

The USPS Announces Applicable Prices for Pieces That Fail New Deflection Standards; Postpones Implementation to June 7, 2010

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The USPS has announced a delayed implementation date of **June 7, 2010** for changes to the deflection standards for flats. In addition to the delayed implementation, the Postal Service is also proposing changes to the applicable prices for pieces that fail to meet the deflection standards.

The general changes to these mailing standards include:

- Deflection standards that apply to all flats, not just automation flats
- The longest edge of the flat is considered its length, including oblong type pieces
- The deflection testing method has been changed
- The tolerance has been reduced and thus is more restrictive

For commercial flats that fail the deflection standard, price eligibility by class of mail is described in the tables below. For all classes of mail, if the mailing is determined not to meet the deflection standard, the sortation for failed pieces may remain as prepared, although for First-Class Mail mailed at single-piece prices, mailers must ensure their mail is not marked "presorted" or "auto," or apply a marking correction.

For access to the complete Federal Register notice released by the USPS, please click on the link below:

http://pe.usps.com/FRN/Eligibility_CommFlats_Failing_Deflection.pdf

First-Class Mail automation

<i>Eligibility as planned or presented</i>	<i>Eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Automation 5-digit flat	Presorted flat
Automation 3-digit	Presorted flat
Automation ADC	Presorted flat
Automation MADC	Presorted flat

First-Class Mail presorted (nonautomation)

<i>Eligibility as planned or presented</i>	<i>Eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Presorted flat	Single-Piece flat or Presorted parcel

Periodicals Outside County

<i>Piece price eligibility as planned or presented</i>	<i>Piece price eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Basic carrier route flat	Machinable nonbarcoded or barcoded 5-digit flat
Machinable barcoded 5-digit flat	Nonmachinable barcoded 5-digit flat
Machinable barcoded 3-digit flat	Nonmachinable barcoded 3-digit flat
Machinable barcoded ADC flat	Nonmachinable barcoded ADC flat
Machinable barcoded MADC flat	Nonmachinable barcoded MADC flat
Machinable nonbarcoded 5-digit flat	Nonmachinable nonbarcoded 5-digit flat
Machinable nonbarcoded 3-digit flat	Nonmachinable nonbarcoded 3-digit flat
Machinable nonbarcoded ADC flat	Nonmachinable nonbarcoded ADC flat

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Machinable nonbarcoded MADC flat	Nonmachinable nonbarcoded MADC flat
Nonmachinable barcoded or nonbarcoded flat	Price claimed, if otherwise eligible

Periodicals In-County

<i>Piece price eligibility as planned or presented</i>	<i>Piece price eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Basic carrier route flat	Nonautomation or automation (if barcoded) 5-digit flat
Automation 5-digit flat	Nonautomation 5-digit flat
Automation 3-digit flat	Nonautomation 3-digit flat
Automation basic flat	Nonautomation basic flat

Standard Mail

<i>Eligibility as planned or presented</i>	<i>Eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Basic carrier route flat	Nonautomation 5-digit flat
Automation 5-digit flat	Nonautomation 5-digit flat
Automation 3-digit flat	Nonautomation 3-digit flat
Automation ADC flat	Nonautomation ADC flat
Automation MADC flat	Nonautomation MADC flat
Nonautomation flat (all sort levels)	Nonautomation MADC flat

Bound Printed Matter

<i>Eligibility as planned or presented</i>	<i>Eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Carrier route flat	Carrier route parcel
Barcoded presorted flat	Presorted parcel
Nonbarcoded presorted flat	Presorted parcel
Nonbarcoded nonpresorted flat	Price as claimed, if otherwise eligible

For access to the deflection standards for flats released earlier this year, please click on the link below:

<http://www.worldcolorlogistics.com/fileupload/256.doc>

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