

Domestic Mail Service Standards

Version 2.3 (07/14/2016)

USPS Web Tools™

Application Programming Interface

User's Guide



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Introduction to Web Tools

This document contains a Reference Guide to the Domestic Service Standards APIs. See the Developer's Guide to learn the administrative process for gaining access to the Web Tools APIs as well as the basic mechanism for calling the APIs and processing the results. The Developer's Guide also contains information on testing and trouble-shooting.

Note: The Request Parameter sections present the XML input tags for generating live requests along with the restrictions on the values allowed. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Also, be aware of the maximum character amounts allowed for some tags. If the user enters more than those amounts, an error will not be generated. **The Web Tool will simply pass in the characters up to the maximum amount allowed and disregard the rest.** This is important since the resulting value could prevent a correct response.

When building the XML request, pay particular attention to the **order and case** for tags. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Remember that all data and attribute values in this document are for illustration purposes and are to be replaced by your actual values. For instance, a line of sample code may be:

```
<DestinationZIP> 12345 </ DestinationZIP >
```

In this instance, you will replace "12345" with the destination zip code for your request.

Before you get started:

For information on registering and getting started with Web Tools, please refer to the [Step-By-Step guide](#) found on the [Technical Documentation](#) section of the Web Tools page on usps.com/webtools. USPS Priority Mail API.

Overview

The Priority Mail Service Standards Web Tool receives requests and returns the number of days (on average) it will take a Priority Mail package to arrive at its destination. ***Ensure that end-users understand that these are service standards and not guaranteed commitments..*** The Priority Mail Service Standards Web Tool processes a single request.

API Signature

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Path</i>	<i>API</i>	<i>XML</i>
http://	production.shippingapis.com	/ShippingAPI.dll	?API=PriorityMail	&XML=(see below)

Tag Descriptions - Request

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
PriorityMailRequest	required		(group)
PriorityMailRequest USERID	required	This attribute specifies your Web Tools ID. See the Developer's Guide for information on obtaining your USERID. For Example: <TrackRequest USERID="yourID">	string
PriorityMailRequest / OriginZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid. Either the first 3 digits or first 5 digits of the Zip Code are entered between the open tag and close tag. For example: <OriginZip>90210</OriginZip>	string
PriorityMailRequest / DestinationZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid and must be 5 digits. For example: <DestinationZip>20770</DestinationZip>	string
PriorityMailRequest / DestinationType	optional	Destination Type for package. <u>Valid Values:</u> "1" = PO-Addressee – Street (Default Value) "2" = PO-Addressee – PO Box "3" = Hold For Pick-up For example: <DestinationType>1</DestinationType>	string
PriorityMailRequest	required once		(alias)

Sample Request

All requests should hit the <http://production.shippingapis.com/ShippingAPI.dll> end point with the API=PriorityMail and XML=<the sample XML request below> key value pairs using either a HTTP POST or a HTTP GET.

Test XML Request:

```
<PriorityMailRequest USERID="xxxxxxx">
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>
</PriorityMailRequest>
```

Tag Descriptions - Response

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
PriorityMailResponse	required		(group)
PriorityMailResponse / OriginZip	required	OriginationZip sent in request.	string
PriorityMailResponse / DestinationZip	required	DestinationZip sent in request.	string
PriorityMailResponse / Days	optional	Numbers of days expected to deliver.	string
PriorityMailResponse / Message	optional	Service Standards Messaging. Appears when applicable.	string
PriorityMailResponse / EffectiveAcceptanceDate	optional	Effective Acceptance Date is returned when <DestinationType> is specified in the request.	string
PriorityMailResponse / ScheduledDeliveryDate	optional	Scheduled Delivery Date is returned when <DestinationType> is specified in the request.	string

Sample Response

Test XML Response:

```

<PriorityMailResponse>
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>
  <Days>4</Days>
</PriorityMailResponse>

```

USPS Package Services API

Overview

The Package Services Service Standards Web Tool receives requests and returns the average number of days it will take a package to arrive at its destination. There are four types of Package Services: Standard Post, Bound Printed Matter, Library Mail, and Media Mail. The Package Services Service Standards Web Tool processes a single request. ***Ensure that end-users understand that these are service standards and not guaranteed commitments.***

API Signature

Scheme	Host	Path	API	XML
http://	production.shippingapis.com	/ShippingAPI.dll	?API=StandardB	&XML=(see below)

