2022 INFORMED DELIVERY PROMOTION

Invite your customers to engage with your mail campaign through previewed, interactive digital images.





PROMOTION OVERVIEW

Deliver a multi-channel experience through mail

Informed Delivery[®] enhances the mail experience nationwide by providing eligible residential and personal PO Box[™] consumers with a digital preview of their household's mail.

With Informed Delivery, business mailers can engage users through an integrated mail and digital marketing campaign that generates additional consumer impressions, interactions, and insights.



4% DISCOUNT

Informed Delivery Promotion

By pairing a digital Ride-along Image and a Representative Image with your mail campaign through Informed Delivery, you give your audience additional ways to interact with your offer, whether they're at the mailbox or in their inbox.

Mark your calendar

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
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				Promo	tion Period	AUG 1				DEC 31	

PROMOTION FEATURES:



Integrate physical mailboxes with digital inboxes

Take customer engagement to the next level through images that invite user interactions

This campaign leveraged Informed Delivery to raise brand awareness, generating over 30,000 impressions and many calls and inquiries.



A non-profit used Informed Delivery to create an omnichannel experience that enhanced a highly targeted, personalized direct mail campaign.



QUICK START





Eligible Mail Options

- O First-Class Mail[™] automation letters, postcards, and flats
- USPS Marketing Mail^{*} automation letters and flats
- O Nonprofit USPS Marketing Mail[™] automation letters and flats

Ineligible Mailpieces

- O Non-automation mail
- O Saturation mail flats
- O Destination Delivery Unit (DDU) flats
- O Every Door Direct Mail[®] (EDDM)
- O Detached Address Label / Detached Marketing Label flats
- O Business-to-Business or Business-to-Institution/Campus mailings
- O Package campaigns

2 Promotion Process at a Glance

Tamiliarize yourself with the	Register for the Informed Delivery Promotion on the Business Customer Gateway (BCG).
3 Create your Informed Delivery campaign elements and submit them to the Promotions Office for review and approval.	Coordinate how you will submit the campaign and the postage statement. Ensure your campaign dates and portal submission will meet verification requirements.
5 Submit the Campaign elements in the portal and then submit the Postage Statement, ensuring at least 24 hours between submissions.	6 Launch your campaign and retain a hard copy sample of your mailpiece.



Program Information



Create your Informed Delivery campaign elements

- Ride-along Images with a strong call-to-action (CTA) are required for all Informed Delivery interactive campaigns.
- Representative Images are required for Informed Delivery interactive campaigns conducted on flatsized mailpieces; however, they are optional for letters.
- Submit your electronic sample to USPS to get pre-approval.
- Request access to the Mailing Promotions Portal. For instructions, visit: <u>https://postalpro.usps.com/promotions/portal</u>.
- Log in to the Portal and select Submit Mailpiece Request. Complete all fields and upload your PDF samples.

- Ensure eligibility by following Promotion Details.
- Create an electronic sample to send to USPS[®] for pre-approval.
- Wait for USPS to review and pre-approve. We'll respond via email within two business days with approval or a request for additional information.



Coordinate the submission of your campaign and postage statement to ensure you receive the promotional discount. To this end, review the campaign submission checklist.



Create the postage statement and submit it electronically. Be sure to include MIDs and IMb Serial Number Ranges and the correct two-letter characteristic code, or use the drop down menu in Postal Wizard:



Retain a sample of the hard copy mailpiece(s) for 60 days after the end of campaign.

As the Mailing Promotions Portal continues to evolve, please note that USPS reserves the right to adjust the sample process.

Contact the Promotions Office

Please direct questions about promotion requirements to the Mailing Promotions Portal. For questions about Portal functionality, please contact <u>mailingpromotions@usps.gov</u>.

2A Guidance for New Participants

If you have not previously participated in the Informed Delivery Promotion, familiarize yourself with the promotion by:



To learn more about the Informed Delivery program and creating Informed Delivery campaigns, visit the <u>Informed Delivery for Business Mailers.</u>

Recommended Step: Test Informed Delivery Campaign Submissions

Prior to participating in the Promotion, USPS[®] strongly recommends that mailers complete several Informed Delivery campaigns using the submission method they plan to use for their Promotion participation.



