



business online

USER GUIDE

ACH Import

The **Automated Clearing House (ACH)** feature allows you to receive and send payments to any organization or individual with an account at First Citizens or any other commercial bank in Trinidad and Tobago. This includes salary payments and vendor supplier payments.

Payments are made electronically from one account to another, eliminating the need for cash and checks.

ACH Processing Times:

At First Citizens, ACH batches are processed from Monday to Friday. Batches are not processed on Saturdays, Sundays, or public holidays.

Processing Window Times:

- 8:00 AM
- 10:00 AM
- 12:00 PM
- 3:00 PM

NOTE: Payments made to First Citizens accounts at the 3:00 PM processing window will be credited the same day; however, payments to accounts at other banks will be updated on the following business day.

ACH Cut-Off Times:

- 7:45 AM
- 9:45 AM
- 11:45 AM
- 2:45 PM

Please note that payment files cannot be uploaded during the 15-minute window immediately before and after the specified processing times.

During month-end periods, you are strongly encouraged to use the earlier processing windows to ensure timely processing and updates for salary payments. ACH files that are released on public holidays will be processed on the next working day. In the event of any technical disruptions, ACH payment files will be processed during the later 3:00 PM processing window.

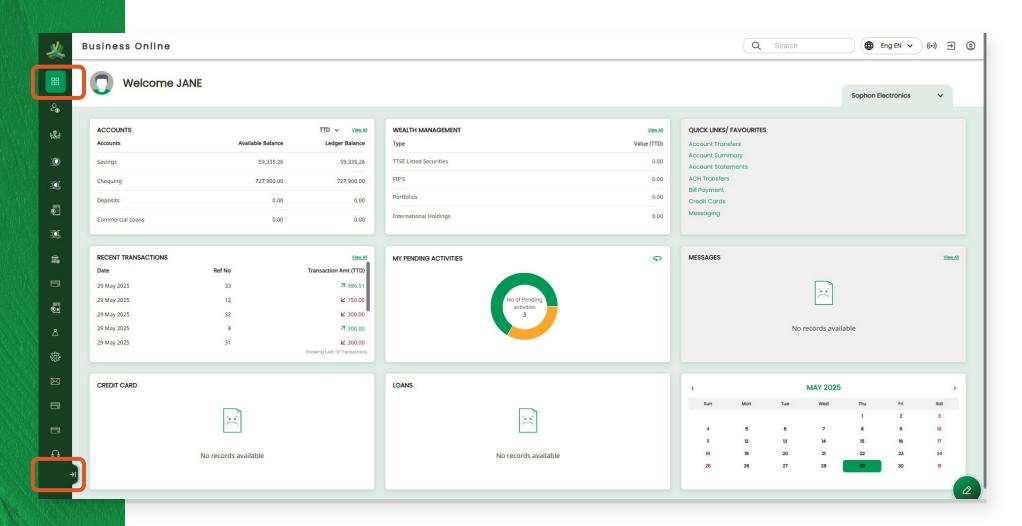
Once payment files are successfully processed, First Citizens accounts are updated within two hours. Payments to accounts at other banks will be credited within the same day if submitted during the 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, or 12:00 PM windows. Payments to accounts at other banks submitted at the 3:00 PM window will be credited on the next business day.

Please note that ACH batch submissions (whether entered or approved) that are not released within 10 business days of their initial submission date will no longer be available on the Business Online banking platform. If necessary, these submissions will need to be re-submitted.

