

## POSTAL SERVICE

**Priority Mail® Large Flat-Rate Box – Domestic APO/FPO**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service™.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule revises the *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM®), to add the new, Priority Mail® Large Flat-Rate Box that has been approved by the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service.

The new Priority Mail large flat-rate box is approximately 50 percent larger than the regular flat-rate boxes currently available. The prices for shipping a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to an APO/FPO ZIP Code™ destination address, or to a domestic ZIP Code address are as follows:

- \$10.95 to APO/FPO destination addresses.
- \$12.95 to domestic addresses.

The new flat-rate box is identified by the words “Large Flat-Rate Box” printed on the packaging.

Items to an APO/FPO address may be shipped in the Priority Mail large flat-rate box or in a special version of the box identified with the additional logo: “Americasupportsyou.mil.”

The Priority Mail large flat-rate box also may be used for mailing to international destinations at large flat-rate box prices specific to international items.

Domestic or international large flat-rate box prices will apply to the special version of the APO/FPO flat-rate box if used for non-APO/FPO addresses.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 3, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christy Bonning, 202-268-2108, or Garry Rodriguez, 202-268-7281, United States Postal Service.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

The Postal Service first approved the Priority Mail flat-rate box as an experiment more than three years ago. Board of Governors’ Decision, Docket No. MC 2004-2 (October 29, 2004). Subsequently, a permanent classification for the flat-rate box was approved as part of the R2006-1 omnibus rate case.

The Priority Mail flat-rate box has been a big success and has proven to provide value to customers in the form of convenience and ease of use.

This success suggested a market for a larger Priority Mail flat-rate box. Such an offering would enhance customer choice, convenience, and ease of use. Accordingly, the Postal Service is offering a new, Priority Mail large flat-rate box.

The new boxes are approximately 50 percent larger than the regular flat-rate boxes currently available. The dimensions are 12 ¼" x 12 ¼" x 6" exterior, and 12" x 12" x 5 ½" interior.

The weight restriction for the large flat-rate box is 70 pounds to APO/FPO and domestic destinations and 20 pounds to International destinations.

The lower rate for APO/FPO destinations provides an opportunity for the Postal Service to show support for American troops stationed abroad and their families.

The new Priority Mail large flat-rate box will be available for order online at USPS.com and in most post offices nationwide.

The Postal Service adopts the following changes to *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), which is incorporated by reference in the *Code of Federal Regulations*. See 39 CFR 111.

### **List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 111**

Administrative practice and procedure, Postal Service.  
Accordingly, 39 CFR 111 is amended as follows:

#### **PART 111—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR Part 111 is revised to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 101, 401, 403, 404, 414, 416, 3001–3011, 3201–3219, 3403–3406, 3621, 3626, 3632, 3633, and 5001.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **100 Retail Mail Letters, Cards, Flats, and Parcels**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **120 Priority Mail**

#### **123 Rates and Eligibility**

#### **1.0 Priority Mail Rates and Fees**

*[Delete 1.1 in its entirety. Renumber current 1.2 through 1.10 as new 1.1 through 1.9.]*

*[Revise the heading of renumbered 1.1 as follows:]*

## **1.1 Rate Application**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **1.2 Minimum Rate for Parcels to Zones 1-4**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Exhibit 1.2 Priority Mail Rates**

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise footnote number 2 to reflect new numbering:]*

2. Parcels addressed for delivery to zones 5-8 that exceed 1 cubic foot (1,728 cubic inches) are charged based on the actual weight (under 1.1), or the dimensional weight (as calculated in 1.3.1 or 1.3.2), whichever is greater.

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise footnote number 5 to add new flat-rate box as follows:]*

5. Priority Mail flat-rate boxes provided by the USPS, regardless of weight or destination:
- \$8.95 is charged for material sent in Priority Mail regular flat-rate boxes (FRB-2) or (FRB-1) to domestic and APO/FPO addresses.
  - \$10.95 is charged for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to APO/FPO destination addresses.
  - \$12.95 is charged for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to domestic destinations.

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise the heading of renumbered 1.4 as follows:]*

## **1.4 Flat-Rate Envelopes and Boxes**

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Reverse the order of renumbered 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise renumbered 1.4.2 as follows:]*

### **1.4.2 Flat-Rate Boxes—Rates and Eligibility**

Each USPS-produced Priority Mail flat-rate box, regardless of the actual weight of the piece or its destination, is charged:

- a. \$8.95 for material sent in Priority Mail regular flat-rate boxes (FRB-2) or (FRB-1) to domestic and APO/FPO addresses.
- b. \$10.95 for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to APO/FPO destination addresses (see 703.2).

- c. \$12.95 for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to domestic destinations.

Items to an APO/FPO address may be shipped in the Priority Mail large flat-rate box or in a special version of the box identified with the additional logo: “Americasupportsyoud.mil.” If the special version of the APO/FPO flat-rate box is used for non-APO/FPO addresses, the domestic or international large flat-rate box prices will apply. Only USPS-produced flat-rate boxes are eligible for the flat-rate box prices.

\* \* \* \* \*

**700 Special Standards**

**703 Nonprofit Standard Mail and Other Unique Eligibility**

\* \* \* \* \*

**2.0 Overseas Military Mail**

**2.1 Basic Standards**

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Renumber current 2.1.2 through 2.1.6 as new 2.1.3 through 2.1.7 and add new 2.1.2 as follows:]*

**2.1.2 APO/FPO Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box**

A USPS-produced APO/FPO Priority Mail large flat-rate box sent to an APO/FPO destination address, regardless of the actual weight of the piece, is charged \$10.95. Items to an APO/FPO address may be shipped in a special version of the box identified with the additional logo: “Americasupportsyoud.mil.” If the special version of the APO/FPO flat-rate box is used for non-APO/FPO addresses, the domestic or international large flat-rate box prices will apply.

Articles mailed to an APO/FPO address in one of the regular flat-rate boxes (FRB-1 or FRB-2) are charged \$8.95. Only USPS-produced flat-rate boxes are eligible for the flat-rate box prices.

\* \* \* \* \*

Neva R. Watson  
*Attorney, Legislative.*

[END DOCUMENT]