2B Campaign Elements Requirements

To create an Informed Delivery campaign, mailers create digital campaign elements called Ride-Along Images and Representative Images that will appear in Informed Delivery users' email notifications. All Informed Delivery campaigns must include a Ride-Along image, while Representative Images are required for flat-sized mailpieces but optional for letters and other mailpieces. Follow the guidance below to ensure your campaign elements meet the requirements to claim the promotion discount.

Ride-Along Image with Call to Action (CTA)

Ride-Along Images are full color, interactive images that appear in the Informed Delivery users' daily digest. They redirect users to a target URL via a clickable interaction, bolstering the customer call-to-action (CTA) and reinforcing the business objective of the mailpiece.

General Requirements

- The Ride-Along landing page must be live and have HTTPS.
- Must be sized to at least one maximum dimension: 300px width or 200px height
- Must be saved as a JPEG (.jpg) file
- Cannot exceed 200KB in size
- Image color code must be RGB (not CMYK)

CTA Requirements

- CTA area must be at least 20% of the Ride-Along Image area
- CTA must have enough color contrast to stand out in the Ride-Along Image

Non-Eligible

The Ride-Along Image and CTA cannot encourage online bill payment or the elimination of mail

Example

Examples of good CTAs include:

- Manage / view account
- Claim your free gift
- Download the app here

- Apply now
- Click here for additional details





Representative Image

Representative Images appear in the user's daily digest email or on their USPS[®] dashboard in place of the scanned mailpiece, providing a colorful, high-quality preview of what's coming in the mail.

Do You Need a Representative Image?



Flat-Sized Mailpieces Required

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Letters & Other Mailpieces Optional

General Requirements

- Must be a static representation that closely replicates the corresponding physical mailpiece sent to the Informed Delivery user
- Submission must include two clearly labeled PDFs of:
 - The front (address side) of the physical mailpiece
 - The back (non-address side) of the physical mailpiece
- Image must be saved as a JPEG (.jpg) file
- Image cannot exceed 200KB in size
- Image color code must be RGB (not CMYK)
- Must be sized to at least one maximum dimension: 780px width or 500px height
- An image with a light-colored background must have an image border added

Non-Eligible

 Images that are not branded or directly related to the mailpiece and its contents will not qualify for the Informed Delivery promotion discount

Examples





2C Submitting Campaign Elements for Review

Submit a JPEG or PDF of the campaign elements to the Promotions Office for approval using the Mailing Promotions Portal. Make sure you include the campaign brand display name, as well as the campaign code(s) and/or date ranges (if possible). You must also include a live/active URL for the landing page that your Ride-Along image will link to.

Submit the following in JPEG or PDF format to ensure timely review and approval:

- Ride-Along image (required for all Informed Delivery campaigns)
- Representative image (required for flat-sized mailpieces; optional for letters)

Campaign elements must receive approval from the Promotions Office prior to mailing. The Promotions Office typically provides responses within four business days.

2D Campaign Submission

Once the campaign elements are approved by the Promotions Office, the next step is to submit your campaign elements in the Mailer Campaign Portal (MCP). After that, the final step is to submit your postage statement.

Informed Delivery provides a list of **Active** or **Submitted** campaigns to PostalOne! (for promotion discount verification/application) overnight for the following business day operation. Make sure your campaign is in Active or Submitted status no later than **2 p.m. EST** the day before you submit the postage statement in PostalOne!.



Often, multiple teams are involved in the process of creating campaign elements, submitting campaign elements in the MCP, submitting the electronic postage statement, and dropping the mailing at the Business Mail Entry Unit. To successfully process your Informed Delivery promotion campaign submission and application of your postage discount, we strongly recommend going through the checklist found on PostalPro Check-List.



Note:

If PostalOne! issues arise during the Promotion period which prevents the timely finalization of Postage Statements within the PostalOne! system, please follow the instructions in the PostalOne! External Contingency Plan posted on PostalPro.



MAILING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANČ

The discount must be claimed at the time of mailing during the promotion period and cannot be rebated at a later date.

*Only one promotion discount can be applied to a mailpiece or mailing. The use of multiple qualifying technologies and/or print treatments on or within a mailpiece will not increase the discount amount.