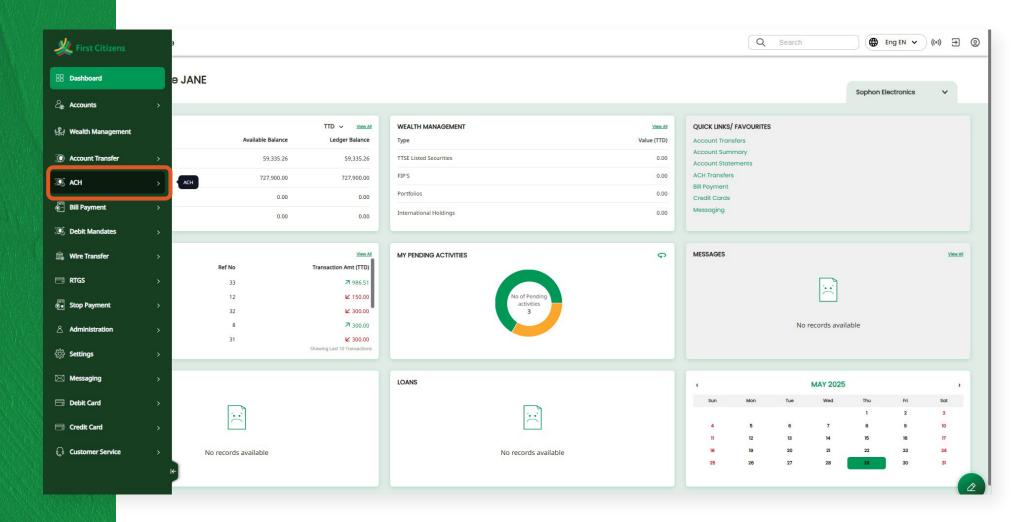


Log in to Business Online using your credentials.

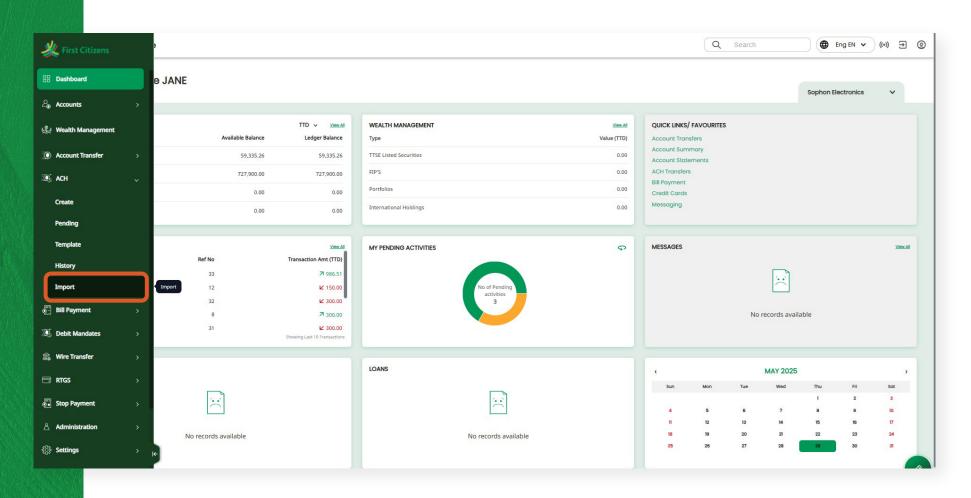
Once logged in, click the Dashboard icon at the top of the left menu bar or scroll to the bottom and click the arrow to expand the menu options.



Select the "ACH" option.



Select the "Import" option.



GUIDELINES

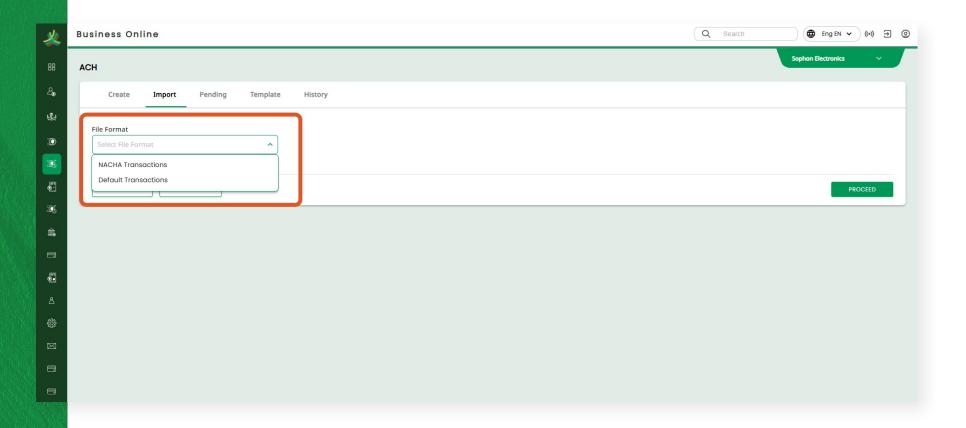
On the screen, you have the option to import a formatted file, create your own file import format, or view the history of all previously imported files. For more information on file formats, please email our team at **businessonlinequeries@firstcitizenstt.com**The available file formats are:

- Default Transaction: This is the new NACHA file format containing all the required fields. It is the recommended format for use.
- 2. NACHA Transactions: This format comes from our legacy system and supports two types of files:
 - NACHA files with a header
 - NACHA files without a header

Note: All ACH batches created will place a hold on the account for the total amount of the batch. If the batch is not approved and released within ten (10) business days, it will be automatically canceled.



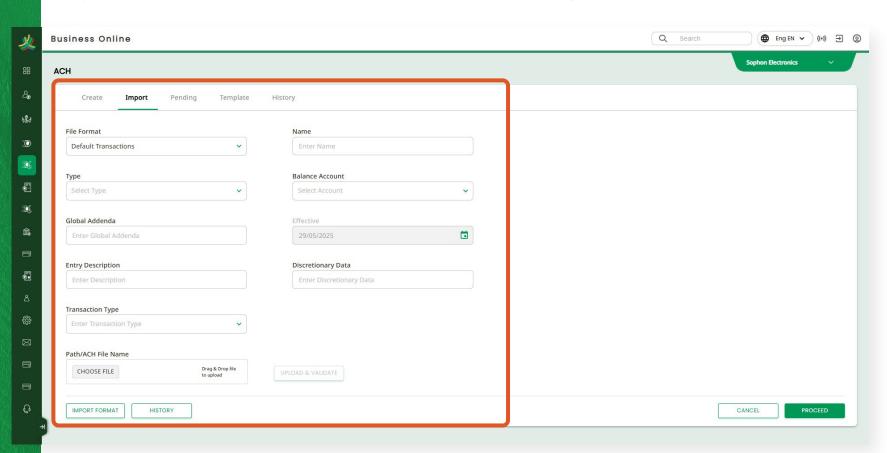
Select the File Format you would like to import, then select "Default Transactions" Note: The fields displayed is dependant on the File format selected.



Please provide the necessary details to begin the ACH Batch creation process, this includes the following:

- 1. "Name"
- 2. Type- Two options are available:
 - PPD for Individual payments
 - CCD for Company payments
- 3. Balance Account: An ACH Batch can contain up to 3000 entries per batch.
- 4. Global Addenda
- 5. Entry Description
- 6. Discretionary Data
- 7. Transaction Type
- 8. Select the Path/ ACH File Name

Note: A "Purpose Code" must be entered for each batch record entry in the file. For auditing and reconciliation purposes, it is recommended that all entries in a batch be assigned the same purpose code.

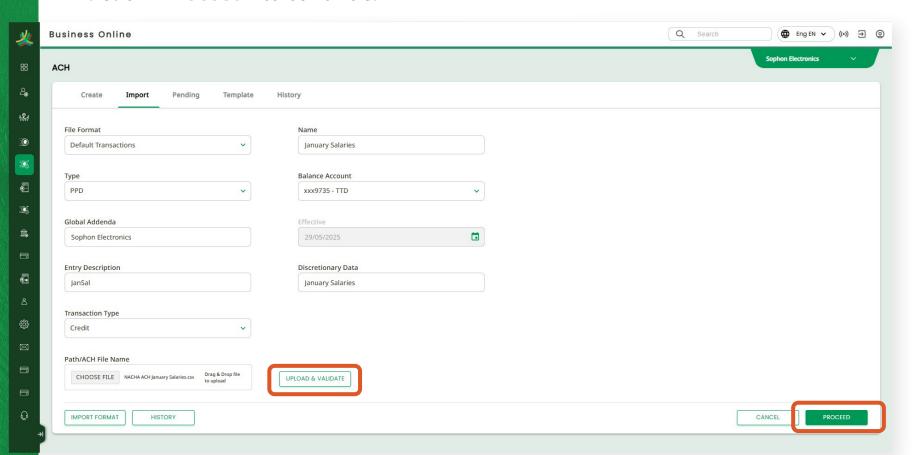


1. Select "Upload and Validate".

The total number of the files and the number of records will be display.

