

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



University Mailing Services

www.osuums.com

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Key Members of our Team:

Donna Morris—Interim Manager

Barbara Dobson—Coordinator

Pam Greenfield—Accounting Specialist- Finance/Admin

Fred Evans—Postal Foreman/Lettershop, Bulk Mail

Trudy Simank—Student Union Post Office

Seth Beck—Postal Foreman/Accountables

Jaime Wheat—Financial Assistant

Daisha Nance—Sr. Admin Suppt Asst/List Management

USPS Postage Rates Have Changed

The United State Postal Service (USPS) announced a rate increase that took effect on May 14th, 2007. The most notable change is the **First-Class Mail (1oz.)** postage, which increased from 39 cents to 41 cents.

In addition to **weight**, the rate structure puts a greater emphasis on size and **shape**. There was a rate increase in almost every class of mail, a reduction in the cost of an additional ounce for First Class mail and flat-rate pricing for Priority Mail envelopes and boxes.

The shape of the mailpiece now plays a larger role in the pricing of First-Class Mail. Before, letters, flats (large envelopes) and parcels over 1-ounce had the same price at every weight increment. The new rate design recognizes that each of these shapes has substantially different processing costs and should have separate prices.

NEW PRICING BASICS

Mail Type	New Price
First-Class® letters	\$0.41 (first ounce) \$0.17 (each additional ounce)
First-Class® Large Envelopes	\$0.80 (first ounce) \$0.17 (each additional ounce)
First-Class® Packages	\$1.13 (first ounce) \$0.17 (each additional ounce)
Priority Mail® Flat Rate Boxes	\$8.95
Priority Mail® Flat Rate Envelopes	\$4.60

NEW! FOREVER STAMPS
Buy them now—use them forever!

There's no need to buy extra postage when prices increase with the Forever stamp. Buy at the new price of \$0.41 and the postage will be good for mailing your First-Class letters forever.

Get yours at The Postal Store

“The shape of the mailpiece will play a larger role in the pricing of First-Class Mail.”



UMS Employees – The “Lifeblood”

Mail is the lifeblood of the modern college campus and is the vessel through which most recruiting, fund raising, business dealings, and informational communication efforts flow. Imagine the consequences if mail was not sent/received in a timely, efficient, and safe manner!

The Campus Mail Center is, as often as not, the Rodney Dangerfield of all college departments - they "don't get no respect." But this perception in today's society is not accurate. The Campus Mail Center has become a computer technical and labor intensive running department.

Today's college/university mail-handlers are not transient employees. They represent a new standard of professionalism that does not indicate entry level mobility, but instead, a career position in mail distribution.

"The "Mailroom" is no longer a stepping stone to a career. It is a career!"

The Campus Mail Center employees must have unique social and physical skills to succeed in this field, and many persons employed elsewhere on campus would not last a week working in Mail Services.

The employees must be dependable. There are many jobs where the workload is variable and tardiness and absenteeism go virtually unnoticed. Not so in the mail business. Our workload is constant and time-sensitive. The work cycle continues on holidays, rainy days and snow days, making it endless in nature and impossible to put aside.

Campus Mail Center employees must be physically strong, agile and have endurance. What other department demands the physical stamina of standing for hours, sorting, metering, lifting and processing packages, working the window, and lifting and hauling packages and mail to departments every day?

The employees must have a working knowledge of the various kinds of mail system computers. Mail demands today require faster processing with less labor time.

Employees need to be flexible. The Campus Mail Center demands an individual who can deal with rote labor and accelerate to meet unexpected challenges.

The career Mail Specialist needs social interaction skills. The modern Campus Mail Center is the (written) communications center of the university. The employee within this department must interact effectively with all levels of society, while exhibiting friendliness and a demonstrated knowledge of their field.

Because the Campus Mail Center has many varying situations where the daily department routine is disrupted because of rush jobs, weather conditions, exceptionally large volumes of mail to be processed the same day, etc., the Campus Mail Center needs individuals who have the ability to prioritize and work independently to get the job done.

The "Mailroom" is no longer a stepping stone to a career. It is a career! And a career which demands individuals to be very diversified in knowledge, equipment skills, and people skills.

And only through much time devoted to educating, training, and experience does this happen. Colleges and Universities need long-term employees who will grow and develop the capabilities to provide its school with quality economic, efficient, prompt, and consistent service!

~anonymous submission



Should I Invest in “Forever” Stamps?

The postal rate climbed 2 cents on Monday, May 14, 2007, about a month after the United States Postal Service introduced its new “forever” stamp. As of last week, the USPS had sold more than \$82 million worth of the forever stamps, which lock in the 41-cent rate for eternity. One man in Pennsylvania walked into a post office and made an \$8,000 investment on his own. Should we all be stocking up?

Absolutely not. Since 1971, postal rates have increased more slowly than the actual inflation rate, as measured by the U.S. Consumer Price Index. So, despite the numerous rate hikes over the last 36 years, stamps have actually been getting cheaper. The 20-cent stamp from 1981, for instance, would be equivalent to 45 cents in today’s dollars - Which makes today’s rate 10 percent cheaper than it was 26 years ago. Should this historical pattern hold, you’d be paying more for today’s forever stamps that you would for any stamp in the future, no matter how high the rate goes.

In fact, this pattern must hold—as a matter of law. In December, President Bush signed the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, which ensures that future price increases will be kept below an inflation-based ceiling. In other words, postage hikes will never surpass inflation—and the forever stamp will never become a good investment. Incidentally, the USPS announced the introduction of the forever stamp less than two months after Bush signed the act into law.

The USPS is not the first postal agency to catch on to the benefits of a forever stamp, which in philatelic circles is known by a less sexy moniker, “non-value indicator.” Canada introduced them last November joining Finland, Israel, The United Kingdom, Belgium, France, Norway, Monaco, and Sweden, among others.

American forever stamps would have been a good investment if they’d been introduced much earlier. The 2-cent stamp from 1919 would have been a real bargain, at a cost of 24 cents in today’s dollars; so would 1952’s 3-cent stamp (23 cents today). A forever stamp would have been attractive to the consumer as late as 1971—the year the USPS was formed—when first-class postage was just 6 cents, equal to 31 cents today. The biggest rip-off in the modern era? The 13 cent stamp from 1975 - which would be 50 cents today.

Article provided via *The Paris Review* - written by Nathaniel Rich



ABOVE: USPS Forever Stamp

“American forever stamps would have been a good investment if they’d been introduced much earlier.”



ADVO card leads to recovery of 144th missing child

The Postal Service and ADVO are proud to announce the recent recovery of 6-year-old Jonathan Smalley last week in the Tulsa, OK, area. He was missing for more than 2 years from his home in Peoria, IL. Jonathan is the 144th child to be safely recovered as a direct result of ADVO's "America's Looking for Its Missing Children" program.

Since 1985, USPS has participated in a nationwide effort to recover missing children. Each week, the Postal Service – with direct mailer ADVO and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children – mails "Have You Seen Me?" cards to 75 million households.

UMS would like to mention...

Do you have pick ups?


To put a pick up on the list, call:
4-5385 or 4-5323 BEFORE 4:30pm



Express Envelope

NEED MAIL SUPPLIES?

Our staff is prepared to send you any mail related materials, from certified mail flags, to UPS and FedEx envelopes or boxes!!



JUST TELL US WHAT YOU NEED!

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