Documentation/Postage Statement

Mailing Statements Must Be Submitted Electronically via Mail.dat®, Mail.XML®, or Postal Wizard.

The Electronic Documentation (eDoc)must include the MIDs for MID Level campaigns or the MIDs and IMb[®] Serial Numbers for Serial-Range Level campaigns for the Informed Delivery mailpieces claiming the Promotion. The eDoc must identify the mail owner and mail preparer in the "By/For" fields by CRID, MID, or Permit number.

Mail.dat/Mail.XML submissions can only include a mix of pieces claiming on both MID Level and Serial-Range Level Informed Delivery campaigns on the same Postage Statement if they are claiming on two different MIDs. MID and Serial-Range Level campaigns cannot be claimed on the same Postage Statement for the same MID.

Mail.dat and Mail.XML users may use either the Informed Delivery Mailer Campaign Portal (MCP) to create campaigns or submit Informed Delivery campaign data elements embedded within the Mail.dat or Mail.XML files to create the campaign at the time the mailing is submitted to <u>PostalOnel</u>.

To claim the discount for mailings submitted via Mail.dat or Mail.XML, the Component Characteristics Record (CCR) file must be populated with the **two-letter characteristic code or from the PostalWizard dropdown:**



NOTE: MID and Serial-Range campaigns are not supported via Postal Wizard. Separate Postage Statements are required for all MID Level and Serial-Range Level Informed Delivery campaigns submitted via Postal Wizard. Mailers who use Postal Wizard must create their Informed Delivery campaigns through the MCP or through a Mail.dat Referenceable Mail Barcode (RMB) submission. Participants are require to affirmatively claim this Promotion in the "Incentive Claimed" section on electronic Postage Statement submissions certifying each mailpiece and Informed Delivery campaign meets all eligibility requirements.

B MID Level Campaign Restrictions

MID Level campaign creation via eDoc cannot claim full service discount. Participants intending to submit MID Level Informed Delivery campaign data embedded within their Mail.dat eDoc Postage Statement will not be able to also claim a Full Service discount at the same time. The only way to claim both a Full Service and Informed Delivery promotion discount is to submit your MID Level campaign via the MCP no later than 2 p.m. EST the day before the mailing is submitted to PostalOne. At this time, Mail. XML does not support the submission of MID level campaign data through eDoc. This does not affect the claiming of the Full Service discount when submitting Serial-Range Level Informed Deliver campaign data embedded within the Mail.dateDoc.

Combined and Commingled Mailings

The promotion discount can be applied to qualifying pieces within a combined or commingled mailing, but the qualifying mail must be submitted on separate postage statements or by mailpiece version.

Only one promotional discount will be applied per mailpiece version (identified by MPU Mail Piece Unit and MPU Segment ID). In a commingled mailing, which may contain multiple mail owners, a mailpiece version must be created for each mail owner. The incentive can be claimed independently for each using the CCR file. If needed, mailers may continue to use either the CSM Postage Group ID or the .mpa Customer Reference ID in order to create separate child statements for the pieces which are eligible for incentives. If a mailer is using the customer reference ID to create separate statements a unique MPA record must be created for pieces which are claiming incentive rates.

Further technical information can be found in the USPS® Mail.dat Technical Specifications:

https://postalpro.usps.com/resources-list/technical_specifications

MAILING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANČ

Verification

For the Informed Delivery promotion discount to be successfully verified*, every "MID on piece" claiming the Promotion must have a corresponding Active or Submitted Informed Delivery campaign (and corresponding IMb[®] Serial Number range, if applicable) associated with it when the 'Ready to Pay' (RTP) file is submitted and when the mailing file is finalized. Campaigns created in the MCP or via RMB submission, must be submitted and in Active or Submitted status no later than 2 p.m. EST the day before the mailing is submitted to PostalOne!

To accommodate processing issues that may occur during commingling, there is a 20% leniency threshold for the Mail.dat or Mail.XML mail piece versions in the Postage Statement:

- A maximum of 20% of the Mail.dat or Mail.XML mailpiece volume claiming the Promotion may not be associated with an Informed Delivery campaign and still succeed during the verification process.
- If more than 20% of the mailpiece volume fails verification, the promotion discount will be removed from the entire mailpiece volume and the promotion discount will not be applied.

