

USPS April 2022 Price Change FAQs

Last Updated: Thursday, March 3, 2022

Nonstandard Fee & Dimensional Noncompliance Fee

1. When is Nonstandard Fee going into effect?

The Nonstandard Fee is planned to go into effect April 3, 2022.

2. When is Dimensional Noncompliance Fee going into effect?

The Dimensional Noncompliance Fee is planned to go into effect April 3, 2022.

3. Is the Nonstandard Fee applicable to First-Class Package Service?

Non-Standard Fee applies to First-Class Package Service Retail only. PS Form 3600 FCM redline is updated on Postal Explorer to reflect this change.

4. Is the Non-Standard Fee applicable to Package Services Parcel Select Destination Entry for Nonmachinable parcels?

Non-Standard Fee applies to all Packages Service Parcel Select Destination Entry packages, including Nonmachinable parcels.

5. Is Dimensional Weight value (in eVS or PPC Manifest) used when the mail class does not have a dimensional price, such as First-Class Package Service, or Parcel Select Lightweight?

eVS and PPC will be ignoring Dimensional Weight for classes where Dimensional weight is not applicable.

6. What is the application (eVS or PPC) behavior when manifested dimensions result in a Non-Standard Fee; however, the Extra Service Codes are not provided or provided incorrectly?

The applications are expected to apply appropriate Nonstandard Fee, irrespective of the Extra Service Fee.

7. Would the Dimensional Noncompliance Fee apply when correct dimensions are manifested, but the Extra Service Codes are not populated?

No, Dimensional Noncompliance Fee is applicable when the captured dimensions (length, width, height) have a length greater than 22 inches or volume greater than one cubic foot when manifested dimensions are either incorrect or are not provided.

8. Are there specific Extra Service Code fields that are used for the new Nonstandard Fee (881, 882, 883) Extra Service Codes? Is there any specific order required?

These Extra Service Code are independent of order, recommended to use the first ESC field available.

9. Is it possible that Extra Service Code 881 & 882 would be used in conjunction with a an 883 or would it be one of the three?

The Extra Service Code combination will be 881 or 882 plus 883. (881 and 882 are mutually exclusive). Allowed combinations are represented below:

881 + 883
882 + 883
881
882
883

10. What rate ingredient combinations would the ESCs (881, 882, 883) apply to?

All rate ingredients for the following mail classes (Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, Parcel Select, Parcel Select Lightweight, and First-Class Packages Service Retail) need the extra service fee.

11. Do these surcharges replace Nonmachinable mail types? For instance, over 27" is currently considered Nonmachinable at a different rate structure, are these on top of that? Or in place of that?

Nonmachinable criteria determines how package mailings need to be prepared and entered. These new applicable fees are based on length and cubic size, and do not impact the current standards for non-machinable.

Example: 10-pound Parcel Select Zone 3 Nonmachinable package entered at DNDC with dimensions of 27 x 12 x 12 would be priced at \$11.59 and will be charged Nonstandard Fee of \$2.00 (>22" length) and \$15.00 (> 2 cu. ft.), for a total postage of \$28.59.

12. Is the Nonstandard Fee applicable to all Priority Mail products?

The Nonstandard Fee is applicable to all Priority Mail products, other than the products under: Flat Rate packaging, Regional Rate packaging, Cubic Tiered products or Open and Distribute products.

13. Is the Nonstandard Fee applicable to all Priority Mail Express products?

The Nonstandard Fee is applicable to all Priority Mail Express products, other than the products under: Flat Rate packaging or Open and Distribute products.

14. Is the Nonstandard Fee applicable to Priority Mail returns and Priority Mail Express returns?

No, the Nonstandard Fee does not apply to returns.

15. If a shipper has a Negotiated Service Agreement (NSA), can the Nonstandard Fee package dimension and package cubic volume thresholds be configured for the shipper as part of the NSA?

No, the package dimensions and cubic volume thresholds are not configurable as part of NSA.