Note: If the file format is incorrect, an error message will be displayed. In such case, review the file and re-upload.

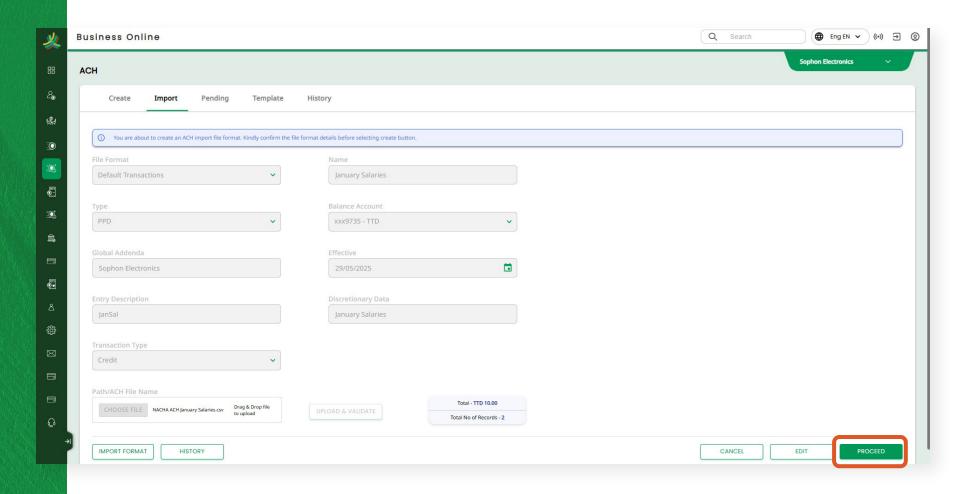
2. Click "Proceed" to continue.



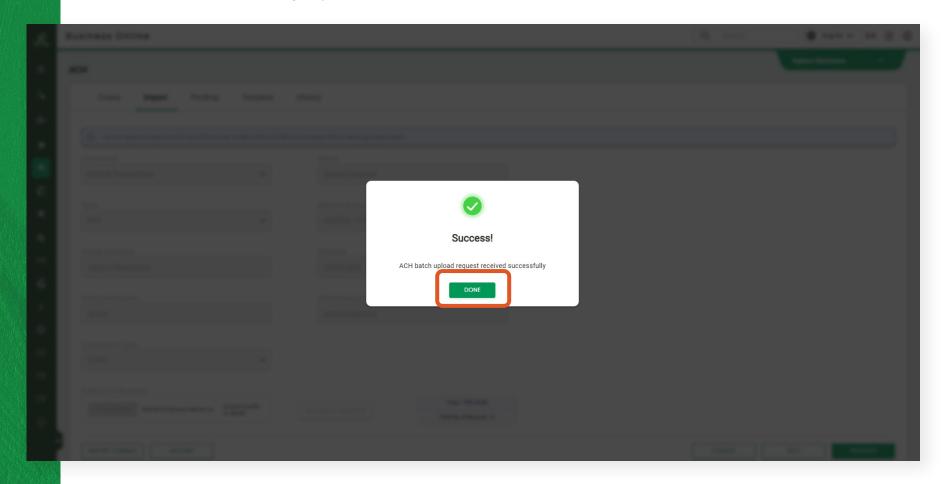


Click "Proceed" to confirm.

If you need to make changes to the information inputted, select "Edit".

