention document located in the Treasury Management Resources Center (accessible via Resources > TM Resource Center from the business online banking home screen) or contact our Treasury Management Solutions Center for assistance.

Quick Exception Processing

You will receive an email if you have exceptions to be decisioned.

Note: Notifications can be controlled in the user setup within the Advanced Options of the positive pay system. See User Setup for more details.

Exceptions may be ACH or check items, depending on which services are enabled for your company. From the home screen of business online banking, go to Fraud Management > Positive Pay.

Check Exceptions

Check exceptions are items that do not match previously issued checks. You will have the opportunity to review each exception and determine if the item should remain paid or be returned. It is very important to complete any exception decisions prior to the decision cut-off time. Any items not decisioned will be processed based on the account default decision. When issuing checks, exceptions should be rare. If you receive excessive exceptions you feel should not need to be decisioned, please contact our Treasury Management Solutions Center team for assistance.

Exceptions can be detected for a variety of reasons. Here is a list of the most common reasons:

- Paid not issued Item was paid on the account, and this item was not issued.
- Payee mismatch (if enabled) The payee's name on the issued item does not match the payee's name on the paid check.
- Amount mismatch The amount of the paid item does not match the amount for the issued check number.
- **Stale dated** The item paid on the account more than six months after the issued date.
 - If you note a shorter timeframe for expiration of issued checked, the stale dated timeframe can be lowered to match. For example, rebate checks typically expire in 60 or 90 days.

- **Voided** The paid item was previously voided in the positive pay system.
- **Duplicate** The paid item was previously paid.

You can view all account exceptions at the same time or select All Accounts and select a specific account to review. Status of Decision Needed will display items that need to be reviewed. Select the item to review from the list on the left. On the right you will see the item. Click the image to enlarge the view.

Determine if this is a valid check:

- If so, select Pay below the check image.
 - Reason (optional). If the item should be paid, but the amount was encoded incorrectly at the bank of first deposit, you may select a reason which will instruct our deposit operations team to correct your item for your transaction history and statement. To match an incorrect check number to the issued item, select **Launch Advanced Options** in the upper right of the screen. Select Quick Exception Processing and find the item to be corrected. Select Correct, search for the issued check number, select the reason (Incorrect Check Number), enter notes regarding the change, then select Save.



If not, select Return, then select the reason for return. Options include: altered/fictitious check, duplicate check, irregular endorsement, endorsement missing, or stale dated.

Select **Submit Decisions** when finished. This can be done as you are making individual decisions or after all decisions are completed. The Total Decisioned amount will update each time you select Submit Decisions.



ACH Exceptions

ACH exceptions are items that do not match a previously created ACH authorization rule and are noted as unauthorized ACH in the exceptions list. You will have the opportunity to review each exception and determine if the item should remain paid or be returned. It is very important to complete any exception decisions prior to the decision cut-off. Any items not decisioned will be processed based on the account default decision.

You can view all account exceptions at the same time or select All Accounts and select a specific account

to review. Status of Decision Needed will display items that need to be reviewed. Select the item to review from the list on the left. On the right you will see the item.

Determine if the ACH is valid.

If the transaction should remain paid, select **Pay**. When selecting Pay for the ACH transaction, you can **Add ACH Rule** if desired, so future transactions

\$4.86 Unauthorized ACH Transaction Account Name: Alerus Test 1804 Account Number: *****1804 Paid Date: 8/27/2025 SEC Code: CCD Description: Alerus Test AP Test Y450140105 Transaction Type: Debit Company ID: Y450140105 Return + Add ACH Rule

from this ACH originator will post to your account without requiring review.



When Add ACH Rule is selected, additional options will be displayed.

■ Company ID - This is the identifier for the ACH originator. The system will validate the saved settings when this ACH originator (using this ACH company ID) processes transactions on your account in the future.

Note: If the ACH originator processes the same transaction to more than one of your business accounts. A rule would need to be created for each account as desired.

Description – This is a nickname for the ACH originator to help you identify the rule in the future. (Within the Launch Advanced Options this will be the "ACH Rule.") This field is not used for validation, so it does not need to match the ACH originator.

