

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Notice; National Leadership Grant for Libraries

SUMMARY: The Institute of Museum and Library Services has prepared a report regarding two funding categories for its National Leadership Grant for Libraries: education and training, and research and demonstration. The full text of the report can be found on the IMLS web site at http://www.imls.gov/grants/library/lib_nlg.asp#adv or received by contacting the Institute at the address below.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services' National Leadership Grants for libraries are designed to support leading edge activities in the field of library and information science. In 1999, IMLS awarded over \$10 million in awards for model projects in education and training, research and demonstration and the preservation and archiving of digital media. These grants also help to build digital library resources and to promote cooperation between libraries and museums. The Institute is the only federal agency that administers grants specifically targeted for libraries, library education and library research.

IMLS places a high priority on developing ongoing and open communication with the constituents it serves. Dialogue is essential to assuring that policy and grant making procedures are developed in concert with the needs of the library community. To further this dialogue IMLS held a series of meetings in 1999 in Washington, DC, with library leaders to exchange ideas about priorities for the education and training, and research and development grant categories of National Leadership Grants. The meetings were designed to promote discussion among library leaders to help ensure that funding priorities address current problems and provide leadership for future needs.

IMLS is an independent Federal grantmaking agency that fosters leadership, innovation, and a lifetime of learning by supporting the nation's 8,000 museums and 122,000 libraries. Created by the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996, P.L. 104-208, IMLS has an annual budget of \$190 million. For more information about IMLS contact: Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506, (202) 606-8536, or <http://www.imls.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Comments and questions received by

March 17, 2000 will be most useful. All interested parties should respond to: Barbara Holton, Office of Library Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20506, bholton@imls.gov.

Mamie Bittner,

*Director, Public and Legislative Affairs,
Institute of Museum and Library Services.*

[FR Doc. 00-1588 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7036-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING MEETING: National Science Foundation, National Science Board.

DATE AND TIME: February 2, 2000: 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Open Session; February 3, 2000: 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Open Session.

PLACE: The Arnold & Mabel Beckman Center, 100 Academy Drive, Irvine, California 92612.

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Wednesday, February 2

- Open Session Minutes, November 1999
- Closed Session Items for March 2000
- Chair's Report
- Director's Report
- NSF Strategic Plan
- NSB Report: Environmental Science & Engineering for the 21st Century
- Committee on Communication & Outreach Interim Report
- NSB Symposium: Communicating Science & Technology In the Public Interest

Thursday, February 3

- NSB Symposium: Communicating Science & Technology In the Public Interest, continued

Marta Cehelsky,

Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-1750 Filed 1-20-00; 3:37 pm]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

POSTAL SERVICE

Establishment of Permanent Nonletter-Size Business Reply Mail Classification and Fees; Changes in Domestic Classification and Fees

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Notice of implementation of changes to the Domestic Mail

Classification Schedule and accompanying fee changes.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the changes to Domestic Mail Classification Schedule (DMCS) § 931 and the accompanying Fee Schedule 931 changes to be implemented as a result of the November 1, 1999, Decision of the Governors of the United States Postal Service on the Recommended Decision of the Postal Rate Commission on Establishment of Permanent Classification and Fees For Weight-Averaged Nonletter-Size Business Reply Mail, Docket No. MC99-2.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 6, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Tidwell, (202) 268-2998.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 10, 1999, pursuant to its authority under 39 U.S.C. 3621 *et seq.*, the Postal Service filed with the Postal Rate Commission (PRC) a request for a recommended decision on the establishment of a permanent classification and fees for weight-averaged nonletter-size Business Reply Mail. The PRC designated the filing as Docket No. MC99-2. On March 19, 1999, the PRC published a notice of the filing, with a description of the Postal Service's proposals, in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 13613-13617).

On July 14, 1999, pursuant to its authority under 39 U.S.C. 3624, the PRC issued to the Governors of the Postal Service its recommended decision on the Postal Service's request. The PRC recommended the establishment of the permanent weight averaging classification and fees which were requested by the Postal Service and ratified by the Docket No. MC99-2 parties in a Stipulation and Agreement.

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3625, the Governors of the United States Postal Service acted on the PRC's Docket No. MC99-2 recommendations on November 1, 1999. The Governors determined to approve those recommendations. A copy of the attachment to that decision, setting forth the Docket No. MC99-2 classification and fee changes approved by the Governors, is set forth below.

Also on November 1, 1999, the Board of Governors of the Postal Service, pursuant to their authority under 39 U.S.C. 3625(f), determined to make the Docket No. MC99-2 classification and fee changes approved by the Governors effective at 12:01 a.m. on February 6, 2000 (Resolution No. 99-12).

In accordance with the aforementioned Decision of the Governors and Resolution No. 99-12, the Postal Service hereby gives notice that the classification and fee changes

set forth below will become effective at 12:01 a.m. on February 6, 2000. Implementing regulations also become

effective at that time, as noted elsewhere in this issue.

Stanley F. Mires,

Chief Counsel, Legislative.

(Attachment to the Decision of the Governors of the United States Postal Service on the

Recommended Decision of the Postal Rate Commission on the Establishment of Permanent Classification and Fees for Weight-Averaged Nonletter-Size Business Reply Mail, Docket No. MC99-2)

BILLING CODE 7710-12-U

CHANGES IN THE DOMESTIC MAIL CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE.

The following material represents changes to Domestic Mail Classification Schedule (DMCS) § 931 and Fee Schedule 931 which were approved by the Governors of the United States Postal Service in response to the Postal Rate Commission's Recommended Decision in Docket No. MC99-2. Additions are underlined; deletions are stricken through.