16. Does the LENGTH/VOLUME need to be dynamic for the postage statements since the January release suggested adding configurable fields for package LENGTH and VOLUME?

The thresholds for Nonstandard Fee associated to package Length and Volume will only change during a major update such as a Price Change release.

17. Which extra service line on the postage statement should be used for which products/mail classes?

	PS Destination Entry	PS Lightweight	PS Ground	FCPS Retail	PM	PME
S46 -Nonstandard Fee -None/Origin > 22" <= 30" (only for PSLW)	NA	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S47 -Nonstandard Fee -DNDC/DSCF > 22" <= 30"	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S48 -Nonstandard Fee -DDU/DHub > 22" <= 30"	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S49 -Nonstandard Fee -None/Origin > 30" (only for PSLW)	NA	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA

	PS Destination Entry	PS Lightweight	PS Ground	FCPS Retail	PM	PME
S50 -Nonstandard Fee -DNDC/DSCF > 30"	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S51 -Nonstandard Fee -DDU/DHub > 30"	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S52 -Nonstandard Fee -None/Origin > 2 Cubic Ft (only for PSLW)	NA	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S53 -Nonstandard Fee -DNDC/DSCF > 2 Cubic Ft	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S54 -Nonstandard Fee -DDU/DHub > 2 Cubic Ft	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	NA	NA	NA	NA
S55 Nonstandard Fee > 22" <= 30"	NA	NA	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE
S56 Nonstandard Fee > 30"	NA	NA	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE
S57 Nonstandard Fee > 2 Cubic Ft	NA	NA	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE

18. If Extra Service Codes (ESCs) 881,882 and 883 are used after the Jan 2022 release, even though Nonstandard Fees are not active, what is the impact in eVS?

eVs will ignore the ESCs prior to the effective date.

19. For the Nonstandard Fee associated to package **length**, are there any rounding rules applicable when verifying the length?

No, Rounding does not apply to Nonstandard Fee for package **length**.

20. For the Nonstandard Fee associated to package cubic **volume**, are there any applicable rounding rules?

Yes, rounding rules apply when calculating package **volume**. The package dimensions (length, width, and height) should be rounded off to the next whole number, then multiplied to calculate the package cubic volume. If the calculated package cubic volume exceeds 3,456 inches, the Nonstandard Fee for exceeding 2 cubic feet volume applies. Reference DMM sections 110.1.6, 130.1.5, 210.1.9, 220.1.12, 250.1.8.

21. What is the required precision on dimensional surcharge measurements? Since everything is rounded to the nearest inch (except for length at 22" and 30"), greater precision in reporting seems unnecessary.

Mailer-provided dimensions must be accurate. SSF allows for up two decimal places. Customers should provide the most detailed dimensions available.

22. How do mailers indicate that parcel volume is computed using the non-rectangular factor in the SSF? This is unclear since the dimensional weight field is not used for the surcharges.

The SSF manifest provides Rate Indicators designated for non-rectangular parcels. Use DN for non-rectangular.

23. How do we assess multiple fees associated with a package (e.g., for Non-Standard Fee, 31" x 23" x 23" package will be assessed as which)?

A. Four different fees: \$15.00 (>30") + \$4.00 (>22") + \$4.00 (>22") + \$15.00 (cubic)

B. Two different fees: \$15.00 (>30") + \$15.00 (cubic)

The maximum of two Non-Standard fees will be assessed: \$15.00 (>30") + \$15.00 (cubic).

24. If either of two different combinations of Extra Service Codes (881/883 or 882/883) applies to a package, should we use one of the combinations, or should we use Extra Service Codes 884 or 885 (which were designed as combination codes)?

ESCs enable shippers to calculate and plan for the package’s total postage. Manifested dimensions ultimately determine when fees apply.