+ Add ACH Rule

SEC Code

() CCD

All SEC Codes

Company ID: Y450140105

1 To make further changes to this rule, please log in to ETMS

Transaction type

Debit only

Credit only O Both Credit and Debit

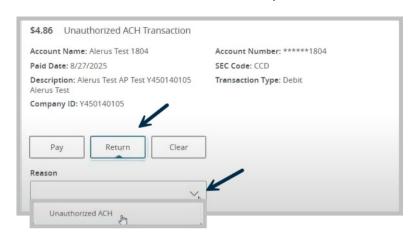
5

- SEC code The type of ACH transaction used will be selected. This can remain checked, or you can select All SEC codes if desired.
- Transaction type This will default to the type of transaction paid in this instance.
- Max amount This will default to the amount of this transaction. This can be updated as desired.

The amount in this field will be the maximum amount per transaction allowed from this ACH originator.

If the item is not valid, select **Return**, then select the Unauthorized ACH reason.

Select Submit Decisions once complete. This can be done as you are making individual decisions or after all decisions are completed.





Can I update exception decisions already made?

Decisioned exceptions can be updated any time prior to cut-off on the date the exceptions are presented. Once the cut-off has passed, the system will process the decisions as indicated. If decisions are not completed by cut-off, the system will use the account default decision.

To change a decisioned item, go to Fraud Management > Positive Pay. On the Exceptions tab, select an account and change the Status to Decisioned. This will display the decisioned items. Make the necessary changes, then select **Submit Decisions** to update the changes.

Note: If you are changing the decision on an ACH exception and you originally created an ACH rule, you may need to adjust or remove the rule if it no longer applies. See ACH Authorization Rules for instructions on how to edit or delete a rule.

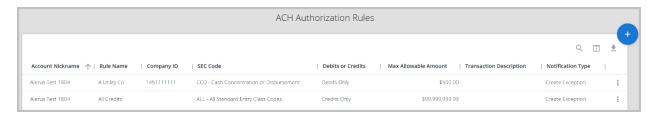
ACH Authorization Rules

To maintain ACH Authorization Rules, go to Fraud Management > Positive Pay, then select Launch **Advanced Option** on the upper right of the screen.

On the left menu, select Transaction Processing, then select ACH Authorization Rules. This will display a listing of all ACH rules previously created.

Add an ACH Authorization Rule

To create a new rule from scratch, select the **blue plus circle** in the upper right of the screen. You will need to know the ACH originator's ACH company ID to build a debit rule for the originator. If this is the first time the originator will be processing a transaction on your account, you will need to obtain their ACH company ID.



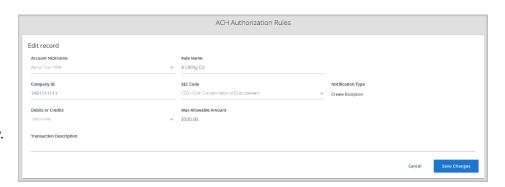
Note: It is often easier to allow the first transaction to post to your account and add the rule at the same time you are paying the exception.

- Account nickname Select the account that will receive the ACH transaction.
- Rule name Create a nickname to help you identify the rule in the future. The rule name is not used for validation, so it does not need to match the ACH originator.
- **Company ID** ACH company ID as provided by the originator.
- SEC code This will default to All-All SEC Codes. This will allow the ACH originator to process any type of ACH transactions on your account. If you want to restrict this option, select the allowed SEC code from the drop-down.
- Debits or credits Specify if this originator can process debits only, credits only, or both on this account.
- Max amount Enter the maximum amount this ACH originator is allowed to process (based on the debits or credits selection) per transaction. If left blank, any amount up to the system maximum can be processed by this originator.
- **Transaction description** This is an optional field. When used, the system will compare the transaction description to the posting transaction. If the transaction description in the rule is contained in the posting transaction description, the item will be paid, otherwise an exception will be presented, (e.g., a rule with the transaction description, "credit card payment," would apply when a transaction is posted with the description of, "American Express credit card payment," but would not apply when a transaction is posted with the description of "credit card e-payment").

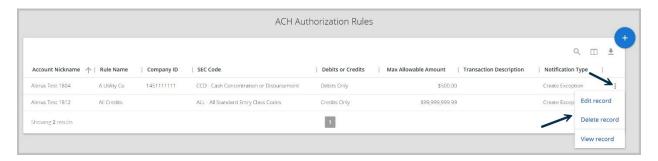
Once all fields are entered, select Save Changes or Save and Add More as appropriate.

