

course, may have the program or course approved only when the educational institution meets the requirements of §§ 21.4252(e), 21.4253, and 21.4279, as applicable.

(The information collection requirements in this section have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2900-0575)

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3672(e))

(2) The application of an educational institution for approval of a program of education to be pursued exclusively by correspondence or the correspondence portion of a combined correspondence-residence course must demonstrate that the program or course is satisfactory in all elements. The educational institution must certify to the State approving agency that at least 50 percent of those pursuing the program or course require six months or more to complete it. For applications for approval that are pending approval by the State approving agency on February 2, 1995, and for applications received by the State approving agency after that date, the required certification shall be based on the experience of students who completed the program or course during the six-month period immediately preceding the educational institution's application for approval.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3672(e))

(3) State approving agencies have the authority to review periodically the length of time needed to complete each approved correspondence program or approved correspondence-residence course in order to determine whether the program or course should continue to be approved. In implementing this authority, a State approving agency will examine the results over a prior two-year period reasonably related to the date on which such a review is conducted.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3672(e))

(b) *Enrollment agreement.* (1) An educational institution offering a program of education to be pursued exclusively by correspondence must enter into an enrollment agreement with the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist who wishes to receive educational assistance from VA while pursuing the program. The enrollment agreement shall disclose fully the obligations of the institution and the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist, and shall display in a prominent place on the agreement the conditions for affirmation, termination, refund, and payment of the educational assistance by VA.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(a)(1), 3686(b))

(2) A copy of the agreement shall be given to the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist when it is signed.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(b))

(3) The agreement shall not be effective unless the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist after the expiration of 10 days after the agreement is signed, shall have signed and submitted to VA a written statement, with a signed copy to the institution, specifically affirming the agreement.

(The information collection requirements in this section have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2900-0576)

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(b))

(c) *Mandatory refund policy.* (1) Upon notification of the educational institution by the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist of an intention not to affirm the enrollment agreement, any fees paid by the individual shall be returned promptly in full to him or her.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

(2) Upon termination of enrollment under an affirmed enrollment agreement for training in the accredited course by the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist, without having completed any lessons, a registration fee not in excess of 10 percent of the tuition for the course or \$50, whichever is less, may be charged him or her. When the individual terminates the agreement after completion of less than 25 percent of the lessons of the course, the institution may retain the registration fee plus 25 percent of the tuition. When the individual terminates the agreement after completing 25 percent but less than 50 percent of the lessons, the institution may retain the registration fee plus 50 percent of the tuition for the course. If 50 percent or more of the lessons are completed, no refund of tuition is required.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

(3) Where the school either has or adopts an established policy for the refund of the unused portion of tuition, fees, and other charges subject to proration, which is more favorable to the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist than the pro rata basis as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, such established policy will be applicable.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

(4) Any institution that fails to forward any refund due to the veteran, spouse, surviving spouse, or reservist within 40 days after receipt of a notice of termination or disaffirmance, shall be deemed, prima facie, to have failed to make a prompt refund as required by this section.

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 3686(c))

3. In § 21.4279, paragraph (a) introductory text and paragraph (a)(4) are revised, and paragraph (a)(5) is added, to read as follows:

**§ 21.4279 Combination correspondence-residence program.**

(a) *Requirements for pursuit.* A program of education may be pursued partly in residence and partly by correspondence for the attainment of a predetermined and identified objective under the following conditions:

\* \* \* \* \*

(4) The educational institution offering the course is accredited by an agency recognized by the Secretary of Education; and

(5) The State approving agency has approved the correspondence-residence course and has verified compliance with the requirement of 38 U.S.C. 3672(e) and § 21.4256(a) that at least 50 percent of those pursuing the correspondence-residence course require six months or more to complete it.

(The information collection requirements in this section have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2900-0575.)

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3672(e))

\* \* \* \* \*

[FR Doc. 97-31628 Filed 12-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

**POSTAL SERVICE**

**39 CFR Part 111**

**Domestic Mail Manual; Miscellaneous Amendments**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document describes the numerous amendments consolidated in the Transmittal Letter for Issue 53 of the Domestic Mail Manual, which is incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations, see 39 CFR 111.1. These amendments reflect changes in mail preparation requirements and other miscellaneous rules and regulations not previously published in the **Federal Register**.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patricia Bennett, (202) 268-6350.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), incorporated by reference in title 39, Code of Federal Regulations, part 111, contains: the basic standards of the U.S. Postal Service governing its domestic mail services; descriptions of the mail classes and special services and conditions governing their use; and standards for rate eligibility and mail preparation. The document is amended and republished about every 6 months, with each issue sequentially numbered.