PostalOne! Validation

PostalOne! validates each eDoc submission when it is submitted as Ready-to-Pay (RTP) and at finalization, and checks the following items:

- Do the mailpieces (MIDs and IMb Serial Ranges) claiming the discount have a related (submitted or active) and valid Informed Delivery campaign associated with them?
- Does the date range between the campaign Start and End date(s) include the postage statement mail date defined in your eDoc? The Postage Statement Mailing Date and finalization must be included within the date range of the Start and End dates of each campaign claiming the discount. This happens whether a campaign is submitted via the MCP or eDoc.

For campaigns submitted via the MCP or Mail.dat RMB submission, the related Informed Delivery campaign(s) must be in submitted or active status no later than 2 p.m. EST the day before the RTP submission and finalization, and RTP submission and finalization must not be any earlier than 6 a.m. EST the following day^{*}. For campaigns embedded with Mail.dat/Mail.XML submissions, this validation will occur at the same time of the submission.

For campaigns submitted prior to 2 p.m. EST via the MCP or Mail.dat RMB, the eDoc can be submitted the next day but must be submitted after 6 a.m. EST. For campaigns submitted after 2 p.m. EST via the MCP or Mail.dat RMB, the eDoc cannot be submitted until 2 days later and must be after 6 a.m. EST. For example, if the campaign is submitted in the MCP at 6 p.m. EST on September 1st, then the job must not be submitted until after 6 a.m. EST on September 3rd.

NOTE: USPS[®] recommends that Mail.dat RMB campaigns be submitted well in advance of eDoc submissions to avoid processing delays due to the potential high volume of RMB submissions by mailers. For verification, the minimum submission lead time for a Mail.dat RMB campaign submission is the same as a MCP campaign submission.

Campaign Start and End Dates

Start Date

Must be set to the earliest mail date of the mailing job. For example, if there are several mail dates (Postage Statement Mailing Dates in the CSM file), make sure that the campaign Start Date is set to the earliest date so that the Postage Statement Mailing Date always falls within the Start and End Dates of the campaign it is claiming.

End Date

Must be no less than five days (for First-Class Mail) or nine days (for Marketing Mail) following your final USPS mail finalization date. Failure to do so may result in the campaign not being correctly applied to the mailing and, thus, forfeiture of the Promotion.

NOTE: If any Informed Delivery Campaign included in the Postage Statement fails verification, the promotion discount will not be applied to that entire Postage Statement version.

MAILING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANČ

Mailing Date

Mail must be tendered for acceptance during the promotion period. Promotion eligible mailings must be finalized in <u>PostalOnel</u> no earlier than 12:00:00 a.m. Central Time the day the promotion starts and no later than 11:59:59 p.m. Central Time on the last day of the promotion.

Plant-Verified Drop Shipment (PVDS) mailings that are verified and paid for during the promotion period and qualify for the promotion will be accepted at destination entry postal facilities 15 calendar days after the promotion end date. (PS Form 8125). A PVDS mailing that qualifies for the promotion cannot have verification or the actual drop ship occur prior to the first day of the promotion. Any qualifying mailing that is accepted and paid for prior to start of a promotion is not eligible for the promotion discount.

Postage Payment Method

The eligible postage payments are:

- Permit Imprint
- Precanceled Stamp Permit
- Meter Permit
- OMAS and "Official Government Mail"

Meter Mail/Precanceled Payment Option

Meter mailers who wish to claim the incentive must affix the appropriate reduced promotion amounts. Mailers must select the appropriate Postage Affixed Method option as follows:

- If mailer is eligible for an VAR/CVAR for Meter Mail: all options are available (Lowest, Correct and Neither)
- NonVAR/CVAR Meter Mail: Only "Neither" is an option
- Precanceled: Only "Neither" is an option.

Any net postage due for the mailing must be paid from an advanced deposit (permit) account.

