



CINCINNATI POSTAL CUSTOMER COUNCIL
PO BOX 14586
CINCINNATI, OH 45250-0586

First Class Mail
 Postage & Fees
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Cincinnati District News

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Cincinnati Postal Customer Council

U.S. Postal Service Announces New Prices and Services for 2013

Early next year, the Postal Service will introduce a First-Class Mail Global Forever Stamp. The new stamp will allow customers to mail letters anywhere in the world for one set price of \$1.10, and is among new mailing and shipping services filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission today.

The price for First-Class Mail single-piece letters will increase by just a penny when prices change in Jan. The new 46 cent Forever stamps will allow customers to mail letters to any location in the United States. Forever stamps are always good for mailing a one-ounce letter anytime in the future regardless of price changes.

Highlights of the new single-piece First-Class Mail pricing, effective Jan. 27, 2013 include:

- Letters (1oz.) — 1-cent increase to 46 cents
- Letters additional ounces — unchanged at 20 cents
- Letters to all international destinations (1oz.) — \$1.10
- Postcards — 1-cent increase to 33 cents

The Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) will review the prices before they become effective Jan. 27, 2013. Today's Shipping and Mailing price filings will be available on the PRC website at www.prc.gov and the new Mailing Service prices will also be available at <http://pe.usps.com>.

Shipping Services

Several new Shipping Services products will be available in January. Free tracking will be offered to all competitive packages, including retail Priority Mail and Parcel Post (recently renamed Standard Post).

Also new, customers shipping Critical Mail letters and flats will now have the option of receiving a signature upon delivery as part of the service offering.

A large variety of flat-rate boxes and envelopes for Express Mail and Priority Mail, including the padded and legal-sized flat rate envelopes will continue to be offered by the Postal Service.

New domestic retail pricing for Priority Mail Flat Rate products include:

- Small box — \$5.80
- Medium box — \$12.35
- Large box — \$16.85
- Large APO/FPO box — \$14.85
- Regular envelope — \$5.60
- Legal envelope — \$5.75
- Padded envelope — \$5.95



Visit us at:
<http://www.cincinnati-pcc.com/>



SAVE THE DATE!
 November 15th, 2012
 Cincinnati PCC Breakfast Meeting

Join us for Breakfast at:
 Kings Island Convention Center
 Registration begins at 8:30

Folded Self Mailer Requirements (FSM)
 Tammy Caserta, Director of Mailing Services for Think Patented

Kathryn Wollung, Postal Inspector
 Holiday season and increased package mailing increase security concerns

USPS Proposed Rate Increase
 USPS Representative will highlight changes to pricing effective January 27th 2013 and answer your questions

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November 15, 2012 – Cincinnati PCC General Meeting
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 November 22, 2012 – Thanksgiving

December 11, 2012 – Dayton Miami Valley PCC
 December 25, 2012 – Christmas

January 1, 2013 – New Year's
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 January 28, 2013 – Convert from Postnet to IMb for Automation Discount

February 18, 2013 – Presidents' Day

March 17-20, 2013 – National Postal Forum – San Francisco CA (Registration is now open)

Holiday Shipping Dates –
 SUGGESTED MAILING & SHIPPING DATES TO ARRIVE BY DECEMBER 25

December 3 – Priority Mail International, Priority Mail: Military APO/FPO/DPO

December 11 – Express Mail International

December 17 – Express Mail: Military APO/FPO/DPO, Global Express Guaranteed (GXG)

December 20 – First-Class Mail: Domestic December 21 – Priority Mail: Domestic December 22 – Express Mail: Domestic

Remember:
 PostNet Retirement
 Date is January 28, 2013

Intelligent Mail Barcode required for automation rates



Wow! So many things are happening so fast for the USPS- you almost need a scorecard and daily briefing!

- Annual Rate increase effective January 27th, 2013
- IMb Mandatory implementation for automated discounts, January 28th 2013
- Mandatory Full Service IMb, January 2014
- Election Mailing impact upon mailers
- Resumption of Plant Optimization Plan

These are but a few of the items facing those of us in the Mailing Industry. There is also the flurry of activity that will surely begin to address the USPS financial status once the November elections are complete!

Please mark your calendar for the dates listed in this newsletter for the general membership meetings planned for 2012-2013. These events will provide you with the most up to date information from industry experts and empower you with tools to overcome the daily challenges and achieve greater success!

Our next meeting is scheduled November 15th, 2012 with a terrific agenda that should be of value to all mailers. Postal Inspector Kathryn Woliung will offer insight to the increasing security in your mail operations in a unique and informative presentation. The latest information will be presented relating to the proposed price increase.

We look forward to seeing you at these events, I believe you will be excited about the quality and timeliness of the information you receive



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Gary Wheeler
 Pitney Bowes



IMb™ Services Update

IMb® Reminder: January 28, 2013 is almost here...are you ready? Have you converted from POSTNET® to the Intelligent Mail® barcode (IMb™)? To be eligible for automation discounts you must use the IMb. Contact those who can help speed up the conversion: your software vendor, your mail service provider or your local USPS® manager, Business Mail Entry. We are here to help. Business Mail Entry lookup locator is listed on RIBBS at <https://ribbs.usps.gov/locators/find-bme.cfm>

Starting Jan. 28, 2013, mail using the POSTNET barcode will no longer qualify for automation discounts.

By starting the transition now, customers will continue to benefit from automation prices and also will build a foundation to participate in the Intelligent Full-Service option. The Full-Service option provides customers the lowest automation discount price, address correction and greater visibility into their mailings.

Below are some key messages for our customers as they prepare for the transition:

To continue receiving automation discounts after Jan. 28, letter-size and flat-size mail pieces, as well as postcards, must have an IMb.

Permit Reply Mail and Qualified Business Reply Mail also will need an IMb to receive automation pricing.

Intelligent Mail is the technology platform for the next generation of mailing services, features and products. With the IMb, mailers and the Postal Service will have end-to-end visibility in the mailstream.

Intelligent Mail gives mailers and USPS more information about the mail — information they can use to make informed marketing, financial and operational decisions. Intelligent Mail also will give mailers opportunities to develop new products and services.

2013 USPS Promotions Calendar

Mailers are encouraged to explore the newly-developed 2013 Promotions Calendar from the Postal Service. This proposed year-long lineup of Postal Service promotions is designed to encourage innovation and use of technologies that can make mail more interactive and add value.

Building on previous barcode and mobile commerce promotions, the Postal Service has developed new programs that will help you connect with customers and keep mail an essential part of your marketing mix. Additionally, there are promotions that encourage mailers to use the more traditional direct mail features, namely samples and reply mail envelopes.

The 2013 Promotions Calendar is pending approval by the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). Included on the 2013 Promotions Calendar are the following:

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- Picture Permit Promotion
- Product Samples
- Emerging Technology
- Mobile Buy It Now

Please go to <https://ribbs.usps.gov/mobilebarcode/upcoming.htm> for more information.

Implementation of Full-Service Intelligent Mail Required for Automation Prices

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The Postal Service is interested in receiving stakeholder feedback, which is due no later than November 16, 2012. Information on where to provide written comments is contained in the Federal Register notice.

The Federal Register notice provides advance information to help mailers prepare and plan for the transition to Full-Service (use of unique Intelligent Mail barcodes applied to letters, postcards, flats, trays, sacks, and containers such as pallets and submission of electronic mailing documentation). Initiatives are proposed to limit the impact on customers who enter small volume mailings, particularly customers who mail infrequently and have limited resources to adopt new mailing practices.



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Cincinnati District News

Jason Kidd
 Manager
 AAA Allied Group
 15 W Central Pkwy
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