### POSTAL SERVICE

**39 CFR Part 20**

**International Mail: Proposed Changes in Prices and Fees**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.™

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** In July 2010, the Postal Service filed a notice of mailing services price adjustments with the Postal Regulatory Commission, effective in January 2011. This proposed rule provides the mailing standards that would accompany new prices in 2011.

**DATES:** We must receive your comments on or before August 9, 2010.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
<th>Procedures</th>
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<tr>
<td>(2) Send the completed service bulletin compliance record required by paragraph (f)(1)(i) of this AD or paragraph (f)(1)(ii) of this AD to the address identified in paragraph (g) of this AD. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the information collection requirements contained in this regulation under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and assigned OMB Control Number 2120–0056.</td>
<td>Within 30 days after you incorporate the revisions required by paragraph (f)(1)(i) of this AD or paragraph (f)(1)(ii) of this AD or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.</td>
<td>Not Applicable.</td>
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**ADDRRESSES:** Mail or deliver comments to the Manager, Mailing Standards, U.S. Postal Service®, 475 L’Enfant Plaza, SW., RM 3436, Washington, DC 20260–3436. You may inspect and photocopy all written comments between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, at USPS® Headquarters Library, 11th Floor North, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC. E-mail comments, containing the name and address of the commenter, may be sent to: MailingStandards@usps.gov, with a subject line of “International January 2011 Price Change.” Faxed comments are not accepted.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Obatayo B. Akinwole at 703–292–5260.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Postal Service is proposing to change international postage prices and fees in January 2011. Proposed prices are, or will be available, under Docket Number(s) R2010–XX on the Postal Regulatory Commission’s Web site, http://www.prc.gov.

This proposed rule includes price changes and several minor classification changes for First-Class Mail International®, and extra services. We also plan to realign Israel’s First-Class Mail International price groups.

This proposed rule contains the revisions to Mail Standards of the United States Postal Service, International Mail Manual (IMM©) that we would adopt to implement the new prices.

**First-Class Mail International**

Our proposal would increase prices for First-Class Mail International approximately 6.7 percent.

**Postcards**

The proposed price structure for postcards includes two separate price categories; Canada and Mexico, and all other countries. Canada and Mexico, previously priced individually, now share the same price group. The price for postcards increases by approximately 2.8 percent.

**International Extra Services**

Our proposal increases prices for extra services by approximately 11.8 percent. The prices for the following First-Class Mail International extra services are proposed to change for:

- Certificate of Mailing
- Customs Clearance and Delivery Fee
- International Reply Coupons
- International Business Reply Service
- Registered Mail®
- Return Receipt
- Restricted Delivery

**Israel**

To align operational efficiencies more closely with costs, we propose moving Israel from Price Group 8 to Price Group 5 for First-Class Mail International service only.

The prices and fees proposed in this notice, if adopted, would become effective in January 2011.


**List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 20**

Foreign relations, International postal services.

Accordingly, 39 CFR part 20 is proposed to be amended as follows:

**PART 20—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR Part 20 continues to read as follows:


2. Revise the following sections of the Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, International Mail Manual (IMM) as follows:

* * * * *
Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, International Mail Manual (IMM)

2 Conditions for Mailing

240 First-Class Mail International

241 Description and Physical Characteristics

241.2 Physical Characteristics

241.21 Physical Standards—Letters

241.217 Nonmachinable Surcharge

243 Prices and Postage Payment Methods

243.1 Prices

243.13 Destinating Countries and Price Groups

Exhibit 243.13

First-Class Mail International Price Groups

Exhibit 243.13

3 Extra Services

310 Certificate of Mailing

313 Fees

313.1 Individual Pieces

313.2 Bulk Pieces

330 Registered Mail

333 Fees and Indemnity Limits

333.1 Registration Fees

340 Return Receipt

343 Fee

350 Restricted Delivery

7 Treatment of Inbound Mail

710 U.S. Customs Information

712 Customs Clearance and Delivery Fee

712.3 Amount of Postal Service Fee

Country Price Groups and Weight Limits

Country Conditions for Mailing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Price group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

Individual Country Listings

Country Conditions for Mailing

First Class Mail International (240)

Postcards (241.22)

We will publish an appropriate amendment to 39 CFR part 20 to reflect...
these changes if our proposal is adopted.

Stanley F. Mires,
Chief Counsel, Legislative.

[FR Doc. 2010–16799 Filed 7–7–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

POSTAL SERVICE
39 CFR Part 111
New Standards for Domestic Mailing Services

AGENCY: Postal Service®.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In July 2010, the Postal Service filed a notice of mailing services price adjustments with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), effective in January 2011. This proposed rule provides the mailing standards that would accompany the new prices in 2011.