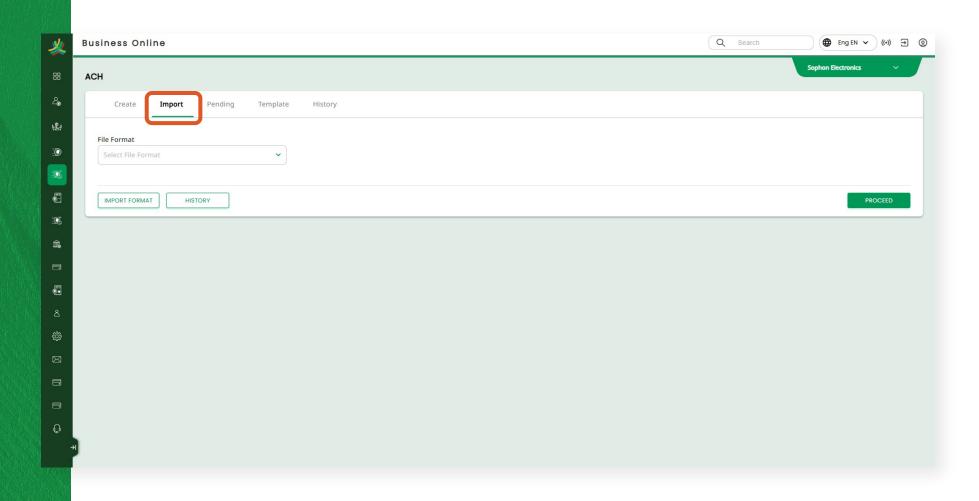


You have successfully uploaded an ACH File. Select "Done".



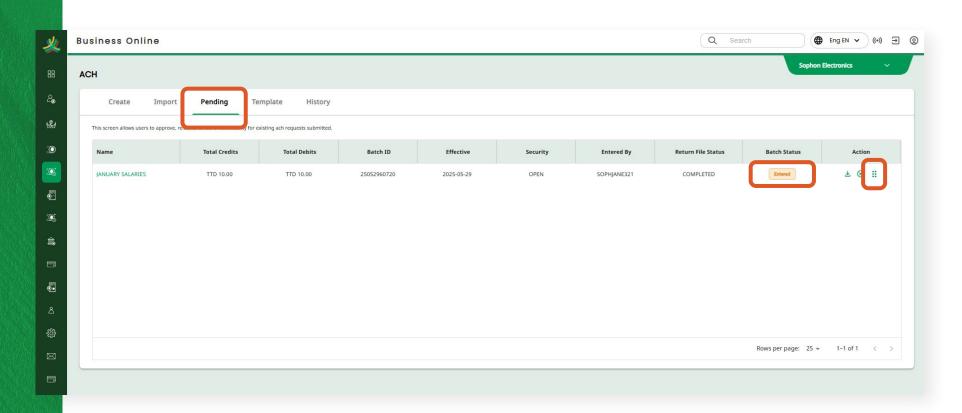
Note: All ACH batches created will place a hold on the account for the total amount of the batch. If the batch is not approved and released within ten (10) business days, it will be automatically cancelled.

Now that you have successfully uploaded an ACH File, you will be redirected to the "Import" tab.

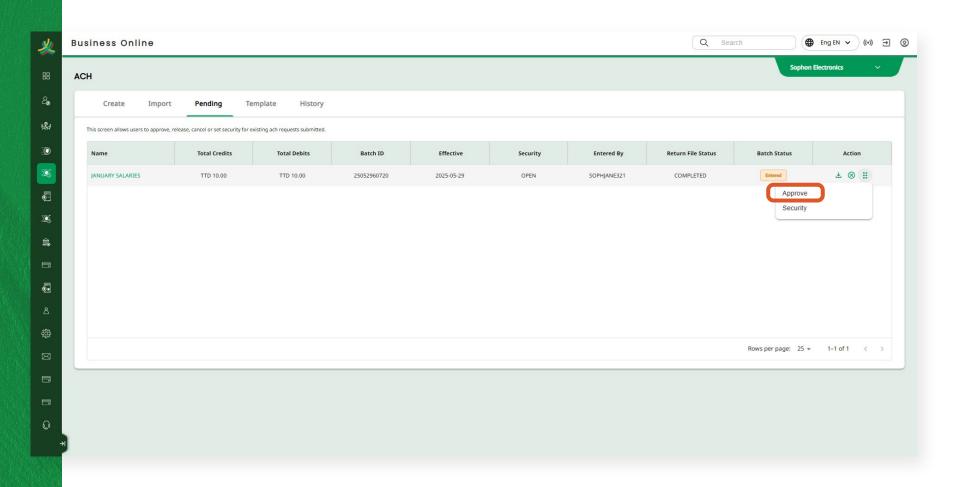


- 1. Select the "Pending" tab to approve and release the ACH Batch. If dual control is enabled, contact your administrator to approve and release the ACH Batch.
- 2. Select the "Elipsis" icon (iii) to approve and release the batch.

