United States Postal Service

§ 121.3 Standard Mail.

(a) End-to-End. (1) The service standard for Sectional Center Facility (SCF) turnaround Standard Mail® pieces accepted at origin before the day zero Critical Entry Time is 3 days when the origin Processing & Distribution Center/Facility (OPD&C/F) and the SCF are in the same building.

(2) The service standard for Area Distribution Center (ADC) turnaround Standard Mail pieces accepted at origin before the day zero Critical Entry Time is 4 days when the OPD&C/F and the ADC are the same building, unless the ADC is in the contiguous 48 states and the delivery address is not, or

surface transportation between each 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair.

(7) The Periodicals service standard for each remaining 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair, for which Periodicals are accepted before the day zero Critical Entry Time at origin, is the sum of 4 or 5 days, plus the number of additional days (from 4 to 15) required for intermodal (highway, boat, air-taxi) transportation outside of the 48 contiguous states for each 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair.

(b) Destination Entry. (1) Periodicals that qualify for a Destination Delivery Unit (DDU) or Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) rate, and that are accepted before the day-zero Critical Entry Time at the proper DDU or DSCF, have a 1-day (overnight) service standard, except for mail dropped at the SCF in the territory of Puerto Rico and destined for the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands, and intra SCF mail in the following 3-digit ZIP Code areas in the state of Alaska or designated portions thereof: 995 (5-digit ZIP Code areas 99540 through 99591), 996, 997, 998 and 999.

(2) Periodicals that qualify for a Destination Area Distribution Center (DADC) rate, and that are accepted before the day zero Critical Entry Time at the proper DADC, unless the ADC is in the contiguous 48 states and the delivery address is not, or where the DADC and DSCF are not the same building, have a 2-day service standard, unless the destination is the Alaska 997 3-digit ZIP Code area. Mail that qualifies for a Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) rate has a 2-day service standard, if it is accepted before the day-zero Critical Entry Time, and the mail is dropped at the SCF in the territory of Puerto Rico and is destined for the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands; or if the mail is intra-SCF in the following 3-digit ZIP Code areas of the state of Alaska: 996, 998 and 999. Periodicals that qualify for a DADC rate, and that are accepted before the day zero Critical Entry Time at the Alaska 997 DADC have a 3-day service standard.

(3) Periodicals that qualify for a Destination Network Distribution Center containerized rate, that are accepted before the day-zero Critical Entry Time at the proper destination NDC in the contiguous 48 states, and that are addressed for delivery in the contiguous 48 states, have a service standard of 1 or 2 days, corresponding to the standard for mail qualifying for the destination ADC rate, based on whether the destination ADC and SCF are in the same building.

(4) Periodicals that qualify for a Destination Network Distribution Center containerized rate, that are accepted before the day-zero Critical Entry Time at the proper destination NDC in the 48 contiguous states, and that are addressed for delivery in the states of Alaska or Hawaii, or the territories of Guam, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, have a service standard of 5 to 8 days, corresponding to the standard for mail qualifying for the destination ADC rate, which is based on the number of days required for transportation outside of the 48 contiguous states and whether the destination ADC and SCF are in the same building.

(5) Periodicals that qualify for a Destination Area Distribution Center (DADC) rate and that are accepted before the day zero Critical Entry Time at the proper DADC in the contiguous 48 states for delivery to addresses in the state of Alaska, or the territories of Guam or the U.S. Virgin Islands, have a service standard of 7 days.

when the mail is between the territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

(3) The service standard for intra-Network Distribution Center (NDC) Standard Mail pieces accepted at origin before the day-zero Critical Entry Time is 5 days for each remaining 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair within the same Network Distribution Center service area if the origin and destination are within the contiguous 48 states; the same standard applies to mail that is intra-Alaska, intra-Hawaii, or between the state of Hawaii and the territory of Guam.

(4) For each remaining 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair within the 48 contiguous states, the service standard for Standard Mail pieces accepted at origin before the day zero Critical Entry Time is the sum of 6 days plus the number of additional days (from 1 to 4) required for surface transportation between each 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair.

(5) For each remaining 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair, the service standard for Standard Mail pieces accepted at origin before the day zero Critical Entry Time is the sum of 5 or 6 days plus the number of additional days (from 4 to 16) required for intermodal (highway, boat, air-taxi) transportation outside of the 48 contiguous states for each 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair.

(b) Destination Entry.

(1) Standard Mail pieces that qualify for a Destination Delivery Unit (DDU) rate and that are accepted before the day zero Critical Entry Time at the proper DDU have a 2-day service standard.

(2) The service standard for intra-Network Distribution Center (NDC) Package Services mail accepted at origin before the day-zero Critical Entry Time is 3 days, for each remaining (non-intra-SCF) 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pair within the same Network Distribution Center service area, where the origin and destination are within the contiguous 48 states and are not served by an Auxiliary Service Facility; and for mail between the territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

(3) The service standard for intra-Network Distribution Center (NDC) Package Services mail accepted at origin before the day-zero Critical Entry Time is 4 days for each remaining 3-