

Instructions for Requesting an Extension of Time

When is a submission timely filed in ACCESS?

- A submission is timely if it is filed in *its entirety* by the due date.
- A submission is due no later than 5:00 pm ET on the due date, unless another time is specified.

What if I can't file my submission on time?

Scenario 1: I need more time to prepare my submission.

- File a letter in ACCESS requesting an extension of time.
- Provide the reason for the request, the date to which you want the deadline extended, and what progress you have made so far.
- Your extension letter must be filed before the deadline.
- If your submission is one that is due from multiple parties simultaneously (e.g., separate rate application, case brief), you must file your extension request before 10:00 am on the due date.

Scenario 2: I am encountering ACCESS filing difficulties.

- File a letter in ACCESS requesting an extension of time. (See Scenario 1).
- If an ACCESS technical issue prohibits you from filing the extension request, contact the ACCESS help desk at 202-482-3150 or access@trade.gov and request assistance.
- Call or email the analyst in charge to notify them of the ACCESS filing difficulties.
- Be prepared to document the actions you have taken.

Scenario 3: I have another type of emergency.

- File a letter in ACCESS requesting an extension of time due to the emergency. (See Scenario 1).
- extension request in ACCESS due to the emergency, call or email the analyst in charge to notify them of the emergency.
- Be prepared to document the actions you have taken.

I filed an extension request. What happens next?

Scenario 1a: I filed an extension request before the deadline and received an extension.

- File your submission on the new due date, by the specified time.
- Make sure you have received the extension in writing and follow any instructions in that writing.

Scenario 1b: I filed an extension request before the deadline on the due date.

 Call or email the analyst in charge when you file the request to determine whether your extension request will be granted.

Scenario 2: I experienced filing difficulties yet was able to file an extension request right before the deadline. However, it is now after 5:00 pm on the due date, and I still haven't received a response.

- If you could not meet the deadline because of ACCESS filing difficulties or other technical issues, you automatically get until 8:30 am the next business day to file your submission.
- If the ACCESS filing difficulties or other technical issues persist past 8:30 am the next business day, call or email the analyst in charge.

Scenario 3: I filed an extension request after the deadline.

 If you did not already include this in your extension request, you may file another letter explaining why extraordinary circumstances* prevented you filing an extension request before the deadline.

Still have questions? Contact the analyst in charge for additional guidance.

^{*}Examples of extraordinary circumstances include a natural disaster, riot, war, *force majeure*, or medical emergency. Examples that are unlikely to be considered extraordinary circumstances include insufficient resources, inattentiveness, or the inability of a party's representative to access the Internet on the day on which the submission was due. *See Extension of Time Limits*, Final Rule, 78 FR 57790, 57793 (Sept. 20, 2013).