Edit/Delete an ACH Authorization Rule

Edit or delete a rule by selecting the ellipsis (3 dots) on the right side of the ACH Authorization Rule row. Select the appropriate option.



After editing an ACH authorization rule, select **Save Changes** to apply the updates.



If deleting an ACH authorization rule, you will be prompted to confirm the action. Click **Delete** to remove the rule.



Check Positive Pay Overview

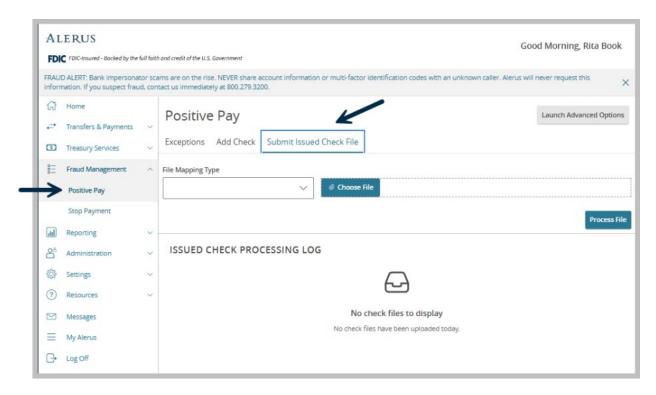
Check positive pay is a fraud prevention tool that verifies checks being presented for payment on your business account.

Traditional or payee check positive pay clients upload issued check files when printing checks. When items are posted to the account, the system will match the information from the issued check information. If the check does not match the issued information, the user will have the opportunity to review and decision the item(s) to determine if they should remain paid or be returned.

Reverse check positive pay clients do not upload issued check files. All paid checks are flagged as exceptions for review. Users are asked to review each item and decide whether it should be paid or returned.

Uploading an Issued Check File

Go to Fraud Management > Positive Pay, then select the Submit Issued Check File tab. Select the File Mapping Type and Choose File to upload a file from your desktop. Select Process file to upload the file.



File Mapping Type

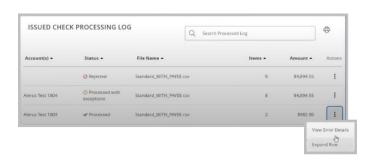
The system is prepopulated with two standard file formats. Please see the Positive Pay Issued File Check guide for details.

Whenever possible, import a raw data file from your system. The platform can accommodate .xlsx, .csv and .txt file formats. If your raw file does not match one of our standard formats, please see Mapping an Issued Check File or contact the Treasury Management Solutions Center for assistance.

The system will validate the information compared to the selected file mapping type and report the uploading outcome. To view additional details, check the file status in the Status column.

- Processed The file was successfully uploaded.
- **Processed with exceptions** Some of the issued items were uploaded, but others had errors and could not be issued.
- **Rejected** The file included errors and could not be uploaded.







View details of errors within imported check files by selecting the ellipsis (3 dots) to the right of the row. This will display the error details.

Expand the row to view a summary of the issued items.





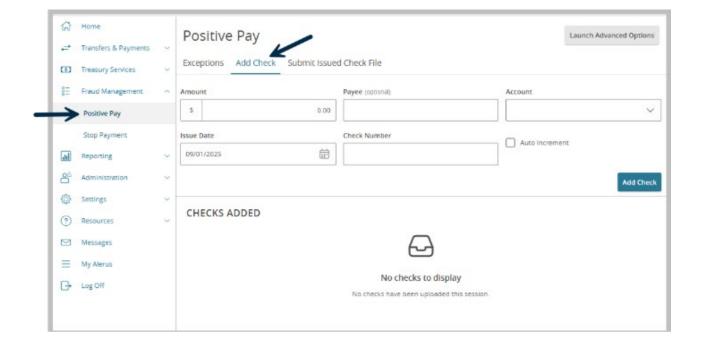
Manually Entering Issued Checks

Go to **Fraud Management > Positive Pay**, then select **Add Check**.

Enter the check information, then select Add Check.

Note: If you are set up with Payee Match, it is important that the payee name is entered exactly as it is printed on the check.