Tag Descriptions - Request

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
StandardBRequest	required		(group)
StandardBRequest USERID	required	This attribute specifies your Web Tools ID. See the Developer's Guide for information on obtaining your USERID. For Example: <TrackRequest USERID="yourID">	string
StandardBRequest / OriginZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid. Either the first 3 digits or first 5 digits of the Zip Code are entered between the open tag and close tag. For example: <OriginZip>90210</OriginZip>	string
StandardBRequest / DestinationZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid and must be 5 digits. For example: <DestinationZip>20770</DestinationZip>	string
StandardBRequest / DestinationType	optional	Destination Type for package. <u>Valid Values:</u> "1" = PO-Addressee – Street (Default Value) "2" = PO-Addressee – PO Box "3" = Hold For Pick-up For example: <DestinationType>1</DestinationType>	String
StandardBRequest	required once		(alias)

Sample Request

All requests should hit the <http://production.shippingapis.com/ShippingAPI.dll> end point with the API=StandardB and XML=<the sample XML request below> key value pairs using either a HTTP POST or a HTTP GET.

Test XML Request:

```
<StandardBRequest USERID="xxxxxxx">  
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>  
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>  
  <ClientType>8</ClientType>  
</ StandardBRequest >
```

Tag Descriptions – Response

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
StandardBResponse	required		(group)
StandardBResponse / OriginZip	required	OriginationZip sent in request.	string
StandardBResponse / DestinationZip	required	DestinationZip sent in request.	string
StandardBResponse / Days	optional	Numbers of days expected to deliver.	string
StandardBResponse / Message	optional	Service Standards Messaging. Appears when applicable.	string
StandardBResponse / EffectiveAcceptanceDate	optional	Effective Acceptance Date is returned when <DestinationType> is specified in the request.	string
StandardBResponse / ScheduledDeliveryDate	optional	Scheduled Delivery Date is returned when <DestinationType> is specified in the request.	string

Sample Response

Test XML Response:

```
< StandardBRequest >
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>
  <Days>7</Days>
</ StandardBRequest >
```


USPS First Class Mail API

Overview

The First Class Mail Service Standards Web Tool receives requests and returns the average number of days it will take a package to arrive at its destination. The First Class Mail Service Standards Web Tool processes a single request. **Ensure that end-users understand that these are service standards and not guaranteed commitments.**

API Signature

Scheme	Host	Path	API	XML
http://	production.shippingapis.com	/ShippingAPI.dll	?API=FirstClassMail	&XML=(see below)

Tag Descriptions - Request

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
FirstClassMailRequest	required		(group)
FirstClassMailRequest USERID	required	This attribute specifies your Web Tools ID. See the Developer's Guide for information on obtaining your USERID. For Example: <TrackRequest USERID="yourID">	string
FirstClassMailRequest / OriginZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid. Either the first 3 digits or first 5 digits of the Zip Code are entered between the open tag and close tag. For example: <OriginZip>90210</OriginZip>	string
FirstClassMailRequest / DestinationZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid and must be 5 digits. For example: <DestinationZip>20770</DestinationZip>	string
FirstClassMailRequest / DestinationType	optional	Destination Type for package. <u>Valid Values:</u> "1" = PO-Addressee – Street (Default Value) "2" = PO-Addressee – PO Box "3" = Hold For Pick-up For example: <DestinationType>1</DestinationType>	String
FirstClassMailRequest	required once		(alias)

Sample Request

All requests should hit the <http://production.shippingapis.com/ShippingAPI.dll> end point with the API=FirstClassMail and XML=<the sample XML request below> key value pairs using either a HTTP POST or a HTTP GET.

Test XML Request:

```
<FirstClassMailRequest USERID="xxxxxxx">  
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>  
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>  
</FirstClassMailRequest>
```

Tag Descriptions – Response

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
FirstClassMailResponse	required		(group)
FirstClassMailResponse / OriginZip	required	OriginationZip sent in request.	string
FirstClassMailResponse / DestinationZip	required	DestinationZip sent in request.	string
FirstClassMailResponse / Days	optional	Numbers of days expected to deliver.	string
FirstClassMailResponse / Message	optional	Service Standards Messaging. Appears when applicable.	string
FirstClassMailResponse / EffectiveAcceptanceDate	optional	Effective Acceptance Date is returned when <DestinationType> is specified in the request.	string
FirstClassMailResponse / ScheduledDeliveryDate	optional	Scheduled Delivery Date is returned when <DestinationType> is specified in the request.	string

Sample Response

Test XML Response:

```
<FirstClassMailResponse>
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>
  <Days>3</Days>
</FirstClassMailResponse>
```

USPS Express Mail Service Commitments API

Overview

The Express Mail Service Commitments Web Tool provides delivery commitments for Express Mail packages. A user provides an origination and a destination ZIP Code and an optional current or future date that the package will be shipped. The Web Tool returns all the Express Mail Service Commitments for the given locations to include package drop-off information.

