

USPS Postal Exam Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

— Questions	— Time limit	Eligibility determined by ... Passing score
— Exam fee	United States Postal Ser... Governing body	

The four versions

- 474 Mail Carrier · 475 Mail Handler · 476 Mail Processing · 477 Customer Service Clerk — independent gates, results never transfer between families
- Required for entry roles: Rural Carrier Associate, City Carrier Assistant, Mail Handler and similar
- USPS never charges for exams, applications, or employment info — a fee request means you left the official channel

The clocks

- Invitation -> 72 hours to complete · sitting takes ~30-45 minutes
- Fail a version -> locked 1 year; other versions open immediately for their job families
- Result = eligible / ineligible (70% minimum behind it), not always a numeric score
- Conditional offer -> background packet back within 5 business days
- Sequence that follows: prepare BEFORE applying

Work Scenarios format

- 4 responses per scenario -> mark MOST likely AND LEAST likely — practice both poles
- Key priorities: safety first -> honesty always -> procedure before convenience -> customer service within authority
- 'Least likely' candidates: concealment · falsified records · abandoned mail custody · unsafe shortcuts
- Self-report sections: consistent honesty — they cross-check themselves
- Realistic Job Preview: unscored, no questions — read it honestly, it describes the actual job

Accuracy drill patterns

- Transpositions hide mid-string (1276 <-> 1267) · confusable glyphs: 0/O · 7/T · Q/D
- 'Through X' is INCLUSIVE of X · St!= Ave!= Ct · scan field-by-field: number -> street -> unit -> city -> ZIP
- Speed at maintained accuracy: zero errors first, then add the clock

Night before

- Quiet room, stable connection, one uninterrupted 45-minute block
- Answer as the reliable employee you intend to be — consistently, at both poles of every scenario
- After submitting: watch email daily (spam too) for every next step

Official sources

- United States Postal Service — USPS Virtual Entry Assessment (VEA) Candidate Guide:
<https://about.usps.com/careers/global/pdf/vea-guide.pdf>
- United States Postal Service — Postal exams – How to apply – About USPS:
<https://about.usps.com/careers/how-to-apply/exams.htm>

- United States Postal Service — USPS Online Job Application System – Assessment & Examination:
<https://about.usps.com/careers/job-application/usps-assessment-examination.pdf>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/exams/usps-postal-exam/practice-test