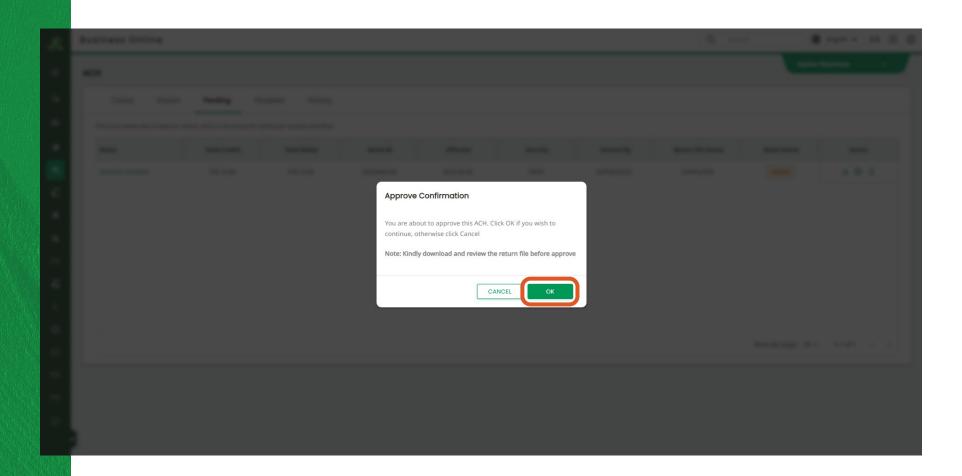
Make sure to complete all necessary details before approving and releasing the ACH Batch. To do this, download the ACH Batch details and review accordingly. The downloaded file will show all the validated records and indicate if any records have errors. If there are errors on your file, it is recommended that you delete the batch and re-upload with the corrected information.



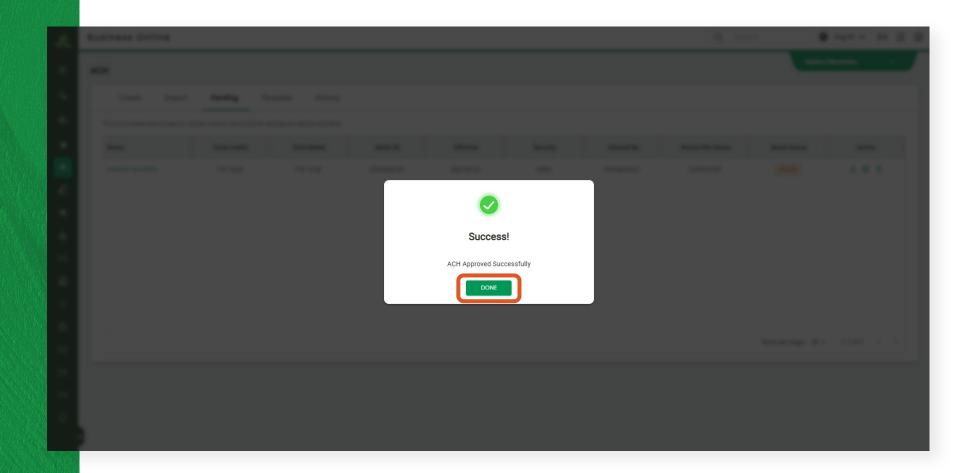
Select "Approve" to initiate the Batch approval.



Click "Ok" to confirm.