API Signature

Scheme	Host	Path	API	XML
http://	production.shippingapis.com	/ShippingAPI.dll	?API=ExpressMailCommitment	&XML=(see below)

Tag Descriptions - Request

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest	required		(group)
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest USERID	required	This attribute specifies your Web Tools ID. See the Developer's Guide for information on obtaining your USERID. For Example: <TrackRequest USERID="yourID">	string
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest / OriginZip	required	5 Digit ZIP Code of the package destination. For example: <OriginZip>90210</OriginZip>	string
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest / DestinationZip	required	Origination and destination ZIP Codes must be valid and must be 5 digits. For example: <DestinationZip>20770</DestinationZip>	string
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest / Date	required	Date package is shipped. Can be left blank. Can use formats MM/DD/YYYY or DD-MMM-YYYY. For example: <Date>05-May-2014</Date>	string
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest / DropOffTime	optional	Time package is shipped. This tag can be omitted or left blank. Use format HH:MM such as 13:30. For example: < DropOffTime >15:00</ DropOffTime >	string

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest / ReturnDates	optional	Indicates if Scheduled Delivery and Effective Acceptance dates should be returned. Specify 'true' or 'false' For example: <ReturnDates>true</ReturnDates>	string
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest / PMGuarantee	optional	Indicator to display Guarantee information for applicable service types. <u>Valid Values:</u> "Y" = Yes, display "N" = No, do not display (Default Value)	String
ExpressMailCommitmentRequest	required once		(alias)

Sample Request

All requests should hit the <http://production.shippingapis.com/ShippingAPI.dll> end point with the API=ExpressMailCommitment and XML=<the sample XML request below> key value pairs using either a HTTP POST or a HTTP GET.

Test XML Request:

```
<ExpressMailCommitmentRequest USERID="xxxxxxx">
  <OriginZip>90201</OriginZip>
  <DestinationZip>21114</DestinationZip>
  <Date></Date>
  <PMGuarantee>Y</PMGuarantee>
  <ClientType>8</ClientType>
</ExpressMailCommitmentRequest>
```

Tag Descriptions – Response

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse	required		(group)
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / OriginZip	required	OriginationZip sent in request.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / OriginCity	required	Originating City.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / OriginState	required	Originating State.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / DestinationZip	required	DestinationZip sent in request.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / DestinationCity	required	Destinating City.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / DestinationState	required	Destinating State.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Date	required	Date package shipped.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Time	required	Time.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / ExpeditedTransMessage	optional	Expedited Transportation Message. Returned when applicable and the request has the ReturnDates set to true.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / MsgCode	optional	Message Code. Returned when applicable and the request has the ReturnDates set to true.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Msg	optional	Message Text. Returned when applicable and the request has the ReturnDates set to true.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / EffectiveAcceptanceDate	optional	Effective Acceptance Date. Returned when the request has the ReturnDates set to true.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment	optional	Holds the details of a commitment. Returned if valid.	(group)
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Name	optional	Commitment Name <u>Valid Values:</u> 'Blank' 1-Day 2-Day 3-Day DPO Military	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Time	optional	Commitment Time. (eg: 3:00 PM)	string

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Sequence	optional	Commitment Sequence <u>Valid Values:</u> <u>Seq # Service Standard</u> A0110 1-Day at 10:30 AM B0110 1-Day at 10:30 AM HFPU A0112 1-Day at 12:00 PM A0115 1-Day at 3:00 PM B0115 1-Day at 3:00 PM HFPU A0210 2-Day at 10:30 AM A0212 2-Day at 12:00 PM A0215 2-Day at 3:00 PM B0210 2-Day at 10:30 AM HFPU B0215 2-Day at 3:00 PM HFPU	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location	optional	Groups drop off location information.	(group)
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / ScheduledDeliveryDate	optional	Scheduled Delivery Date. Returned when the request has the ReturnDates set to true.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / CutOff	optional	Cut-Off Time.	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / Facility	optional	Facility Type <u>Valid Values:</u> "POST OFFICE" "PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS COLLECTION BOX" "AIR MAIL FACILITY"	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / Street	optional	Facility Street	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / City	optional	Facility City	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / State	optional	Facility State	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / Zip	optional	Facility Zip Code	string
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Commitment / Location / IsGuaranteed	optional	Indicates if Guarantee is offered. Will only be returned if the PMGuarantee in the request is set to "Y". <u>Valid Values:</u> "1" = Guaranteed "2" = No Guarantee "3" = Temporary No Guarantee	string

Tag Name	Occurs	Description	Type
ExpressMailCommitmentResponse / Message	optional	Message indicating over 200 location, when there are more than the 200 returned.	string