Domestic Mail Classification Schedule § 931-- Business Reply Mail

931 BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

931.1 Definitions

931.11 Business reply mail is a service whereby business reply cards, envelopes, cartons and labels may be distributed by or for a business reply distributor for use by mailers for sending First-Class Mail without prepayment of postage to an address chosen by the distributor. A distributor is the holder of a business reply license.

931.12 A business reply mail piece is nonletter-size for purposes of this section if it meets addressing and other preparation requirements, but does not meet the machinability requirements specified by the Postal Service for mechanized or automated letter sortation.
~~This provision expires February 29, 2000, or upon implementation of permanent fees for nonletter-size business reply mail, whichever comes first.~~

931.2 Description of Service

~~931.21~~ The distributor guarantees payment on delivery of postage and fees for all returned business reply mail. Any distributor of business reply cards, envelopes, cartons and labels under any one license for return to several addresses guarantees to pay postage and fees on any returns refused by any such addressee.

931.3 Requirements of the Mailer

931.31 Business reply cards, envelopes, cartons and labels must be preaddressed and bear business reply markings.

- 931.32 Handwriting, typewriting or handstamping are not acceptable methods of preaddressing or marking business reply cards, envelopes, cartons, or labels.

931.4 Fees

- 931.41 The fees for business reply mail are set forth in Fee Schedule 931.
- 931.42 To qualify as an active business reply mail advance deposit trust account, the account must be used solely for business reply mail and contain sufficient postage and fees due for returned business reply mail.
- 931.43 An accounting fee as set forth in Fee Schedule 931 must be paid each year for each advance deposit business reply account at each facility where the mail is to be returned.

931.5 [RESERVED]

~~931.6 Experimental Nonletter-Size Weight Averaging Fees~~

~~931.61 [RESERVED]~~

- ~~931.62 A nonletter-size weight averaging monthly fee as set forth in Fee Schedule 931 must be paid each month during which the distributor's weight averaging account is active.~~

~~This fee applies to the (no more than 10) advance deposit account holders which are selected by the Postal Service to participate in the weight averaging nonletter-size business reply mail experiment.~~

~~This provision expires February 29, 2000, or upon implementation of permanent fees for nonletter-size business reply mail, whichever comes first.~~

931.76 **Authorizations and Licenses**

- 931.761 In order to distribute business reply cards, envelopes, cartons or labels, the distributor must obtain a license or licenses from the Postal Service and pay the appropriate fee as set forth in Fee Schedule 931.
- 931.762 Except as provided in section 931.763, the license to distribute business reply cards, envelopes, cartons, or labels must be obtained at each office from which the mail is offered for delivery.

- 931.763 If the business reply mail is to be distributed from a central office to be returned to branches or dealers in other cities, one license obtained from the post office where the central office is located may be used to cover all business reply mail.
- 931.764 The license to mail business reply mail may be canceled for failure to pay business reply postage and fees when due, and for distributing business reply cards or envelopes that do not conform to prescribed form, style or size.
- 931.765 Authorization to pay ~~experimental~~ nonletter-size weight-averaging business reply mail fees as set forth in Fee Schedule 931 may be canceled for failure of a business reply mail advance deposit trust account holder to meet the standards specified by the Postal Service for the weight averaging accounting method.

~~This provision expires February 29, 2000, or upon implementation of permanent fees for nonletter-size business reply mail, whichever comes first.~~

CHANGES IN DMCS FEE SCHEDULE 931.

The following material represents changes to DMCS Fee Schedule 931 approved by the Governors of the United States Postal Service in response to the Postal Rate Commission's Recommended Decision in Docket No. MC99-2.

Fee Schedule 931 -- Business Reply Mail

	Fee
Active business reply advance deposit account:	
Per piece	
Qualified	\$0.05
Nonletter-size, using weight averaging (experimental)	0.01
Other	0.08
Payment of postage due charges if active business reply mail advance deposit account not used:	
Per piece	\$0.30
Annual License and Accounting Fees:	
Accounting Fee for Advance Deposit Account	\$300
Permit fee (with or without Advance Deposit Account)	\$100
Monthly Fees for customers using weight averaging for nonletter-size business reply	\$600
Nonletter size, using weight averaging (experimental)	

~~Experimental per piece and monthly fees are applicable only to participants selected by the Postal Service for the nonletter-size business reply mail experiment. The experimental fees expire February 29, 2000, or upon implementation of permanent fees for weight-averaged nonletter-size business reply mail, whichever comes first.~~

[FR Doc. 00-1571 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7710-12-C

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including

whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and purpose of information collection: Survivor Questionnaire; OMB 3220-0032.

Under Section 6 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), benefits that may be due on the death of a railroad employee or a survivor annuitant include (1) a lump-sum death benefit (2) a residual lump-sum payment (3) accrued annuities due but unpaid at

death, and (4) monthly survivor insurance payments. The requirements for determining the entitlement of possible beneficiaries to these benefits are prescribed in 20 CFR 234.

When the RRB receives notification of the death of a railroad employee or survivor annuitant, an RRB field office utilizes Form RL-94-F, Survivor Questionnaire, to secure additional information from surviving relatives needed to determine if any further benefits are payable under the RRA. Completion is voluntary. One response is requested of each respondent.

The RRB proposes minor, non-burden impacting, formatting and editorial changes to Form RL-94-F. The completion time for the RL-94-F is estimated at between 5 to 11 minutes.