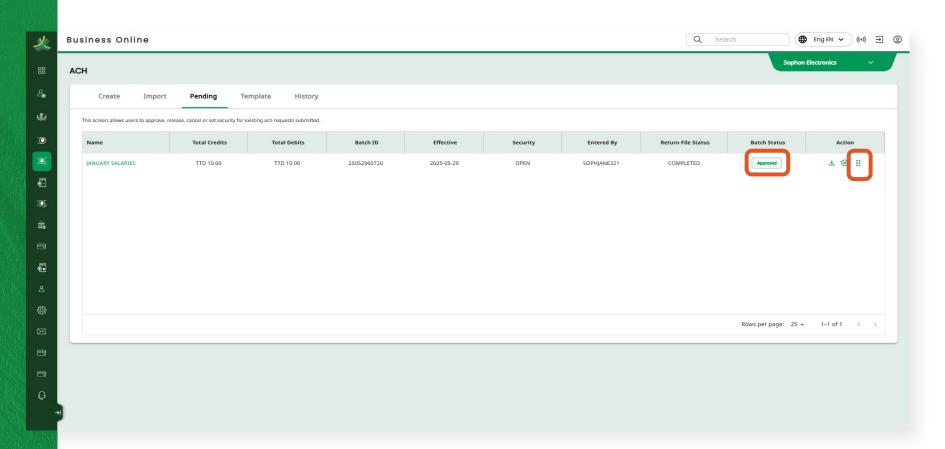
You have successfully approved the ACH Batch. Click "Done" to exit.



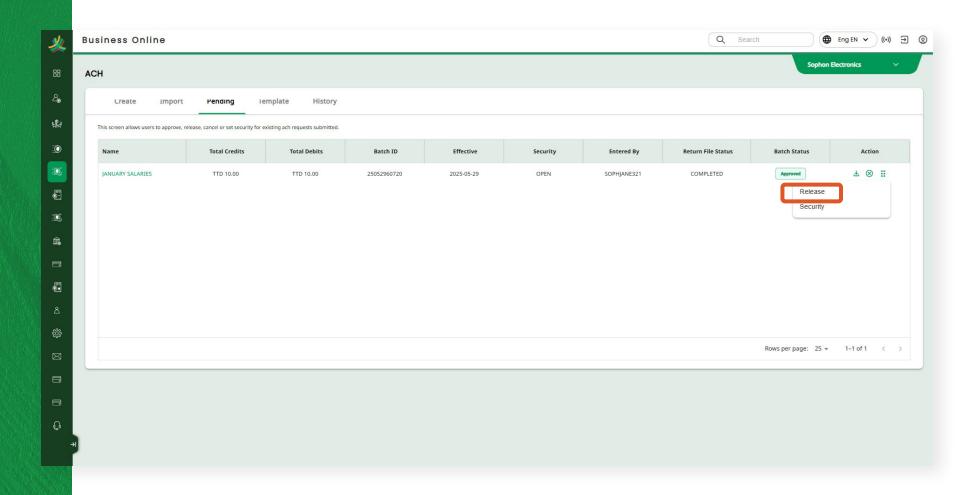
The batch status is now marked as Approved.

Click the "Ellipsis" icon (🔡) button to release the batch.

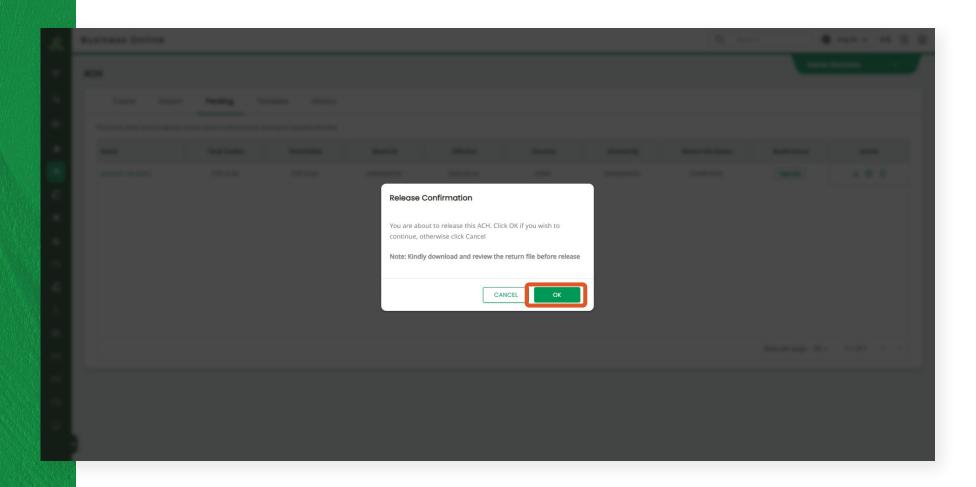
If you have not yet reviewed the batch details, it is recommended that you download the file at this time and check for any errors.