DMM Issue 53, the next edition of the DMM, is scheduled for release on January 1, 1998. That issue will include changes in Preferred postage rates for Periodicals and Standard Mail (A). The final rule containing the rates for these changes was published on July 25, 1997, in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 39946-39950), as approved on June 2, 1997, by the Board of Governors pursuant to its authority under 39 U.S.C. 3625(f), to implement rate changes effective at 12:01 a.m. on October 5, 1997 (Resolution No. 97-9).

DMM Issue 53 will also include the new weight limit for Bound Printed Matter. The final rule to increase the weight of Bound Printed Matter from 10 pounds to 15 pounds was published on October 1, 1997, in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 51372-51373), as approved on September 8, 1997, by the Board of Governors, to implement the Decision of the Governors of the United States Postal Service on the Recommended Decision of the Postal Rate Commission on the Classification Changes, Bound Printed Matter, Docket No. MC97-3. This weight increase takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on October 5, 1997.

DMM Issue 53 will include the standards for the new Bulk Parcel Return Service (BPRS) and Shipper Paid Forwarding (SPF). BPRS, which takes effect on October 12, 1997, lowers the average cost of return service for machinable parcels weighing less than 1 pound. SPF, which allows mailers to pay forwarding postage directly through the use of the tracking capabilities of the existing electronic Address Change Service, takes effect on January 4, 1998. The new standards for BPRS and SPF were published on October 15, 1997, in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 53539-53541) as approved on October 6, 1997,

by the Board of Governors on the Recommended Decision of the Postal Rate Commission in Docket No. MC97-2.

The following excerpt from section I010, Summary of Changes, of the transmittal for DMM Issue 53 covers the minor changes not previously described in final rules or in other interim or final rules published in the **Federal Register**. Announcements of these minor changes were first published in various issues of the Postal Bulletin, an official biweekly document published by the Postal Service. In addition, the revised contents of DMM Issue 53 are also presented.

**Domestic Mail Manual Issue 53 Summary of Changes**

*Consolidation of Processing of Form 3510*

D230.3.11, D230.6.2, E214.3.2, E214.3.4, E214.3.6, E214.3.7, E214.3.8, E270.8.1 and E270.9.1 amend the processing of Form 3510, Application for Additional Entry, Reentry, or Special Rate Request for Periodicals Publication. In order to improve customer satisfaction and to better utilize resources, postal processing of Form 3510 is being consolidated at the Memphis Rates and Classification Service Center (RCSC). Effective October 9, 1997 (PB 21956 (10-09-97)).

*Content Identifier Numbers*

Exhibit M032.1.3a changes certain international mail content identifier numbers (CINs) for barcoded tray and sack labels. Effective July 3, 1997 (PB 21949 (7-3-97)).

*Envelopes and Pieces Sealed on All Sides*

C810.1.0 and C810.7.5 clarify acceptable characteristics of automation letter-size mailpieces. Effective October 23, 1997 (PB 21957 (10-23-97)).

*Folded Self-Mailers—Additional Options*

C810.7.2 and C810.7.3 allow mailers to prepare letter-size self-mailers with the final fold positioned as the right side (leading edge) of the piece and to claim an automation rate. In addition, other tabbing form designs for self-mailers have been approved for automation rates. Effective June 5, 1997 (PB 21947 (6-5-97)).

*Labeling List Changes*

L002, L003, L005, L601, L602, L603, L604, and L801 are amended to reflect changes in mail processing operations. Effective July 3, 1997 (PB 21949 (7-3-97)).

L002, L004, L005, L102, L601, L602, L603, L604, L801, and L803 are amended to reflect changes in mail processing operations. Effective October 9, 1997 (PB 21956 (10-9-97)).

*Non-Machinable Surcharge—Parcel Post*

E620.2.5 clarifies that a non-machinable surcharge applies only to certain listed pieces of Parcel Post if pieces are mailed at the inter-BMC/ASF Parcel Post rates and no special handling fee is paid. Effective August 28, 1997 (PB 21953 (8-28-97)).

