

Frequently Asked Questions

Ancillary Services for Parcel Select and Parcel Select Lightweight

What are Ancillary Service Endorsements?

Ancillary service endorsements are used by mailers to request an addressee's new address and to provide the USPS with instructions on how to handle undeliverable-as-addressed pieces. The endorsements consist of one keyword: "Electronic," "Address," "Return," "Change," or "Forwarding," followed by the two words "Service Requested." The endorsements are the same for all classes of mail, but the treatment and cost differ by class of mail. Use of an ancillary service endorsement on a mailpiece obligates the mailer to pay any applicable charges for forwarding, return, and separate address notification charges.

Does a package have to have an Ancillary Service Endorsement on the label for Parcel Select and/or Parcel Select Lightweight?

No, but if the package is returned and does not have the correct endorsement, the package may be returned to sender or destroyed.

How do I select the correct Ancillary Service Endorsement for my Parcel Select and/or Parcel Select Lightweight packages?

The [507 Quick Service Guide- Ancillary Service Endorsements](#) on PostalPro provides instructions on how to handle undeliverable-as-addressed pieces.

What is a weighted fee?

For return of pieces bearing the ancillary service markings "Address Service Requested" and "Forwarding Service Requested." Weighted fee equals single-piece First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service — Retail, or Priority Mail price multiplied by 2.472.

Why does a Parcel Select package get charged a weighted fee?

If the package does not have the proper Ancillary Service Endorsement, the package being returned will be charged at the weighted fee.

What is the USPS Mail Recovery Center (MRC)?

Undeliverable mailpieces are letters, flats or parcels that cannot be delivered as addressed nor returned to the sender. These mailpieces are either handled by the local Post Office™ or sent to the **USPS® Mail Recovery Center (MRC)**. At the MRC, letters are scanned by machines to determine if they contain items of value (Checks, Credit Cards, Money Orders, etc.). Letters and parcels that are determined to contain items of value are opened, in an attempt, to identify an address where the piece can be forwarded or returned.

Undeliverable mail determined to be of value, meaning the content is worth more than \$25.00 (\$20.00 for mailpieces containing cash), will be held for 60 days if the mailpiece is barcoded, or 30 days for non-barcoded mailpieces.

What Ancillary Services may be used when sending hazardous materials using Parcel Select and/or Parcel Select Lightweight?

Refer to [Publication 52-Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail](#). A mailer endorsement may be used to request forwarding, return, or address correction service for items that are undeliverable as addressed (see DMM 507). Parcel Select Lightweight pieces containing hazardous materials must bear the endorsement “Address Service Requested,” “Forwarding Service Requested,” or “Return Service Requested.”

What Ancillary Service endorsements cannot be used with Parcel Select and/or Parcel Select Lightweight?

Parcel Select (including Parcel Select Lightweight) pieces containing hazardous materials cannot use “Change Service Requested.”

How Does the USPS® Dispose of Items of Value if the Owner Cannot Be Located?

The Mail Recovery Center disposes of unclaimed merchandise and items not meeting retention guidelines in the following manner:

- Charitable or Welfare Organizations - donations to nonprofit organizations
- Trash, Recycle and Shred - food items, metals, cardboard, paper, etc.

Occasionally, the Mail Recovery Center will auction off the items held. More information on upcoming auctions, including locations and directions, can be found at [United States Postal Service auctions](#).

Auction - [contracted company handling the sale of auctionable merchandise](#)