



# OFF THE BEAM

Off the Beam is published bi-monthly by University Mail Services, ACU Box 28188, 674-2530, www.acu.edu/ums.

## Independence Day Schedule

	Operating Hours		Incoming U.S. Mail and Shipments Boxing Goals			Campus Mail Boxing Goals*		Delivery Routes	Department Outgoing U.S. Mail Deadline**	U.S. Mail Collections
	McGlothlin Campus Center Window	Mail Production Center	U.S. Mail	Air Shipments	Ground Shipments	Received by 9:00	Received by 3:30			
Tue Jul 4	Closed									
Wed Jul 5	8:00 - 5:00	8:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 5:00	4:00	Within 1 Hour of Receipt	Within 2 Hours of Receipt	4:00	5:00	11:00 & 2:30	3:30	2:20 & 4:50

\* Campus mail must meet the quantity and mail preparation guidelines to be processed by these times.

\*\* This deadline is for single piece First-Class Mail, Package Services and international mail that meets the quantity and mail preparation guidelines. The deadline for Express Mail, Global Express Mail and Global Priority Mail is 4:15 p.m.

## Postal Service Files to Increase Postage Rates Again

### This Increase is to Fund Postal Operations

On Thursday, May 4, 2006 the Postal Service filed a postage rate case with the Postal Rate Commission. The final version of the case will take effect in 11 or 12 months.

The previous rate case that took effect on January 8, 2006 was to solely fund an escrow account required by the U.S. Congress and under their control. The Postal Service was required to deposit \$3.1 billion in 2005 and the amount increases each year.

This new rate case will fund postal operations. The last previous increase for postal operations was June 30, 2002. The Postal Service was able to go nearly five years without increasing their rates for postal operations.

### Rate Case Highlights

**Shape Differentiation** – The current rates do not always distinguish between different shapes and their different processing costs. The new proposed rates will take this into account. The Postal Service expects this will encourage efficiency where mailers will move flats to letters and packages to flats.

**Additional Ounce Rate** – As the Postal Service emphasizes shape in their pricing, they propose to reduce the additional ounce rate for First-Class Mail. For letters over one ounce the proposed rates are lower than the current rates.

**Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes** – This experimental service is made permanent. The flat rate boxes are available from Mail Services at no charge.

**Express Mail** – A new one pound rate is proposed.

### “Forever Stamp”

The Postal Service is proposing a “forever stamp” in this rate case. This stamp, no matter when purchased, would be valid for the postage for a one ounce letter no matter when mailed, even if the postage rates had increased. The stamp would be limited to individual non-commercial use only.

### How to Pay Less for Postage

Are you looking for ways to mitigate the effect this rate increase will have on your budget? There are a number of ways that this can be done and we would be happy to visit with you about them.

For example, currently, a 3 ounce flat sent First-Class Mail costs \$0.87. Under the proposed rates it would increase 17.2 percent to \$1.02. But if you folded the contents in half and put them in a 6" x 9" envelope, the proposed rate would be \$0.82, 5.2 percent lower than the current rates!

If you are sending a First-Class mailing of 500 or more pieces and the mail pieces can be addressed by us (similar to Standard Mail), we can save you money on your postage costs. Contact Holly Perry at 674-2865 or holly.a.perry@acu.edu on sending a Presorted First-Class mailing.

### Express Mail

#### Next Day and Second Day Post Office to Addressee

Up to ½ lb and flat rate envelope . . . . .	from \$14.40 to \$16.25
Over ½ lb and up to 1 lb . . . . .	18.80 19.50
Over 1 lb and up to 2 lbs . . . . .	18.80 21.40
Over 2 lbs and up to 70 lbs . . . . .	varies by weight

### First-Class Mail

**Post Cards** . . . . . from \$0.24 to \$0.27

#### Letters and Sealed Parcels

Single piece	
First Ounce	
Letters . . . . .	from \$0.39 to \$0.42
Flats . . . . .	0.39 0.62
Packages . . . . .	0.39 1.00
Each additional ounce to 13 ounces . . . . .	0.24 0.20
Nonmachineable surcharge . . . . .	0.13 none
Presorted (base non-automation)	
First Ounce	
Letters . . . . .	from \$0.371 to \$0.400
Flats . . . . .	0.371 0.519
Packages . . . . .	0.371 0.727
Each additional ounce to 13 ounces . . . . .	0.237 0.200

**First-Class Mail Continued****Priority Mail**

Flat rate boxes	from \$8.10 to \$8.80
Up to 1 lb and flat rate envelope	4.05 4.65
Over 1 lb and up to 70 lbs	varies by weight and zone

Priority Mail to zones 1 to 4 and local weighing less than 20 (now 15) pounds but measuring more than 84 inches in length and girth combined would be charged the zone rate for 20 (now 15) pounds.

