

United States Postal Service®

INDUSTRYALERT

August 12, 2022

Notice of Pre-Filing Conference for Proposed Change to Critical Entry Times for Periodicals

The U.S. Postal Service has notified the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) that it intends to hold a pre-filing conference in connection with proposed changes to the Critical Entry Times (CETs) for Periodicals.

The virtual pre-filing conference is scheduled for Aug. 25, 2022, from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. ET. Representatives of the Postal Service will be available to discuss the proposal and the public will have the opportunity to provide feedback.

Based on the feedback, the Postal Service may modify or refine its proposal before it is filed with the PRC. Information and instructions regarding how to participate in the conference may be found at: <https://about.usps.com/what/strategic-plans/delivering-for-america/#conference>. The deadline for registration is Aug. 22, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Currently there are multiple CETs for Periodicals, based on how the mail is prepared. Having to accommodate multiple arrival times for Periodicals volume constrains the Postal Service's ability to effectively allocate staff and utilize available processing equipment and transportation. It also results in inconsistent and unreliable service, as the later CETs make it challenging for the Postal Service to meet the current Periodicals service standards.

By creating a consistent 8:00 a.m. CET for Periodicals volume that must undergo processing operations, the Postal Service will significantly increase operational effectiveness, while improving service reliability for all Periodicals customers. The current CET of 5:00 p.m. for Periodicals that do not require processing at the origin plant will remain unchanged.

The proposed change is in keeping with the Delivering for America 10-year plan to achieve financial stability and service excellence, defined as meeting or exceeding 95 percent on-time delivery across all product categories.

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