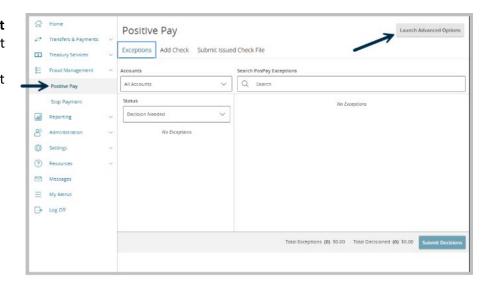
Note: Select Auto Increment to automatically enter the next check number when entering a series of checks.



Advanced Options

Launch Advanced Options allows you to complete exceptions, add checks, and submit issued checks files. In addition, you can void a check; add, review, and update ACH authorization rules; and complete a variety of transaction searches and reports.

Go to Fraud Management > **Positive Pay**, then select **Launch Advanced Options** in the upper right corner. This will open the positive pay system.

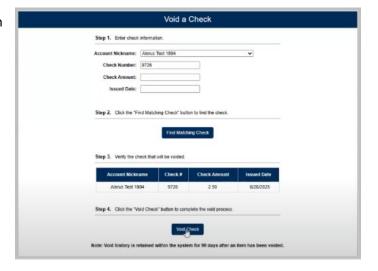


Manually Void a Check

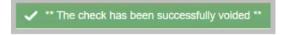
From Advanced Options on the left side menu, select Transaction Processing, then select Void a Check.

Select **Account Nickname**, enter information to assist in retrieving the issued item, then click Find Matching Check.

Verify the details on the matching check. If the check needs to be voided, select Void Check.



When complete, a green confirmation bar will appear at the top of the screen indicating the check has been successfully voided.



Check Search

From Advanced Options, on the left side menu, select **Transaction Processing**, then select **Check Search**. Select the search criteria then select **Search** in the lower right side of the screen.

Note: If a check is converted to ACH, it will appear in the ACH transaction search instead of this page. Checks are converted to ACH if the transaction has a check number and is one of the following SEC codes: BOC, ARC, POP, or RCK.



- **Account nickname** Optionally select a specific account. If no accounts are selected, the system will search all available accounts assigned to the user.
- **Check status** The status of the check you would like to run reporting for.
- Check number from/Check number to Search transactions based on the check number. If you are searching for a specific check number, enter the number in both fields.
- Date The type of date you would like to run the check search report for.
- Date from/Date to Search transactions based on the date or date range the item was excepted. If you are searching for a specific date, enter the date in both fields. Select Show additional options for additional search criteria as desired.
- Amount from/Amount to Search for transactions based on the check amount. If you are searching for a specific amount, enter the amount in both fields.
- **Decision** Limits the search to a specific pay/return decision.
- **Reason** Limits the search to the reason selected.
- **Issued payee** Limits the search to specific payee names. You can enter all or part of the payee name.

The system will display search results based on the criteria you provide.

Results page

On this page, you can perform the following actions:

- Drag a column header to reorder columns.
- Search and filter columns by selecting the search icon. Search all results or within a specific column.
- Add or remove columns from the report by selecting the columns icon.
- Export search results to Microsoft Excel, PDF, or CSV by selecting the export icon.
- Take action on an individual search result by selecting the options icon. Actions include:
 - View record—opens the item's history for detailed information.
 - Edit record—opens the item for editing. Issued items that have not yet been paid can be edited.



Select the ellipsis (3 dots) on the right side of the row to access additional options for that item. This includes viewing the check image if it has already been paid, editing or deleting the item if it has not been paid, or viewing the issued record details.



Mapping an Issued Check File

The system supports most file formats, including .xlsx, .csv, and .txt. The system is prepopulated with two standard formats: standard with payee and standard no payee. While you can map your file to one of these, the system also allows mapping to match your accounting software's output. If you need assistance mapping your issued check file, please contact our Treasury Management Solutions Center.

Users can also map the file in the Advanced Options. Go to Fraud **Management > Positive Pay**, then select **Launch Advanced Options**.



From the positive pay system, select Client Setup, then File Mapping on the left side menu.

The minimum information required to issue checks is:

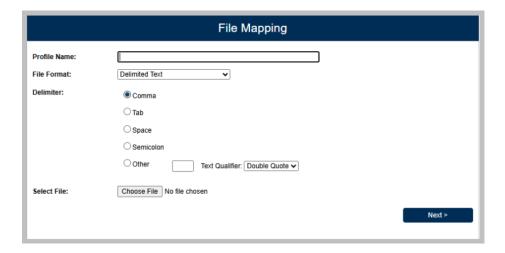
- Check number
- Amount
- Issued date
- Issued payee (optional)

The system can accommodate this information in any column order; it can also ignore extra columns of information.