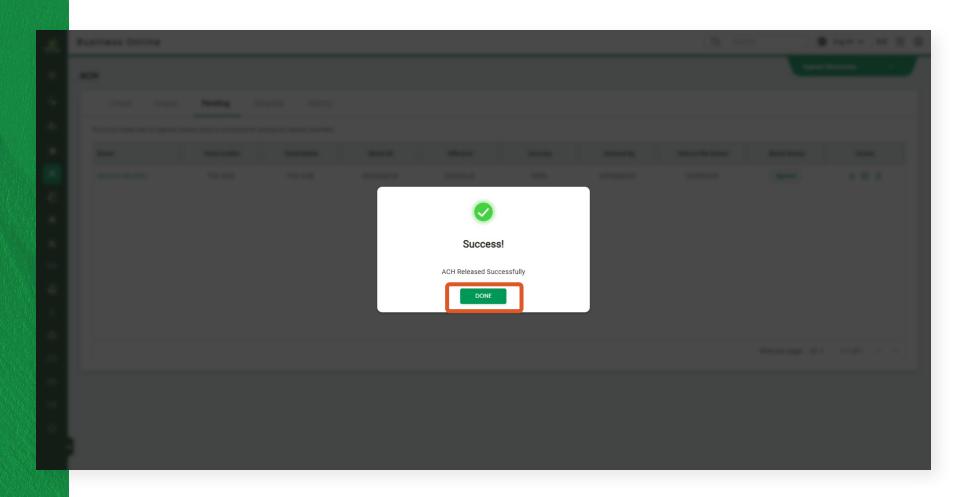
Select the "Release" option.



Click "OK" to confirm the release of the ACH Batch.



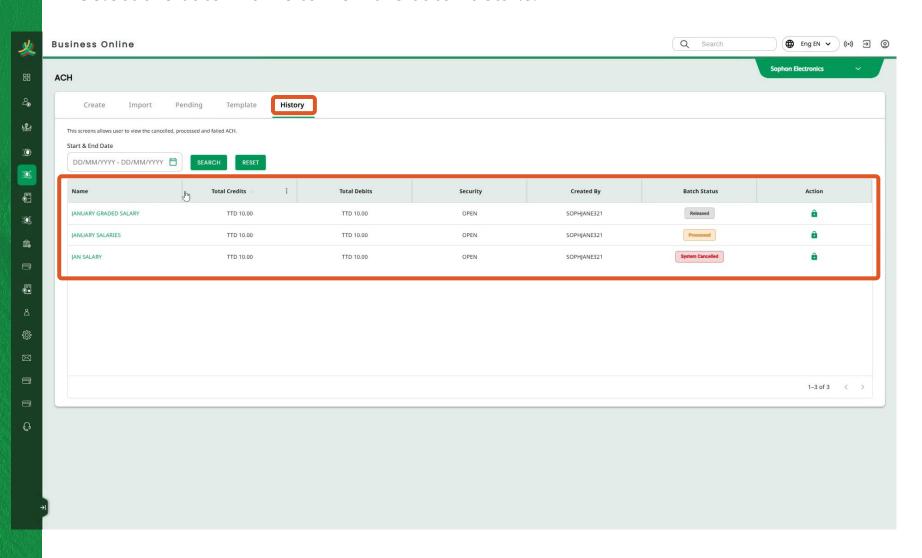
You have successfully released the ACH batch. Click "Done" to exit.



To track the batch, select the "History" tab.

Please note, you can filter by date to search for a specific batch.

Select the batch name to view the batch details.



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Contact Us:

Email: businessonlinequeries@firstcitizenstt.com Call: 62-FIRST, Select Option 2