Priority Mail to zones 5 to 8 exceeding one cubic foot will be rated at the actual weight or the dimensional weight, whichever is greater. Dimensional weight is length x width x height / 194.

**Standard Mail**

The nonmachineable and residual shape surcharges are eliminated. For packages and nonmachineable flats that do not bear a barcode, add \$0.05 per piece.

**Regular** (base non-automation)

Letters (up to 3.3 ozs)	from \$0.282 to \$0.292
Flats - Machineable	
Minimum per piece	0.363 0.431
Per piece	0.209 0.279
Per pound	0.746 0.739
Flats - Nonmachineable	
Minimum per piece	0.363 0.956
Per piece	0.209 0.750
Per pound	0.746 1.001
Packages	
Minimum per piece	0.363 1.106
Per piece	0.209 0.800
Per pound	0.746 1.001

**Nonprofit** (base non-automation)

Letters	from \$0.170 to \$0.178
Flats - Machineable	
Minimum per piece	0.237 0.285
Per piece	0.113 0.157
Per pound	0.602 0.622
Flats - Nonmachineable	
Minimum per piece	0.237 0.632
Per piece	0.113 0.500
Per pound	0.602 0.641
Packages	
Minimum per piece	0.237 0.986
Per piece	0.113 0.700
Per pound	0.602 0.903

**Package Services****Parcel Post** (Inter-BMC)

Up to 70 lbs. varies by weight and zone

Parcel Post weighing less than 20 (now 15) pounds but measuring more than 84 inches in length and girth combined would be charged the zone rate for 20 (now 15) pounds.

**Bound Printed Matter** (Nonpresorted)

Up to 15 pounds varies by weight and zone

**Media Mail** (Single piece)

First lb	from \$1.59 to \$2.09
Each additional lb up to 7 lbs	0.48 0.38
Each additional lb from 7 lbs up to 70 lbs	0.34 0.38

**Library Mail** (Single piece)

First lb	from \$1.51 to \$1.99
Each additional lb up to 7 lbs	0.46 0.36
Each additional lb from 7 lbs up to 70 lbs	0.32 0.36

**Special Services**

**Address Corrections** (manual) from \$0.75 to \$0.50

**Business Reply Mail**

Post Cards	
Qualified BRM	from \$0.36 to \$0.39
Regular BRM	0.45 0.45
Letters	
First oz	
Qualified BRM	0.51 0.54
Regular BRM	0.60 0.60
Each additional ounce up to 13 ozs	0.24 0.20

**Certificate of Mailing**

Individual	from \$0.95 to \$1.05
3 or more on approved manifest (each)	0.30 0.35

**Certified Mail** from \$2.40 to \$2.65

**Delivery Confirmation** (retail)

First-Class Packages and Package Services	from \$0.60 to \$0.75
Priority Mail	0.50 0.65

**Insurance**

Express Mail	
Up to \$100	no charge
\$100.01 to \$200	from \$1.05 to \$0.75
\$200.01 to \$300	2.10 2.10
\$300.01 to \$400	3.15 2.10
\$400.01 to \$500	4.20 2.10
Each additional \$100 or fraction of \$100 up to \$5,000	1.05
Each additional \$500 or fraction of \$500 up to \$5,000	1.35
All Other Classes	
\$0.01 to \$50	1.35 1.65
\$50.01 to \$100	2.30 2.05
\$100.01 to \$200	3.35 2.45
\$200.01 to \$300	4.40 4.60
Each additional \$100 or fraction of \$100 up to 5,000	1.05 0.90

**Money Orders** (domestic)

\$0.01 to \$500	from \$0.95 to \$1.10
\$500.01 to \$1,000	1.30 1.50

**Registered Mail**

No declared value	from \$7.90 to \$11.95
\$0.01 to \$100	8.45 12.70
\$100.01 to \$500	9.35 14.00
\$500.01 to \$1,000	10.25 15.35
Each additional \$1,000 or fraction of \$1,000 up to \$25,000	0.90 1.35
Over \$25,000	varies by declared value

**Restricted Delivery** from \$3.70 to \$4.10

**Return Receipt for Merchandise**

Requested at the time of mailing	from \$3.15 to \$3.50
Requested after mailing	3.45 3.80

**Return Receipts**

Requested at the time of mailing	from \$1.85 to \$2.15
Requested after mailing	3.45 3.80

**Signature Confirmation** (retail)

First-Class Packages, Priority Mail and Package Services	from \$1.35 to \$1.75
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**Special Handling**

Up to 10 lbs	from \$6.25 to \$6.90
Over 10 lbs	8.70 9.60

**Stamped Stationery**

Post cards	from \$0.26 to \$0.29
Envelopes, #9 and #10	0.45 0.49