

United States Postal Service®  
**INDUSTRYALERT**

September 28, 2018

## USPS to Resume Billing for ACS and Shipper Paid Forwarding Services

As stated in the Industry Alert published August 10<sup>th</sup> the USPS will issue invoices the week of September 24<sup>th</sup> for the ACS notifications and forwarding services provided during the period March 25<sup>th</sup> through July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Invoices that were sent to ACS customers for the July 25<sup>th</sup> to August 24<sup>th</sup> period contained charges for ACS records that were flagged as "Unassociated". The term Unassociated indicates the IMb used on the mail piece that produced the ACS record could not be found in any electronic documentation submitted to the Postal Service within the past 5 months. The Federal Register stated that one of the requirements to be eligible for free ACS is the mailer must "Include the unique IMb in eDoc."

Due to industry concerns related to the validity of the charges for these Unassociated records the Postal Service will exclude all Unassociated records from consideration when recasting the March through August invoices to give both the mailing industry and the Postal Service the opportunity to review these records and understand their root causes before making any decision regarding the future assessment of these charges.

ACS notifications provisioned daily through the Electronic Product Fulfillment process provides a product code that can be used to identify records that are Unassociated with the information contained in eDoc. Additional information on ACS product codes can be found in the *ACS™ File Format Technical Guide* and the *Appendix C: ACS™ Product Code Information and Details* posted at <https://postalpro.usps.com/address-quality/ACS>. ACS customers are strongly encouraged to review and understand this documentation.

ACS customers who have already paid invoices will have their accounts adjusted to remove any charges assessed for Unassociated records for the period March 25<sup>th</sup> through August 24<sup>th</sup>. Separate notifications will be sent to each ACS customer's email account to advise them of the March 25<sup>th</sup> through August 24<sup>th</sup> monthly invoice amounts that are payable. ACS customers with any questions or concerns about the invoice charges they receive may contact the ACS Support department to request a review.

For additional information or assistance please contact the ACS Support department at 877-640-0724 (Option 1) or by email to [acs@usps.gov](mailto:acs@usps.gov).

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