**Post Office Box and Caller Service—McLean, VA 22103 ZIP Code Redesignated as Group C**

Exhibit D910.5.3 and Exhibit D920.4.1 remove the entry "McLean, VA 22103" from the Group B category for post office box service and caller service to a Group C category. Effective June 8, 1997 (PB 21948 (6-19-97)).

**Reusable Mailpieces—Optional Preparation**

C010.6.3 and C010.6.4 incorporate optional preparation standards for reusable mailpieces that originate as permit imprint mailings. Effective August 14, 1997 (PB 21952 (8-14-97)).

**List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 111**

Postal Service.

In consideration of the foregoing, 39 CFR part 111 is amended as set forth below:

**PART 111—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 111 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 101, 401, 403, 404, 3001-3011, 3201-3219, 3403-3406, 3621, 3626, 5001.

2. The table at the end of § 111.3(f) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new entry to read as follows:

**§ 111.3 Amendments to the Domestic Mail Manual.**

\* \* \* \* \*  
(e) \* \* \*

	Transmittal letter for issue	Dated	Federal Register publication
53	*	January 1, 1998	62 FR [INSERT PAGE NUMBER].

3. Section 111.5 is revised to read as follows:

**§ 111.5 Contents of the Domestic Mail Manual.**

**A—ADDRESSING**

**A000 Basic Addressing**

A010 General Addressing Standards  
A040 Alternative Addressing Formats  
A060 Detached Address Labels (DALs)

**A800 Addressing for Automation**

**A900 Customer Support**

A910 Mailing List Services  
A920 Address Sequencing Services  
A930 Other Services  
A950 Coding Accuracy Support System (CASS)

**C—CHARACTERISTICS AND CONTENT**

**C000 General Information**

C010 General Mailability Standards  
C020 Restricted or Nonmailable Articles and Substances  
C021 Articles and Substances Generally  
C022 Perishables  
C023 Hazardous Matter  
C024 Other Restricted or Nonmailable Matter  
C030 Nonmailable Written, Printed, and Graphic Matter  
C031 Written, Printed, and Graphic Matter Generally  
C032 Sexually Oriented Advertisements  
C033 Pandering Advertisements  
C050 Mail Processing Categories

**C100 First-Class Mail**

**C200 Periodicals**

**C500 Express Mail**

**C600 Standard Mail**

**C800 Automation-Compatible Mail**

C810 Letters and Cards  
C820 Flats  
C830 OCR Standards  
C840 Barcoding Standards

**D—DEPOSIT, COLLECTION, AND DELIVERY**

**D000 Basic Information**

D010 Pickup Service  
D020 Plant Load  
D030 Recall of Mail  
D040 Delivery of Mail  
D041 Customer Mail Receptacles  
D042 Conditions of Delivery  
D070 Drop Shipment  
D071 Express Mail and Priority Mail  
D072 Metered Mail

**D100 First-Class Mail**

**D200 Periodicals**

D210 Basic Information  
D230 Additional Entry

**D500 Express Mail**

**D600 Standard Mail**

**D900 Other Delivery Services**

D910 Post Office Box Service  
D920 Caller Service

D930 General Delivery and Firm Holdout

**E—ELIGIBILITY**

**E000 Special Eligibility Standards**

E010 Overseas Military Mail  
E020 Department of State Mail  
E030 Mail Sent by U.S. Armed Forces  
E040 Free Matter for the Blind and Other Handicapped Persons  
E050 Official Mail (Franked)  
E060 Official Mail (Penalty)  
E070 Mixed Classes  
E080 Absentee Balloting Materials

**E100 First-Class Mail**

E110 Basic Standards  
E120 Priority Mail  
E130 Nonautomation Rates  
E140 Automation Rates

**E200 Periodicals**

E210 Basic Standards  
E211 All Periodicals  
E212 Qualification Categories  
E213 Periodicals Mailing Privileges  
E214 Reentry  
E215 Copies Not Paid or Requested by Addressee  
E216 Publisher Records  
E230 Nonautomation Rates  
E240 Automation Rates  
E250 Destination Entry  
E270 Preferred Periodicals

