

USPS Issues Advance Copy of Final Applicable Prices for Pieces That Fail New Deflection Standards

Implementation is June 7, 2010 with Price Consequences Delayed until October 3, 2010

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The Postal Service has issued its final rule regarding the applicable prices for pieces that fail to meet the deflection standards. The USPS has noted that flat-size pieces that do not meet deflection standards are not eligible for any automation prices, including Full Service Intelligent Mail prices. 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 standards, 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.

As a reminder, the general changes to the deflection 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

Implementation Dates:

1. June 7, 2010 - Delayed implementation date for changes to the deflection standards for flats
2. October 3, 2010 – Delayed implementation date for price consequences on pieces that fail to meet the deflection standards are effective

The Postal Service will be providing feedback to customers with problematic flats between June 7, 2010 and October 3, 2010 so they may adjust the mailpiece design and avoid paying additional postage.

Exemptions:

Based on industry comments they received, the Postal Service, as part of this final rule, is exempting all Basic Carrier Route flats dropshipped to DDU's from the deflection standards. This includes Periodicals, Standard Mail and Bound Printed Matter flats.

All other Basic Carrier Route flats not entered at DDU's must meet the deflection standards.

For access to the complete Advance Federal Register notice released by the USPS, please visit:

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

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NEWSFLASH



First-Class Mail Automation

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

Periodicals Outside County

<i>Piece price eligibility as presented</i>	<i>Piece price eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Basic Carrier Route flat, if not entered at a DDU	Machinable 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
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 presented</i>	<i>Piece price eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Basic Carrier Route flat, if not entered at a DDU	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 presented</i>	<i>Eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Basic Carrier Route flat, if not entered at a DDU	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 presented</i>	<i>Eligibility with failed deflection</i>
Carrier Route flat, if not entered at a DDU	Carrier Route parcel
Barcoded presorted flat	Presorted parcel
Nonbarcoded presorted flat	Presorted parcel
Nonbarcoded nonpresorted flat	Price as claimed, if otherwise eligible