ESC 884 is a combination of 881 and 883 (a package can be manifested with 884 or 881 and 883). ESC 885 is a combination of 882 and 883 (a package can be manifested with 885 or 882 and 883). Shippers may include ESCs 884 and 885 with their manifested dimensions. USPS applications may produce a warning on the Error/Warning report but will still accept detail records.

Applications will continue to rely on dimensions from manifest and scan data to compute Non-Standard fees. Refer to the table below for details.

File Type	Field	22 < Length <= 30 (unit: inches)	Length > 30 (unit: inches)	Volume > 2 (unit: cu. Ft.)	22 < Length <= 30 (unit: inches) AND Volume > 2 (unit: cu. Ft.)	Length > 30 (Unit: inches) AND Volume > 2 (unit: cu. Ft.)
Mail.dat	Service Type	L1	L2	L4	NA	NA
Mail.XML	Service Code	L1	L2	L4	NA	NA
Shipping Services File (SSF)	Extra Service Code	881	882	883	884 OR 881 and 883	885 OR 882 and 883
Indicium Creation Record (ICR) file	Extra Service Code	881	882	883	884 OR 881 and 883	885 OR 882 and 883

Note: When two of the Nonstandard Fees (such as 881 and 883 or 882 and 883) are applied then one of the combo ESC 884, or ESC 885 may be used instead of using two ESCs. Optional ESC 884 is a combo ESC for ESC 881 and 883, and optional ESC 885 is a combo ESC for ESC 882 and 883.

25. When will we see updated Tech Specs for the April 3 Rate Change? To which class of mail and which rate ingredient combinations does the Noncompliance fee of \$1.50 apply (e.g., Retail, Commercial, NSA)?

The Dimensional Noncompliance Fee applies to Retail, Commercial, and NSA competitive Domestic packages (USPS Retail Ground, PME, PM, PS/PSLW, Retail Ground LOR). This excludes PMOD and USPS Flat Rate packaging, and Regional Rate packaging supplied by the Postal Service.

26. Please confirm that the new Non-Standard Fee ESCs 881, 882, and 883 will not introduce new Service Type Codes for the IMpb. So, from the IMpb it will not be possible to know whether a parcel has Nonstandard Fees associated with it.

The Non-Standard Fee ESCs will not introduce any new Service Type Codes. IMpb does not contain an STC that represents Non-Standard Fee.

27. Is the following interpretation of USPS rounding rules correct?

The DMM defines “rounded off” as increasing by 1 the last digit to be kept if the digit to its right (which is not to be kept) is 5 or greater. If that digit is 4 or less, the last digit kept is unchanged (e.g., 3.376 rounded off to two decimal places is 3.38, 3.374 is 3.37).

Rounding rules apply when calculating package volume. Package dimensions (length, width, height) are rounded off to the next whole number then multiplied

by each other to calculate the package cubic volume. If the calculated package cubic volume exceeds 3,456 inches, the Non-Standard Fee for exceeding 2 cubic feet in volume applies. Reference DMM sections 110.1.6, 130.1.5, 210.1.9, 220.1.12, 250.1.8.

Both Manifest and Sample dimensions are rounded *off* to the nearest whole number to calculate package cubic volume (e.g., 3.38 is rounded off to 3.0, and 3.58 is rounded off to 4.0 as the next whole number).

Machinable/Non-Machinable/Irregular DSCF SCF 5-Digit

1. USPS announced a retroactive change to L051 that applies to 5D and SCF sacks. Has this change been implemented?

USPS published an updated MDF January 1, 2022 to add L051 to Machinable SCF and Machinable 5D.

- Effective date February 1, 2022
- Could use as early as Jan 2022.

Merge L051 data into MDF for PS Non-Machinable & Irregular Parcels.

- Publication date March 1, 2022
- Effective date April 1, 2022.

2. What is USPS's final decision on applying L051 to irregular PSLW?

Merge L051 data into MDF for PS Non-Machinable & Irregular Parcels.

- Publication date March 1, 2022.
- Effective date April 1, 2022.