Processing Category	Incentive Postage Amount Affixed
First-Class Letters	\$0.40
First-Class Mail [®] Cards	\$0.28
First-Class Mail [®] Flats	\$0.51
USPS Marketing Mail [™] Regular Auto/PRSRT/CR Letters	\$0.15
USPS Marketing Mail [™] Regular Auto/PRSRT/CR Flats	\$0.13
USPS Marketing Mail [™] Nonprofit Auto/PRSRT/CR Letters	\$0.08
USPS Marketing Mail [™] Nonprofit Auto/PRSRT/CR Flats	\$0.05

All existing requirements around mail preparation and acceptance as they are described in the domestic Mail Manual (DMM) remain in place. Please refer to http://pe.usps.gov/text/dmm300/dmm300_landing.htm for more information.

MAILING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANČI

Ensuring Promotion Discount Success

To ensure success in claiming an Informed Delivery promotion discount, mailers must ensure the accuracy of campaign details. Carefully review the relevant checklist for your campaign creation method below, and be sure to follow the additional guidance provided in this section regarding submission dates, sample retention, and promotions audits.

For Campaigns Created via Mailer Campaign Portal (MCP)

- Make sure your Informed Delivery campaign is in SUBMITTED or ACTIVE status in the MCP no later than 2 p.m. EST the day before the job is submitted to <u>PostalOne!</u>. If your Informed Delivery campaign is created after 2 p.m. EST the day before, cancel the PostalOne! job and resubmit it the next day after 6 a.m. EST.
- Make sure the Serial Numbers in the piece Intelligent Mail barcodes (IMbs) related to the Mail Piece Unit (MPU) claiming the discount are within the start and end serials of the Informed Delivery campaign in the MCP.
- Make sure the MID in the piece IMbs related to the MPU claiming the discount is the same as the MID of the Informed Delivery campaign in the MCP.
- Make sure at least 80% of all the pieces under the MPU(s) claiming the discount can be associated/matched to an Informed Delivery Campaign in the portal based on the MID and Serial Numbers in the IMbs.
- Make sure the Postage Statement Mailing Date falls WITHIN the start and end dates of the Informed Delivery campaign in the MCP. We suggest making the Start Date of the campaign the earliest postage statement mailing date of the job.
- Make sure the CCR code for claiming the Informed Delivery promotion (Characteristic Type of "I" and Characteristic of "PI") is populated within the eDoc for each MPU claiming the discount on the postage statement.

For Campaigns Created via eDoc*

- Make sure MPUs claiming the discount have a valid campaign data associated with them in the form of RMR/RMS for Mail.dat or the Informed Delivery campaign data block for Mail.XML.
- Make sure the postage statement mailing date falls WITHIN the campaign start and end dates provided in the campaign data. We suggest making the Start Date of the campaign the earliest postage statement mailing date of the job.
- Make sure the proper CCR code for claiming the Informed Delivery promotion (Characteristic Type of "I" and Character-istic of "PI") is populated within the eDoc for each MPU claiming the discount on the postage statement.
 - * If you are using eDoc, the campaign is created at the time the mailing is submitted to PostalOne!.

Key Dates

Mail Submitted Via PostalOne!

All Promotion-eligible mailings must be finalized no earlier than **August 1, 2022**, and no later than 11:59:59 p.m. CST on **December 31, 2022**.

Note: If PostalOne! issues arise during the promotion period which prevents the timely finalization of postage statements within the PostalOne! system, please follow the instructions in the <u>PostalOne! External</u> <u>Contingency Plan</u> posted on PostalPro.

MAILING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANC

MCP Created Campaigns and RMB Submissions

For a valid Informed Delivery campaign to be associated with an Informed Delivery promotion mailing, the Informed Delivery campaign must be submitted in the MCP or via Mail.dat RMB no later than 1:59:59 p.m. EST on **December 30, 2022.**

Plant-Verified Drop Shipment (PVDS) Mailings

PVDS mailings that are verified and paid for during the promotion period and qualify for the Promotion will be accepted at destination entry postal facilities through **December 15, 2022** (PS Form 8125). A PVDS mailing that qualifies for the promotion cannot have verification or the actual drop ship occur prior to **August 1, 2022**; any qualifying mailing that is accepted and paid for prior to this date is not eligible for the promotion discount.

