FaxMaker

Built-in SMTP Server

Email-to-fax and email-to-SMS, with no extra Windows component to install

Applies to: GFI FaxMaker on Windows Server 2025, or any server without the IIS SMTP service.



What changed

Windows Server 2025 no longer includes the IIS SMTP service, the Windows component GFI FaxMaker has always relied on to receive faxes and SMS sent by email.

GFI FaxMaker now does this itself. The built-in SMTP server receives those messages directly, so email-to-fax works on Windows Server 2025 with nothing extra to install.

Why it's better

- **One less thing to install.** No Windows role or feature to add before GFI FaxMaker works.
- **One place to configure.** Port, encryption, authentication, and access control all live on a single tab in GFI FaxMaker Configuration.
- **Fewer moving parts.** When something needs checking, everything is in the product.
- **Secure by default.** TLS encryption, authentication, and IP restrictions are available out of the box.

Turning it on

- **New installations:** it enables automatically on port 25 when no IIS SMTP service or Exchange server is present.
- **During setup:** select "Receive faxes and SMS directly on this machine using GFI FaxMaker's built-in SMTP server" in the configuration wizard.
- **Existing installations:** enable it any time under Email2Fax Gateway → Properties → SMTP Server.

What you control

Setting	Purpose
Port	Which port GFI FaxMaker listens on. Default 25.
TLS mode	Encrypts traffic between your mail server and GFI FaxMaker. Start TLS can be set to optional or required, and enabling it requires a certificate on the GFI FaxMaker server.
Authentication	Requires the sending server to identify itself (off, optional, or required) using GFI FaxMaker credentials or Active Directory accounts.
Allowed IPs	Limits which machines may submit faxes. Recommended.
Size and connection limits	Caps message size and concurrent submissions.

Good to know

- Your mail server still needs a routing rule sending the fax and SMS domains (by default faxmaker.com and smsmaker.com) to the GFI FaxMaker server.
- This handles incoming fax and SMS requests. Delivering faxes to users and sending notifications continue to use your existing mail server settings.
- It works on Windows Server 2019 and 2022 as well. Server 2025 is simply where it becomes necessary rather than optional.
- No new license required.

Checking it works

Send an email to <faxnumber>@faxmaker.com from the address of a licensed GFI FaxMaker user. The job appears in GFI FaxMaker Monitor within seconds. To test without a mail client, submit a message from PowerShell using the Send-MailMessage command, pointing it at the GFI FaxMaker server on the configured port.

Ready to get started?

Request a free trial at gfi.ai or contact sales: sales@gfi.com.

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