Sample Requests

Test XML Response:

```

<ExpressMailCommitmentResponse>
  <OriginZIP>90201</OriginZIP>
  <OriginCity>BELL GARDENS</OriginCity>
  <OriginState>CA</OriginState>
  <DestinationZIP>21114</DestinationZIP>
  <DestinationCity>CROFTON</DestinationCity>
  <DestinationState>MD</DestinationState>
  <Date>3-Jul-2014</Date>
  <Time>7:51AM</Time>
  <EffectiveAcceptanceDate>2014-07-03</EffectiveAcceptanceDate>
  <Commitment>
    <CommitmentName>2-Day</CommitmentName>
    <CommitmentTime>3:00 PM</CommitmentTime>
    <CommitmentSequence>A0215</CommitmentSequence>
    <Location>
      <ScheduledDeliveryDate>2014-07-05</ScheduledDeliveryDate>
      <CutOff>5:00 PM</CutOff>
      <Facility>POST OFFICE</Facility>
      <Street>7001 GARFIELD AVE</Street>
      <City>BELL GARDENS</City>
      <State>CA</State>
      <Zip>90201</Zip>
      <IsGuaranteed>1</IsGuaranteed>
    </Location>
    <Location>
      <ScheduledDeliveryDate>2014-07-05</ScheduledDeliveryDate>
      <CutOff>4:45 PM</CutOff>
      <Facility>POST OFFICE</Facility>
      <Street>4619 ELIZABETH ST</Street>
      <City>CUDAHY</City>
      <State>CA</State>
      <Zip>90201</Zip>
      <IsGuaranteed>1</IsGuaranteed>
    </Location>
    <Location>
      <ScheduledDeliveryDate>2014-07-05</ScheduledDeliveryDate>
      <CutOff>2:00 PM</CutOff>
      <Facility>POST OFFICE</Facility>
      <Street>5555 BANDINI BLVD</Street>
      <City>BELL GARDENS</City>
      <State>CA</State>
      <Zip>90201</Zip>
      <IsGuaranteed>1</IsGuaranteed>
    </Location>
  </Commitment>
  <Commitment>
    <CommitmentName>2-Day</CommitmentName>
    <CommitmentTime>3:00 PM</CommitmentTime>
    <CommitmentSequence>B0215</CommitmentSequence>
    <Location>

```



```
<ScheduledDeliveryDate>2014-07-07</ScheduledDeliveryDate>
<CutOff>5:00 PM</CutOff>
<Facility>POST OFFICE</Facility>
<Street>7001 GARFIELD AVE</Street>
<City>BELL GARDENS</City>
<State>CA</State>
<Zip>90201</Zip>
<IsGuaranteed>1</IsGuaranteed>
</Location>
<Location>
  <ScheduledDeliveryDate>2014-07-07</ScheduledDeliveryDate>
  <CutOff>4:45 PM</CutOff>
  <Facility>POST OFFICE</Facility>
  <Street>4619 ELIZABETH ST</Street>
  <City>CUDAHY</City>
  <State>CA</State>
  <Zip>90201</Zip>
  <IsGuaranteed>1</IsGuaranteed>
</Location>
<Location>
  <ScheduledDeliveryDate>2014-07-07</ScheduledDeliveryDate>
  <CutOff>2:00 PM</CutOff>
  <Facility>POST OFFICE</Facility>
  <Street>5555 BANDINI BLVD</Street>
  <City>BELL GARDENS</City>
  <State>CA</State>
  <Zip>90201</Zip>
  <IsGuaranteed>1</IsGuaranteed>
</Location>
</Commitment>
</ExpressMailCommitmentResponse>
```

Error Responses

Error conditions are handled at the main XML document level. When parsing, it is best to check for an error document first before checking for good data. Error documents have the following format:

```
<Error>
  <Number></Number>
  <Source></Source>
  <Description></Description>
  <HelpFile></HelpFile>
  <HelpContext></HelpContext>
</Error>
```

Where:

- Number = the error number generated by the Web Tools server.
- Source = the component and interface that generated the error on the Web Tools server.
- Description = the error description.
- HelpFile = [reserved for future use].
- HelpContext = [reserved for future use].

An error code can be returned for invalid data as well as messages pertaining to given zip codes/ Below is an example for an error that was returned because the service is not guaranteed.

```
<Error>
<Number>-2147219293</Number>
<Source>clsEMCommitments:Respond</Source>
<Description>Priority Mail Express service is available to your supplied destination ZIP Code.
However the delivery date cannot be guaranteed.</Description>
<HelpFile></HelpFile>
<HelpContext></HelpContext>
</Error>
```

If you need assistance with an error response, contact the Internet Customer Care Center
uspstechnicalsupport@mailps.custhelp.com.