

United States Mint 50 State Quarters® Design Use Policy

The United States Mint will not object to use of the obverse or reverse design of any 50 State Quarters® Program coin approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, subject to the following conditions:

1. Quarter designs and credits may not be used in any way that could mislead or deceive the public or imply that the United States Mint, the Department of the Treasury, or the United States Government sponsors, endorses, approves, or is associated with (a) the product or service in which the design is used; (b) the creators or distributors of the product or service; or (c) any other nonfederal entity, person, activity, product, or service.
2. When practicable, high-resolution quarter images for reproduction should be obtained directly from the United States Mint by download from the Mint's online Pressroom Image Library (accessible from <http://www.usmint.gov/pressroom>). The United States Mint cannot honor requests for camera-ready artwork or other reformatting.
3. When a quarter reverse design obtained from any United States Mint source is reproduced for publication, credit should be given as follows: "United States Mint image." The credit should be placed next to the quarter design reproduction. The following entry may be used instead if a credit page is provided: "Quarter-dollar coin image [or images] from the United States Mint."
4. The quarter design's use is not inconsistent with the Congressional findings and purposes of the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act or with other applicable laws.

Other laws may apply to the use of coin designs. The United States Mint strongly encourages members of the public interested in using coin designs to visit the Consumer and Business Awareness section of the United States Mint Web site (accessible from <http://www.usmint.gov/consumer/>) for more information.

PLEASE NOTE: This policy does not cover use of the phrase "50 State Quarters", which is a registered trademark of the United States Mint, nor does it cover publicity rights. It does not grant any waiver, release, or written permission of the Director under 18 U.S.C. § 709¹ or 31 U.S.C. § 333². By adopting and publishing this policy, the United States Mint is not waiving or abandoning any rights in designs assigned or licensed to it, and is not authorizing any acquisition or claim of exclusive rights (such as trademark rights) in quarter designs. The United States Mint makes no warranty of any kind and expressly disclaims any and all implied warranties relating to the quarter designs. This policy does not confer any personal right or cause of action, and does not relieve any party from any other duty or obligation.

Questions on this policy should be directed to the United States Mint Office of Licensing at 202-354-7350.

¹ 18 U.S.C. § 709 prohibits a person from knowingly using, without written permission of the Director of the United States Mint, “the words ‘United States Mint’ or ‘U.S. Mint’ or any colorable imitation of such words, in connection with any advertisement, circular, book, pamphlet, or other publication, play, motion picture, broadcast, telecast, or other production, in a manner reasonably calculated to convey the impression that such advertisement, circular, book, pamphlet, or other publication, play, motion picture, broadcast, telecast, or other production, is approved, endorsed, or authorized by or associated in any manner with, the United States Mint.”

² 31 U.S.C. § 333 prohibits a person from using, “in connection with, or as a part of, any advertisement, solicitation, business activity, or product, whether alone or with other words, letters, symbols, or emblems [of the Treasury Department, its bureaus, including the United States Mint, and its officials, including United States Mint officials] . . . in a manner which could reasonably be interpreted or construed as conveying the false impression that such advertisement, solicitation, business activity, or product is in any manner approved, endorsed, sponsored, or authorized by, or associated with, the Department of the Treasury or any [Treasury Department bureau or official].”

Findings and Purposes of the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act (excerpted from Public Law 105)

An Act

To provide for a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States, and for other purposes. (Dec. 1, 1997 [S. 1228])

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) it is appropriate and timely—

(A) to honor the unique Federal republic of 50 States that comprise the United States; and

(B) to promote the diffusion of knowledge among the youth of the United States about the individual States, their history and geography, and the rich diversity of the national heritage;

(2) the circulating coinage of the United States has not been modernized during the 25-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act;

(3) a circulating commemorative 25-cent coin program could produce earnings of \$110,000,000 from the sale of silver proof coins and sets over the 10-year period of issuance, and would produce indirect earnings of an estimated \$2,600,000,000 to \$5,100,000,000 to the United States Treasury, money that will replace borrowing to fund the national debt to at least that extent; and

(4) it is appropriate to launch a commemorative circulating coin program that encourages young people and their families to collect memorable tokens of all of the States for the face value of the coins.