Sample Submission

The Promotions Office has updated its policy on the submission of hard copy mailpiece(s) for the Informed Delivery promotion. Mailers are no longer required to submit a hard copy mailpiece(s) to the BMEU. Mailers are required to keep a sample of the hard copy mailpiece(s) for 60 days after the end of campaign (for the 2022 Informed Delivery promotion that will be January 2023), in case there is a need to audit the mailpiece(s).

Post Mailing Requirements

Mailers are required to keep a sample of the hard copy mailpiece(s) for 60 days after the end of campaign in case there is a need to audit the mailpiece(s).

M Promotion Audits

Informed Delivery campaigns that are sent as part of the Promotion but which do not appear in any consumers' Informed Delivery notifications will be reviewed and might be audited. The audit process is conducted during and after the promotion period has ended. During an audit, if USPS[®] uncovers that a campaign was not authorized to claim the promotion discount, a campaign was mailed prior to receiving authorization to claim the promotion discount, or the approved campaign elements were changed, edited, or altered, then USPS reserves the right to pull any discount claimed and remove the mailer and/or MSP from participating in any USPS Mailing Promotions.

If campaigns are deemed unsuccessful due to an erroneous/invalid Informed Delivery campaign submission, the Postal Service^{*} reserves the right to pursue a revenue deficiency action.



MAILING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANCI

Initiating an Investigation

The Informed Delivery promotion requires that the discount must be claimed at the time of mailing. If you are not able to successfully claim the discount at that time of mailing, you must immediately contact the <u>PostalOne!</u>/MSSC help desk and open a case to investigate why the Informed Delivery promotion discount did not apply.

The case needs to be opened within three business days from the date of mailing. If the investigation reveals that the discount was not applied due to USPS[®] error, the discount will be reapplied to your statement.

After reviewing <u>the checklist above</u>, if you are still unsure why your discount did not apply, contact the <u>PostalOne!</u>/ Mailing &Shipping Solutions Center (MSSC) HelpDesk at <u>MSSC@USPS.gov</u> or call (877) 672-0007.

To support our investigation, when you send an email to Help Desk, please follow the instructions below:

- Include "Issue Claiming Informed Delivery promotion discount" in the subject line
- Attach screenshots, PDFs, and/or campaign files associated with the job you submitted
- · Populate the form below, with as much of the information you have, and include it in your email

Help Desk Ticket Number (if applicable)	
Name	
Mailer Name or MSP (who is submitting the mailing to PO!)	
MID used on Piece	
Submitter CRID	
Postage Statement ID	
Postage Statement Mailing Date in CSM	
File/Container Info Data	
Date Job was Submitted to PostalOne!	
Job ID for eDoc Submission (if applicable)	
Campaign Information	
Campaign Creation Method (eDoc / MCP)	
If MCP, what date/time was it submitted?	
Campaign Code	
Campaign MID	
Starting Serial	
Ending Serial	
Campaign Start Date	
Campaign End Date	

2022 INFORMED DELIVERY PROMOTION

SUPPORT





Further questions can be directed to the Promotions Office.



EMAIL For questions about USPS Promotions, contact mailingpromotions@usps.gov.

Note: Please do not email mailpiece samples, as you must upload these to the Mailing Promotions Portal for pre-approval.



For instructions on accessing the Mailing Promotions Portal, visit: <u>https://postalpro.usps.</u> com/promotions/portal.

The Promotions Office responds to all inquiries within 4 business days. Links to webinars, FAQs and other promotion resources can be found on the PostalPro[™] website at: <u>https://postalpro.usps.com/promotions</u>.

PostalOne! Helpdesk

For issues and concerns regarding enrollment or technical issues, please contact the PostalOne! Helpdesk through the Mailing & Shipping Solutions Center (MSSC) by email or phone at: <u>MSSC@USPS.gov</u> or 1-877-672-0007.

Informed Delivery Helpdesk

For issues regarding the implementation of your Informed Delivery campaign, contact the Informed Delivery Helpdesk by email or phone at <u>USPSInformedDeliveryCampaigns@USPS.gov</u> or 1-877-329-7206.

2022 INFORMED DELIVERY PROMOTION



REVISION HISTORY

Date	Section	Reason for Revision	Version
July 22, 2022	MPP	MPP information updates	v2

