



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Oct. 17, 2011

Contact: Darleen Reid  
(O) 212-330-2929  
(C) 212-203-9244  
dreid@usps.gov  
usps.com/news

Release No. 11-115

## Postal Service Delivers the Holidays to Service Members Worldwide for Only \$12.95 with Priority Flat Rate Boxes

### USPS Publishes 2011 Recommended Holiday Mailing Dates for APO/FPO Destinations

WASHINGTON — In anticipation of a busy holiday shipping season, the United States Postal Service is announcing recommended holiday mailing dates and a discounted, flat rate price of \$12.95 on packages sent to military service personnel worldwide. The price includes a \$2.00 per box discount on Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes for military mail being sent to APO/FPO (Air/Army Post Office, Fleet Post Office) destinations worldwide. In addition to a lower cost per package, customers can be assured that shipping with the Postal Service will provide reliable, trusted and secure delivery to military personnel stationed worldwide.

To ensure timely delivery of holiday wishes by Dec. 25th, cards and packages to military APO/FPO addresses overseas should be sent no later than the mailing dates listed below.

Military Mail Addressed To:	Express Mail Military Service <sup>1</sup>	First-Class Mail Letters/Cards	Priority Mail	Parcel Airlift Mail <sup>2</sup>	Space Available Mail <sup>3</sup>	Parcel Post
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec. 3	Dec. 3	Dec. 1	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AA ZIP 340	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12

Mailing date chart footnotes:

1 Express Mail Military Service (EMMS) is available at select military Post Offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to an APO/FPO address.

2 Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

3 Space Available Mail (SAM) parcels are paid at Parcel Post prices with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

The recommended last day to mail the most economical postage to overseas military destinations, including Iraq and Afghanistan, is Nov. 12.

“We suggest using the Postal Service’s Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes for sending all your military packages overseas this holiday season,” said Giselle Valera, vice president and managing director, Global Business. “There’s no shipping service that’s a better value, more reliable, or easier to use than our Flat Rate program. And, those familiar red and white boxes emblazoned with the ‘America Supports You’ logo are sure to remind those away from home, of a bit of home.”

For online ordering of the large Priority Mail APO/FPO Flat Rate Boxes featuring the “America Supports You” logo and information about mailing letters and packages to military destinations, visit [Priority Mail APO/FPO Boxes](#) under “Order Free Boxes.”

The Postal Service also offers free military care kits, designed specifically for military families sending packages overseas. Each kit includes two “America Supports You” large Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes, four medium-sized Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes, six Priority Mail labels, one roll of Priority Mail tape and six customs forms with envelopes. The mailing kits can be ordered by requesting them at 800-610-8734.

Additional savings are available for customers printing Priority Mail postage labels online at [Click-N-Ship](#) where additional discounts can be obtained for preparing your military mailing online.

Mail addressed to military Post Offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation and handling. APO/FPO addresses generally require customs forms. To see an online table of updated APO and FPO addresses and mailing restrictions by individual APO/FPO ZIP codes, click on [APO/FPO Addresses](#), select “Pull-Out Information” and click on “Other Information.”

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

# # #

**Please Note:** For broadcast quality video and audio, photo stills and other media resources, visit the USPS Newsroom at <http://about.usps.com/news/welcome.htm>.

For reporters interested in speaking with a regional Postal Service public relations professional on this issue, please go to <http://about.usps.com/news/media-contacts/usps-local-media-contacts.pdf>.

A self-supporting government enterprise, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation, 150 million residences, businesses and Post Office Boxes. The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses, and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. With 32,000 retail locations and the most frequently visited website in the federal government, [usps.com](#), the Postal Service has annual revenue of more than \$67 billion and delivers nearly 40 percent of the world’s mail. If it were a private sector company, the U.S. Postal Service would rank 29th in the 2010 Fortune 500. *Black Enterprise* and *Hispanic Business* magazines ranked the Postal Service as a leader in workforce diversity. The Postal Service has been named the Most Trusted Government Agency six consecutive years and the sixth Most Trusted Business in the nation by the Ponemon Institute.