

2013 HOLIDAY SHIPPING DATES

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by Dec. 25, the Postal Service suggests that mail be entered by the recommended mailing dates listed.

Remember, all mail addressed to military Post Offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation and handling.



Domestic Mail Class/Product	Cutoff Date
First-Class Mail	Dec. 20
Priority Mail	Dec. 21
Priority Mail Express*	Dec. 23
Standard Post	Dec. 14
DNDC Drop Ship	Dec. 19
DDU Drop Ship	Dec. 21
International Mail**	
Priority Mail Express Military APO/FPO/DPO**	

*Priority Mail Express postage refund eligibility is adjusted for shipments mailed Dec 22-25

**See additional information below.

Military Mail Addressed to:	Priority Mail Express Military Service (PMEMS) ¹	First-Class Mail Letters and Cards	Priority Mail	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) ²	Space Available Mail (SAM) ³	Standard Post
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec. 3	Dec. 3	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIP 340	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12

¹PMEMS: is available to selected military/diplomatic Post Offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to an APO/FPO/DPO address.

²PAL: is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Standard Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface price for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

³SAM: parcels are paid at Standard Post prices with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

International Mail Addressed to:	Global Express Guaranteed (GXG)	Priority Mail Express International (PEMI)	Priority Mail International (PMI)	First-Class Mail International
Africa	Dec. 17	Dec. 10	Dec. 2	Dec. 2
Asia/Pacific Rim	Dec. 16	Dec. 14	Dec. 9	Dec. 9
Australia/New Zealand	Dec. 16	Dec. 14	Dec. 9	Dec. 9
Canada	Dec. 19	Dec. 16	Dec. 12	Dec. 9
Caribbean	Dec. 18	Dec. 14	Dec. 12	Dec. 9
Central and South America	Dec. 18	Dec. 10	Dec. 2	Dec. 2
Mexico	Dec. 18	Dec. 14	Dec. 11	Dec. 9
Europe	Dec. 18	Dec. 14	Dec. 12	Dec. 9
Middle East	Dec. 16	Dec. 14	Dec. 12	Dec. 9

2013 Holiday Season Import Dates[‡]

Surface		Air		EMS
LC/AO	CP	LC/AO	CP	
Dec. 9	Dec. 3	Dec. 16	Dec. 14	Dec. 17

[‡]Provides mailing guidelines for foreign postal partners in order to meet Dec. 25 delivery.

Mail class by code:

LC = Letters, aerogrammes (USPS no longer offers outbound aerogrammes), cards and letter packages

AO = Newspapers, magazines, matter for the blind, printed matter, small packages

CP = Packages - parcel post (surface), Priority (air)

Dec. 3	Last day to send parcels via surface transportation.
Dec. 9	Last day to send letters, flats and small packages via surface transportation.
Dec. 14	Last day to send parcels via air transportation.
Dec. 16	Last day to send letters, flats and small packages via air transportation.
Dec. 17	Last day to send Express Mail Service (EMS) items (any shape).