

USPS mailing services prices change May 11

The governors of the U.S. Postal Service have approved new prices for mailing services, including a 2-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail stamp to 44 cents. The new prices will go into effect Monday, May 11.



Forever Stamp before May 11. Forever Stamps were developed to help consumers ease the transition during price changes. Forever Stamps don't have a denomination and are honored whenever they are used with no need for additional postage for a one-ounce letter mailing.

Rising costs make the price adjustments necessary — the increase tracks the 2008 rate of inflation.

“The Postal Service is not immune to rising costs which are affecting homes and businesses across America today,” said Postmaster General Jack Potter. “Even with the increases, the Postal Service continues to offer some of the lowest postage prices in the world.”

For the average household, the First-Class Mail stamp price change represents an additional \$3 over the course of the year. When compared to annual increases in other household expenses, such as groceries, healthcare and utilities, the Postal Service continues to be an economical choice for shipping and mailing during tough economic times. For First-Class Mail, there will be no changes in the current additional ounce price, which remains at 17 cents.

Customers can continue to mail letters at today's prices by purchasing the

Forever Stamp before May 11. The price of the Forever Stamp will be 44 cents.

The new prices are available at usps.com/prices.

USPS has taken steps in recent years to meet changing economic realities with new and creative products and services. Today, the Postal Service offers its customers easier access, quicker transactions, greater convenience and on-time delivery. The Postal Service set record on-time delivery scores for the delivery of First-Class Mail in 2008. And just last week, USPS was rated by consumers as the most trusted government agency for the fifth year in a row.

“The Postal Service continues to offer a good deal during a time when we're all looking for ways to save,” said Steve Kearney, senior vice president for customer relations. “Our range of shipping and mailing options and low prices make USPS the smart and easy choice.” ■

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