**E500 Express Mail**

**E600 Standard Mail**

E610 Basic Standards  
E611 All Standard Mail  
E612 Additional Standards for Standard Mail (A)  
E613 Additional Standards for Standard Mail (B)  
E620 Nonautomation Nonpresort Rates  
E630 Nonautomation Presort Rates  
E640 Automation Rates  
E650 Destination Entry  
E651 Regular, Nonprofit, and Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail  
E652 Parcel Post  
E670 Nonprofit Standard Mail

**F—FORWARDING AND RELATED SERVICES**

**F000 Basic Services**

F010 Basic Information  
F020 Forwarding  
F030 Address Correction, Address Change, FASTforward<sup>SM</sup>, and Return Services

**G—GENERAL INFORMATION**

**G000 The USPS and Mailing Standards**

G010 Basic Business Information  
G011 Post Offices and Postal Services  
G013 Trademarks and Copyrights  
G020 Mailing Standards  
G030 Postal Zones  
G040 Information Resources  
G041 Postal Business Centers  
G042 Rates and Classification Service Centers  
G043 Address List for Correspondence  
G090 Experimental Classifications and Rates  
G091 Barcoded Small Parcels  
G092 Nonletter-Size Business Reply Mail

**G900 Philatelic Services**

**L—LABELING LISTS**

**L000 General Use**

L002 3-Digit ZIP Code Prefix Matrix  
L003 3-Digit ZIP Code Prefix Groups—3-Digit Scheme Sortation  
L004 3-Digit ZIP Code Prefix Groups—ADC Sortation  
L005 3-Digit ZIP Code Prefix Groups—SCF Sortation

**L100 First-Class Mail**

L102 ADCs—Presorted Priority Mail

**L600 Standard Mail**

L601 BMCs—Machinable Parcels  
L602 BMCs—DBMC Rates  
L603 ADCs—Irregular Parcels  
L604 Originating ADCs—Irregular Parcels

**L800 Automation Rate Mailings**

L801 AADCs—Letter-Size Mailings  
L802 BMC/ASF Entry—Periodicals and Standard Mail (A)  
L803 Non-BMC/ASF Entry—Periodicals and Standard Mail (A)

**M—MAIL PREPARATION AND SORTATION**

**M000 General Preparation Standards**

M010 Mailpieces  
M011 Basic Standards  
M012 Markings and Endorsements  
M013 Optional Endorsement Lines  
M014 Carrier Route Information Lines  
M020 Packages and Bundles  
M030 Containers  
M031 Labels  
M032 Barcoded Labels  
M033 Sacks and Trays  
M040 Pallets  
M041 General Standards  
M045 Palletized Mailings  
M050 Delivery Sequence  
M070 Mixed Classes  
M071 Basic Information  
M072 Express Mail and Priority Mail Drop Shipment  
M073 Combined Mailings of Standard Mail Machinable Parcels  
M074 Plant Load Mailings

**M100 First-Class Mail (Nonautomation)**

M120 Priority Mail  
M130 Presorted First-Class Mail

**M200 Periodicals (Nonautomation)**

**M500 Express Mail**

**M600 Standard Mail (Nonautomation)**

M610 Single-Piece and Nonautomation Standard Mail (A)  
M620 Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail  
M630 Standard Mail (B)

**M800 All Automation Mail**

M810 Letter-Size Mail  
M820 Flat-Size Mail

**P—POSTAGE AND PAYMENT METHODS**

**P000 Basic Information**

P010 General Standards  
P011 Payment

- P012 Documentation
- P013 Rate Application and Computation
- P014 Refunds and Exchanges
- P020 Postage Stamps and Stationery
- P021 Stamped Stationery
- P022 Adhesive Stamps
- P023 Precanceled Stamps
- P030 Postage Meters and Meter Stamps
- P040 Permit Imprints
- P070 Mixed Classes

**P100 First-Class Mail**

**P200 Periodicals**

**P500 Express Mail**

**P600 Standard Mail**

**P700 Special Postage Payment Systems**

- P710 Manifest Mailing System (MMS)
- P720 Optional Procedure (OP) Mailing System
- P730 Alternate Mailing Systems (AMS)
- P750 Plant-Verified Drop Shipment (PVDS)
- P760 First-Class or Standard Mail Mailings With Different Payment Methods

