UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®

POSTAL NEWS

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USPS Operation Santa Adoption Registration Is Open

Help create holiday joy for those in need

WASHINGTON — USPS Operation Santa adoption registration is officially open!

Groups and individuals interested in adopting letters for this year's program should visit *USPSOperationSanta.com*, click on the registration link and follow the prompts. For security reasons, all prospective adopters must be vetted through a short registration and ID verification process before they can participate. If someone has adopted letters in the past, they must still be verified each year.

"Every year we receive thousands of letters filled with holiday wishes — often outnumbering available adopters — many letters come from entire households," said Sheila Holman, vice president of marketing for the Postal Service. "To help these families, we encourage companies and organizations to form teams to adopt a household together, ensuring everyone in the home can share in the joy of the holidays."

Letter Adoption Opens Nov. 16

Beginning Monday, Nov. 16, approved adopters can begin selecting letters and shopping for gifts. The deadline to send gifts is Saturday, Dec. 12. Interested adopters can follow a few easy steps to start granting wishes:

- Visit the *USPS Operation Santa* website for account creation and identity verification.
- Find and select a meaningful letter or letters from an individual or a family.
- Shop for gifts either on your own or via Santa's Gift Shoppe powered by Toys"R"Us.
- **Ship all gifts by Saturday, Dec. 12,** from a participating Post Office location or through the online gift catalog.

The Postal Service is once again working with Toys"R"Us to provide Santa's Gift Shoppe. This online gift catalog gives adopters an easy way to shop for and ship gifts directly to recipients. Of course, for those who prefer to shop for gifts in person and send them from a Post Office location, that option is still available.

"USPS Operation Santa has been an enduring holiday program for more than a century. Through the generosity of others, the holiday season has been made extra special for thousands of children and families in need," Holman said.

The U.S. Postal Service began accepting letters for the 114-year-old holiday program Sept. 14. Letters are available on USPSOperationSanta.com, and they're ready to be read and adopted*.

For more information on the USPS Operation Santa program, history, important dates and how to participate as either a letter writer or adopter, visit *USPSOperationSanta.com*.

**There is no guarantee every letter will be posted, and if posted, there is no guarantee it will be adopted and fulfilled*.

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Please Note: The United States Postal Service is an independent federal establishment, mandated to be self-financing and to serve every American community through the affordable, reliable and secure delivery of mail and packages to more than 170 million addresses six and often seven days a week. Overseen by a bipartisan Board of Governors, the Postal Service is currently pursuing a transformation plan aimed at restoring long-term financial sustainability, improving service, and maintaining the organization as one of America's most valued and trusted brands.

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.

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