

# Talking Points and Frequently Asked Questions

## Competitive Services Price Change – May 11, 2026

### Talking Points

- The U.S. Postal Service filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) today to adjust some prices on some domestic competitive package and service offerings. Pending favorable review and comments from the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), these price changes and adjustments will take effect on July 12.
- Changes include, but are not limited to, elimination of ounce-based rate differentiation for published Commercial USPS Ground Advantage prices, which will not impact customers that have negotiated commercial rates for USPS Ground Advantage; and a competitive PO Box price increase of 3 percent.
- Also, the Postal Service will introduce *Addresses API*, a new Address Management System offering, and will align the divisor for dimensional weight pieces to industry standards for Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, USPS Ground Advantage, and Parcel Select.
- New fees will be established for handling hazardous materials for Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail, as well as a noncompliance fee for improperly prepared hazardous material items shipped using competitive package products. Hazardous materials are substances that could injure people or cause damage if not handled properly, like chemicals or flammable items. The Postal Service provides guidelines for mailing hazardous materials on its [Shipping Restrictions](#) website, with additional information and details available in [Publication 52](#).
- The Postal Service is focused on strengthening its shipping products and offerings as part of its 10-year modernization plan for service excellence, on-time delivery, and revenue generation from enhanced package delivery services. With more than 31,000 Post Offices, multiple pickup options, including free package pickup, the Postal Service provides exceptional value and convenience to customers.
- Shipping Services prices are primarily adjusted according to market conditions. The Postal Service governors evaluate shipping rates and fees and adjust them when needed as part of Postal Service's 10-year network modernization plan to return the organization to financial sustainability and achieve service excellence while maintaining universal six-day mail delivery and expanding seven-day package delivery.
- Notably, the Postal Service has some of the lowest mailing rates in the industrialized world and continues to offer great values in shipping. The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

## Internal FAQs

### 1. What is happening to the prices?

The Postal Service is asking the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) today to adjust some prices on some domestic competitive package and service offerings. Pending favorable review and comments from the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), these price changes and adjustments will take effect on July 12.

Changes include, but are not limited to, elimination of ounce-based rate differentiation for published Commercial USPS Ground Advantage prices, which will not impact customers that have negotiated commercial rates for USPS Ground Advantage; and a competitive PO Box price increase of 3 percent.

Also, the Postal Service will introduce Addresses API, a new Address Management System offering, and will align the divisor for dimensional weight pieces to industry standards for Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, USPS Ground Advantage, and Parcel Select.

New fees will be established for handling hazardous materials for Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail, as well as a noncompliance fee for improperly prepared hazardous material items shipped using competitive package products. The Postal Service provides guidelines for mailing hazardous materials on its [Shipping Restrictions](#) website, with additional information and details available in [Publication 52](#).

### 2. When will the change take place?

The change is expected to take effect July 12, if approved by the PRC.

### 3. Why are the prices changing?

Shipping services prices are primarily adjusted according to market conditions. The Governors believe these new rates will keep the Postal Service competitive while providing the agency with needed revenue.

The Postal Service is focused on strengthening its shipping products and offerings as part of its 10-year modernization plan for service excellence, on-time delivery, and revenue generation from enhanced package delivery services.

## EXTERNAL FAQ

### 1. What is happening to the prices?

The Postal Service is asking the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) today to adjust some prices on some domestic competitive package and service offerings. Pending favorable review and comments from the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), these price changes and adjustments will take effect on July 12.

Changes include, but are not limited to, elimination of ounce-based rate differentiation for published Commercial USPS Ground Advantage prices, which will not impact customers that have negotiated commercial rates for USPS Ground Advantage; and a competitive PO Box price increase of 3 percent.

Also, the Postal Service will introduce Addresses API, a new Address Management System offering, and will align the divisor for dimensional weight pieces to industry standards for Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, USPS Ground Advantage, and Parcel Select.

New fees will be established for handling hazardous materials for Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail, as well as a noncompliance fee for improperly prepared hazardous material items shipped using competitive package products. The Postal Service provides guidelines for mailing hazardous materials on its [Shipping Restrictions](#) website, with additional information and details available in [Publication 52](#).

### 2. What effect will this have on Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, USPS Ground Advantage Retail, and Parcel Select?

Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, USPS Ground Advantage Retail, and Parcel Select published prices are not changing. This filing will impact the way dimensional weight is calculated for those products, and for Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail, HazMat Handling fees will be introduced.

### 3. When will the change take place?

The change is expected to take effect July 12, if approved by the PRC.

### 4. Why are the prices changing?

Shipping Services prices are primarily adjusted according to market conditions. The Postal Service governs evaluate shipping rates and fees and adjust them when needed as part of Postal Service's network modernization plan to return the organization to financial sustainability and achieve service excellence while maintaining universal six-day mail delivery and expanding seven-day package delivery.

### 4. How will this change help the Postal Service?

The Postal Service is focused on strengthening its shipping products and offerings as part of its modernization plan for service excellence, on-time delivery, and revenue

generation from enhanced package delivery services. With more than 31,000 Post Offices, multiple pickup options, including free package pickup, the Postal Service provides exceptional value and convenience to customers.

**5. Is the Postal Service losing money on package delivery like it has on mail?**

The Postal Service is focused on growing our package delivery service by improving service performance, continuing network modernization and innovation across products and digital capabilities, with a strategy to drive growth and greater value for customers.

Additionally, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA) of 2006 requires competitive rates to cover their costs plus an appropriate share of overhead. These adjustments comply with that act.

**6. How much money does Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express generate for the Postal Service?**

Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express accounted for \$6.4 billion, or 7.9 percent, of the \$80.6 billion in total revenue in FY25.

**7. How many packages did the Postal Service deliver in 2025?**

The Postal Service delivered 6.8 billion packages and provided service to more than 170 addresses in FY25.

**8. Do you expect to raise shipping rates again in 2026?**

We're continually reviewing our pricing approach for all products.

**9. As a result of the Postal Service's ongoing modernization plan, will the public have to pay higher rates for slower package service?**

The strategic and very prudent application of price increases paired with investment in our network will allow us to provide the predictable, reliable service that the American people expect and deserve and ensure the financial sustainability of the Postal Service.

**10. Are there other ways the Postal Service can improve its financial standing without raising prices?**

Price changes are one of several approaches outlined in our strategy to reverse \$160B in projected losses over the next 10 years. Price changes, as well as other tactics to increase efficiencies and reduce costs are self-help strategies that the Postal Service can initiate right now. The extent to which other parts of the plan are successful could serve to mitigate the need for price increases as we move forward. Click here for the [network modernization and financial sustainability plan](#).