Note: You will need a file sample to complete mapping. To add a new file mapping, select Add New at the lower right of the screen.

- **Profile name** The name of the file format. It is recommended to include the company name.
- File format Select the file format from the drop-down list.
 - Delimited text .csv formatted file
 - Fixed width format .txt formatted file
 - Microsoft Excel .xlsx formatted file
- **Delimiter** This indicates what separates the fields of information within a .csv file. For fixed width format and Microsoft Excel formats, these options will be greyed out.
- Select file Click Choose File to select a file sample from your computer.



- **File does not contain issued date** When selected, the system uses the upload date as the issued date and ignores any issued date in the file.
- First row contains column names When selected, the system ignores the top row that includes column names. If selected, you do not need to include this in the skip rows from beginning as well.
- **Skip rows at the beginning** When selected, the system will ignore the number of rows at the beginning of the file as indicated in the field to the right of this option.
- Skip rows at the ending When selected, the system will ignore the number of rows at the end of the file as indicated in the field to the right of this option.
- File totals options:
 - **Require file totals** This will require the total number of items and the total dollar amount to be entered when submitting a file.
 - Obtain totals from file The system checks assigned fields to validate the items and/or dollar amount in the file. If selected.

enter the field number where this information is located.

 Do not require file totals – This allows the file to be uploaded without validating the number of items and totals.

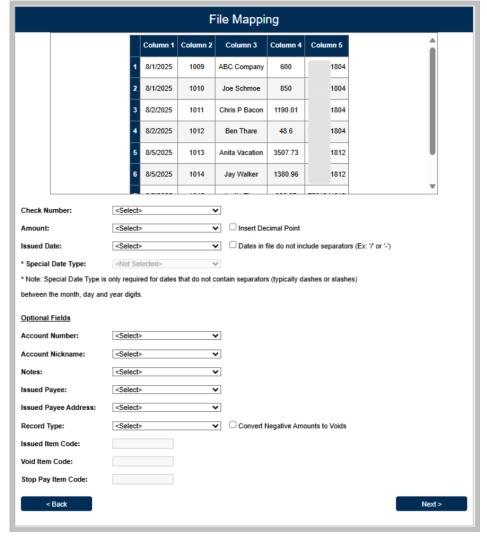
Once selections are completed, click **Next** to continue mapping.



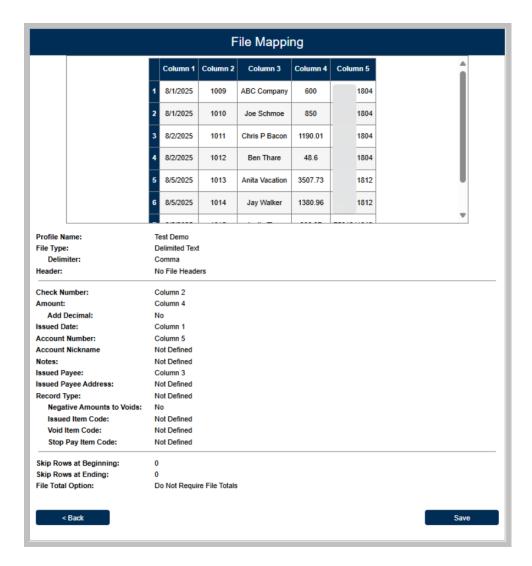
For each value in the file, select the corresponding column. (This example is a .csv file.)