**R—RATES AND FEES**

**R000 Stamps and Stationery**

**R100 First-Class Mail**

**R200 Periodicals**

**R500 Express Mail**

**R600 Standard Mail**

**R900 Services**

**S—SPECIAL SERVICES**

**S000 Miscellaneous Services**

- S010 Indemnity Claims
- S020 Money Orders and Other Services
- S070 Mixed Classes

**S500 Special Services for Express Mail**

**S900 Special Postal Services**

- S910 Security and Accountability
  - S911 Registered Mail
  - S912 Certified Mail
  - S913 Insured Mail
  - S914 Certificate of Mailing
  - S915 Return Receipt
  - S916 Restricted Delivery
  - S917 Return Receipt for Merchandise
- S920 Convenience
  - S921 Collect on Delivery (COD) Mail
  - S922 Business Reply Mail (BRM)
  - S923 Merchandise Return Service
  - S924 Bulk Parcel Return Service
- S930 Handling

**I—INDEX INFORMATION**

**I000 Information**

- I010 Summary of Changes
- I020 References
  - I021 Forms Glossary
  - I022 Subject Index

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Chief Counsel, Legislative.*

[FR Doc. 97-31599 Filed 12-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**40 CFR Part 80**

[FRL-5931-3]

**Petition by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Exemption From Anti-Dumping and Detergent Additization Requirements for Conventional Gasoline**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of direct final decision.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA" or "the Agency") is granting a petition by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI") for exemption from the anti-dumping requirements for gasoline sold in the United States after January 1, 1995. This action is being taken because of CNMI's unique geographic location and economic factors. If the gasoline anti-dumping exemption were not granted, CNMI would be required to import gasoline from a supplier meeting the anti-dumping requirements adding a considerable expense to gasoline purchased by the CNMI consumer. CNMI is in full attainment with the national ambient air quality standard for ozone. This action is not expected to cause harmful environmental effects to the citizens of CNMI. EPA is not granting CNMI's petition for exemption from the fuel detergent additization requirements that all gasoline sold in the U.S. after January 1, 1995 contain fuel detergents. CNMI did not show that these requirements were unreasonable or infeasible due to any unique local factors. The fuel detergent additization requirements are designed to prevent the build-up of deposits in gasoline engines and fuel supply systems. By controlling such deposits in CNMI's vehicles, harmful engine exhaust emissions will be reduced.

This action is being taken as a direct final decision because EPA believes that this decision is noncontroversial. The effects of this decision are limited to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**DATES:** This action will be effective on February 2, 1998, unless the Agency receives adverse or critical comments by January 2, 1998. If the Agency receives adverse comments, EPA will publish in the **Federal Register** timely notice withdrawing this action. In a separate action published in the **Federal Register** today, EPA is concurrently proposing approval of CNMI's petition for reasons discussed in this document. All

correspondence should be directed to the addresses shown below.

**ADDRESSES:** Any persons wishing to submit comments should submit them (in duplicate, if possible) to the two dockets listed below, with a copy forwarded to Marilyn Winstead McCall, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Fuels and Energy Division, 401 M Street, S.W. (Mail Code: 6406J), Washington, DC 20460.

Materials relevant to this petition are available for inspection in public docket A-96-11 at the Air Docket Office of the EPA, room M-1500, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 260-7548, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. A duplicate public docket, A-NM-96 has been established at U.S. EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, (Mail Code: A-2-1), 17th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 744-1225, and is available between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. As provided in 40 CFR part 2, a reasonable fee may be charged for copying services.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marilyn Winstead McCall at (202) 564-9029.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

*A. Regulated Entities*

Entities potentially affected by this action are those involved with the production, distribution, and sale of conventional gasoline and gasoline detergent additives for gasoline used in CNMI. Regulated categories and entities include:

Category	Examples of regulated entities
Industry	Gasoline refiners and importers, gasoline terminals, detergent blenders, gasoline truckers, gasoline retailers and wholesale purchaser-consumers.

This table is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. This table lists the types of entities that EPA is now aware could potentially be affected by this decision. Other types of entities not listed could also be affected. To determine whether your organization is affected by this decision, you should carefully examine the applicability requirements in § 80.90, § 80.125, and § 80.161, Subparts E, F, and G of title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person