DATES: We must receive comments on or before August 9, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Mail or deliver written comments to the Manager, Mailing Standards, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L’Enfant Plaza SW., Room 4446, Washington, DC 20260–4446. You may inspect and photocopy all written comments at USPS® Headquarters Library, 475 L’Enfant Plaza SW., 11th Floor N, Washington, DC between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. E-mail comments, containing the name and address of the commenter, may be sent to: MailingStandards@usps.gov, with a subject line of “January 2011 Domestic Mailing Standards Proposal.” Faxed comments are not accepted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Chatfield, 202–267–7278.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Proposed prices are or will be available under Docket Number(s) R2010–XX on the Postal Regulatory Commission’s Web site at http://www.prc.gov.

The Postal Service’s proposed rule includes: Two incentive programs, several mail classification changes, modifications to mailpiece characteristics, and changes in classification terminology. This proposed rule contains the revisions to Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM®) that we would adopt to implement the new prices.

Incentive Programs

Reply Rides Free First-Class Mail Incentive Program

The Postal Service encourages the growth of automation letter-size mail, particularly pieces that are part of full-service Intelligent Mail® automation mailings entered at PostalOne® acceptance facilities. Accordingly, we propose revised mailing standards to allow First-Class Mail letters weighing over 1 ounce up to 1.2 ounces to qualify for postage payment at the 1-ounce price when those letters include a reply card or reply envelope under specified conditions.

This new program provides an incentive for mailers to include more content in their automation First-Class Mail letters by providing a postage credit as follows:

- Eligible letters must qualify for the full-service Intelligent Mail barcode discount and weigh more than 1 ounce up to 1.2 ounces. At the time of mailing, mailers would pay the applicable 2-ounce price for these pieces. All commercial (presorted and automation) First-Class Mail letter-size volume counts towards meeting the overall mail volume threshold, but only those letters qualifying for the full-service Intelligent Mail barcode discount will be eligible for postage credit.
- Letters must include a reply card or envelope, either Business Reply Mail® or Courtesy Reply Mail™. The reply piece may be in the format of a reusable envelope. Permit reply mail pieces are not eligible for this program.
- The postage credit would be for the amount paid for the second ounce and would be provided for those pieces mailed during the 2011 program period when the mailer’s volume of commercial First-Class Mail (FCM) letter-size mailpieces mailed in 2011 is at least 2.5 percent greater than the mailer’s trend of commercial FCM letter-size volume mailed during USPS fiscal year 2010 (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010) compared with volume mailed in USPS fiscal year 2009 (October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009). The threshold volume for program postage credit eligibility will be the total amount that is 2.5 percent greater than the mailer’s projected volume based on the mailer’s trend. For example, if a mailer’s letter-size volume has declined from 100,000 to 95,000 pieces (a 5 percent decline) from 2009 to 2010, the projected volume for 2011 at the same trend would be 90,250. That mailer’s volume must be at least 92,507 (1.025 times 90,250) during the program period to meet the eligibility threshold. Similarly, a mailer with a positive trend would have a threshold that is 2.5 percent more than their volume trend. The credit would be provided after the end of the program, upon calculation and verification of the mail volume data.
- Mailers who did not mail commercial First-Class Mail letters in fiscal year 2009 may not participate in the Reply Rides Free program.
- The program period will be from January 2, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

Mail owners, but not mail service providers, who have mailed commercial First-Class Mail letters during USPS fiscal years (FY) 2009 and 2010 may apply to participate in this incentive program by following instructions provided on our Web site: http://www.usps.com/firstclassmailincentive, beginning November 1, 2010, but no later than December 31, 2010. Mail owners must validate that they have mailed or intend to mail at least one commercial presorted or automation mailing of First-Class Mail letters during each of calendar years 2009 and 2010, and should state their intent to mail First-Class Mail letters containing qualifying reply pieces weighing more than 1 ounce up to 1.2 ounces during the 2011 program period. After registration, mail owners must supply adequate proof of the total qualifying mail volume claimed for USPS FY 2009 and FY 2010 in order to be eligible for participation.

2011 Saturation and High Density Incentive Program

The Postal Service proposes to add new standards to the eligibility sections of DMM 243 and 343 describing an incentive program designed to increase the volume of Standard Mail and Nonprofit Standard Mail letters and flats mailed at saturation and high density prices. This program would encourage mailers to increase the volume within two of our highest margin products and would be open to all mailers meeting the basic eligibility requirements. The program would enable customers to expand mailing to additional markets, test new mailpieces, and increase the frequency of their mailings at reduced postage prices.

Mailers of Standard Mail or Nonprofit Standard Mail letters and/or flats (complete mailpieces) applying for participation in the program would have to meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the price category selected. Mailers meeting the eligibility criteria would be able to participate in both the saturation and high density categories simultaneously. Participants would have the option to demonstrate growth in total mailed volume or growth within a defined market. Mailers who participate only within defined market areas would be required to demonstrate volume growth within a specific, or group of specific, USPS sectional center...