- Check number The column number that includes issued check numbers.
- Amount The column number that includes issued check amounts.
 - Insert decimal point When selected, the system will enter a decimal point if it is not included in the data file, (e.g., a check is written for \$603.19 and the data in the file shows the amount as 60319).
- **Issued date** The column number that includes the issued dates. If indicated on the previous screen that the file does not contain an issued date, the system will automatically assign the upload date as the issued date.
 - Dates in file do not include separators When selected, this makes the special date type drop-down available. Choose your preferred format to display dates in the data file, (e.g., MMDDYY, MMDDYYYY, YYMMDD, DDMMYYYY, etc.).
- Account number (optional) The column number that includes the issued check account numbers. When selected, this allows you to upload one file with all checks included for one or multiple accounts. By indicating the account number, the system automatically assigns the issued items to the appropriate accounts.
- Issued payee (optional) The column number that includes the payee name. When selected, the system verifies the issued payee name to the payee name on the check when it posts to your business account. It is important the payee name matches identically to the payee name on the printed check.
- Record type (optional) The column that includes an indicator, noting if the issued item is being issued or voided. When selected, this allows you to upload a file including both issued and voided items. The system will automatically update any previously issued items that are not voided in the uploaded file.
- Issued item code –The indicator for an issued item, (e.g., "I" for issued). This can be any indicator as long as it is consistent with each file.
- Void item code The indicator for a voided item, (e.g., "V" for void). This can be any indicator as long as it is consistent with each file.

When selections are completed, click **Next** to continue mapping.



The system will recap the file mapping selections. Verify, then select Save. If there are errors, select Back to go to the appropriate page and make adjustments. Once saved, the file will be available for immediate use.



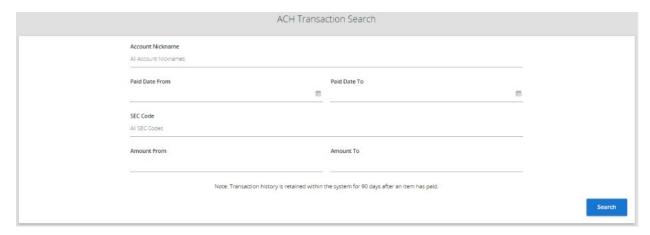
ACH Transaction Search

Use the ACH Transaction Search page to review posted ACH transactions. Only transactions with valid ACH standard entry class (SEC) codes or ACH transaction codes will be shown.

Note: If a check is converted to ACH, it will appear in this search instead of in Check Search. Checks are converted to ACH if the transaction has a check number and is one of the following SEC Codes: BOC, ARC, POP, or RCK.

Selection Page

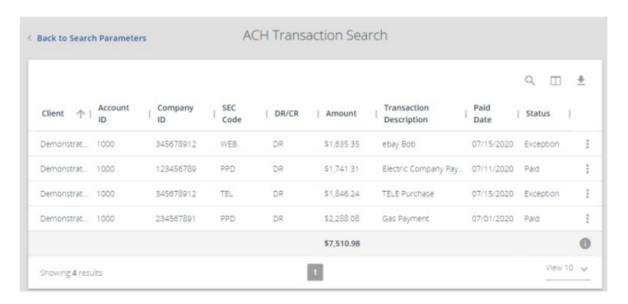
- **Account nickname** (Optional) Select a specific account. If no accounts are selected the system searches for all available accounts assigned to the user.
- Paid date from/Paid date to Search for transactions by the date or date range the item was posted. If you are searching for a specific date, enter the date in both fields.
- **SEC code** Search for transactions by ACH SEC code.
- **Amount from/Amount to** Search for transactions by the amount of the item posted. If you are searching for a specific amount, enter the amount in both fields.



Results page

On this page, you can perform the following actions:

- Drag a column header to reorder columns.
- Search and filter columns by selecting the search icon. Search all results or within a specific column.
- Add or remove columns from the report by selecting the columns icon.
- Export search results to Microsoft Excel, PDF, or CSV by selecting the export icon.
- Take action on an individual search result by selecting the options icon. Actions include:
 - View audit history—opens the item's history for detailed information.
 - View record—opens the item for editing.



User Setup

Administrative users can add, edit, and archive users in the Advanced Options of the positive pay system.

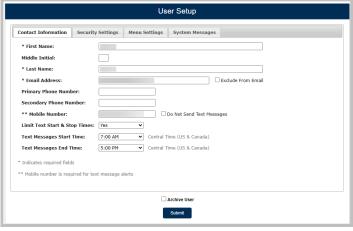


To add a new user, select Add New at the lower right of the user list. On the Contact Information tab, enter the user First Name, Lase Name, and Email Address. Phone numbers are not necessary on this system. If this user wants to receive text message notifications, enter their mobile number in that field. Mobile text times are set up by default but can be adjusted as desired.

