Q: How do I validate my ACA XML Files Schema that is generated using ACA XML File Creation (BN299)?

A: Use an XML Reader program for validating ACA Manifest XML File and ACA Forms XML File against the IRS schema.

When should I validate XML data against the IRS Schemas?

1. Prior to submitting to the IRS AIRS website, it will help alleviate data errors and reject statuses from the IRS.
2. XML Files that are transmitted to the IRS and
	1. Rejected:
		1. A fatal error was identified while processing the Transmission metadata.
		2. Schema validation failed on the Forms XML File.
		3. Each Submission within the Transmission had a sufficiently high number of errors that it was rejected as unusable data which exceeds the IRS acceptable error threshold.
	2. Partially Accepted:
		1. At least one Submission within the Transmission was Accepted (with or without errors)
		2. At least one Submission within the Transmission was Rejected as unusable data which exceeds the IRS acceptable error threshold.

Example of an IRS Schema Validation Error:

**Error Code Error Details**

AIRSH100 XML Schema Validation Failed – not well formed or missing required elements.

How to validate ACA Manifest XML Schema:

**STEP 1**: Start the XML Reader.

**STEP 2**: File > Open > Browse to Manifest XML File that was generated by ACA XML File Creation (BN299).

**STEP 3**: Download the IRS Schema (if haven’t done so already).

<https://www.irs.gov/for-Tax-Pros/Software-Developers/Affordable-Care-Act-Information-Returns-Schemas>

* **ACA AIR 7.0 B-C Form Schema Package v7.0 10292015**

**STEP 4**: Assign the IRS Schema for ACA Manifest XML; this is done by browsing out to the IRS Schema you have downloaded and locating the following file in the MSG folder.

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* + **Manifest**: IRS-ACAUserInterfaceHeaderMessage.xsd

**STEP 5**: Process to validate Manifest XML File.

**STEP 6**: Work through an errors generated (if applicable).

How to validate ACA Forms XML Schema:

**STEP 1**: Start the XML Reader.

**STEP 2**: File > Open > Browse to Forms XML File that was generated by ACA XML File Creation (BN299).

**STEP 3**: Assign the IRS Schema for ACA Forms XML; this is done by browsing out to the IRS Schema you have downloaded and locating the following file in the MSG folder:

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* + **B Transmission**: IRS-Form1094-1095BTransmitterUpstreamMessage.xsd
	+ **C Transmission**: IRS-Form1094-1095CTransmitterUpstreamMessage.xsd

**STEP 4**: Process to validate Forms XML File.

**STEP 5**: Work through an errors generated (if applicable).