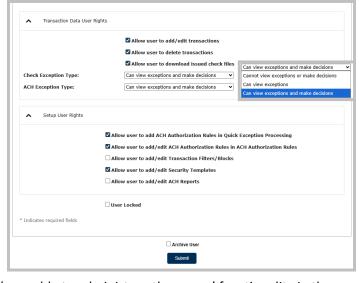
On the Security Settings tab, enter the username (preferable to match business online banking system). Password and Verify Password can be left blank. Select accounts this user should have access to for positive pay.

Scroll down and click on the "carrot" to expand the Transaction Date User Rights and Setup User Rights menus. Make selections as appropriate.

- Allow user to add/edit transactions
- Allow user to delete transactions
- Allow user to download issued check
- Check and ACH Exception Types
 - Cannot view exceptions and make decisions
 - Can view exceptions
 - Can view exceptions and make decisions
- Allow user to add ACH Authorization Rules in Quick Exception Processing (user able to build ACH rule from within business online banking system when decisioning exceptions)
- Allow user to add/edit ACH Authorization Rules in ACH Authorization Rules
- Allow user to add/edit Transaction Filters/Blocks (not needed)
- Allow user to add/edit Security Templates (user able to administer other users' functionality in the positive pay system
- Allow user to add/edit ACH Reports (not needed)







On the Menu Settings tab, select the User Security Template for administrators if available. If the new user should not administer other users, you can select to create new template which will default all selected options available to the administrator user, then you could unselect Company Setup – User to remove the administrator ability. If you need help with these features, call our Treasury Management Solutions Center for assistance.

On the System Messages tab, select which notifications the user should receive.

- No exceptions no exceptions to be decisioned that business day
- ACH reporting file sent as email attachment (not needed)
- ACH reporting system new file notification (not needed)
- Exception notification user has check exceptions to review and decisions for that business day
- Reminder to process exceptions user still has exceptions to review 90 minutes prior to cutoff
- Filtered/blocked transaction notification (not needed)
- Unauthorized ACH transaction notification user has ACH exceptions to review and decision for that business day
- Issued file processing status notification sent on the status of the uploaded file when issued checks are uploaded
- New ACH authorization rule added user would like to be notified when new ACH authorization has been created
- New transaction filter/block added (not needed)

When changes are complete, select **Submit** to retain the updates.

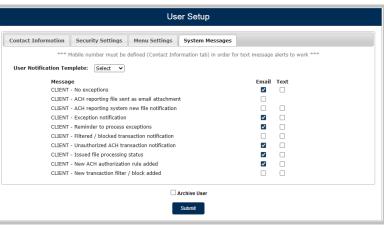
Linking Positive Pay and Online Banking Systems for the User

Once the user has been added in the positive pay platform, there are two additional steps to link the systems together for the user.

Enable features for the user in business online banking by selecting **Administration > User Administration**. Look for the Roles column on the User Management page.









For companies that do not utilize user roles, select the pencil next to the user being connected to positive pay.

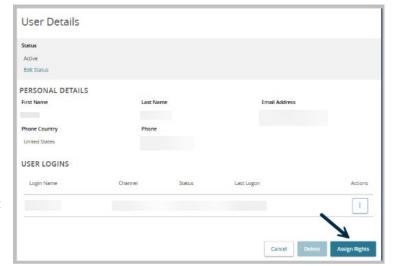


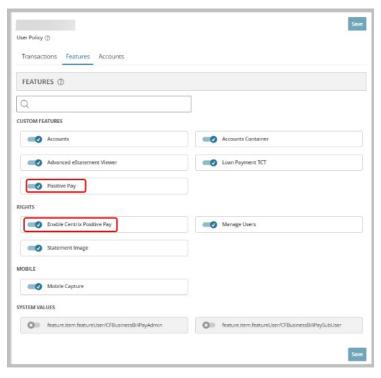


On the User Details screen, select Assign Rights.

On the right screen, click on the Features tab. Verify that positive pay and enable Centrix positive pay features are enabled. If not, click the icon and toggle the feature to "on," then select **Save** to retain the changes.

Next, contact the Treasury Management Solutions Center for assistance completing the additional step.







For companies that utilize user roles, go to Administration > User Roles, then select the pencil next to the user role you want to update.



Click on the Features tab. Verify the positive pay and enable Centrix positive pay features are enabled. If not, click the icon and toggle the feature to "on," then select **Save** to retain the changes.

Changes will impact any users attached to this User Role. There is one additional step to complete the connection. Contact the Treasury Management Solutions Center for assistance.

