

## Overview

Package Tracking allows seamless integration of real-time tracking information into business systems, enabling monitoring of USPS package status from shipment to delivery. USPS is upgrading tracking data access to enhance security and combat fraud by modernizing and securing customer access.

Tracking data is offered through three channels:

- **Tracking APIs:** User requests one-time update of the latest detailed tracking information, including package status and delivery updates, for a specific tracking number. Available on the USPS API platform and available on the WebTools Platform until platform retirement on January 25, 2026.
- **Tracking Webhook:** User subscribes to be pushed to scan events as they occur in near-real-time, for a specific tracking number or Mailer ID. Users call the subscription API to initiate.
- **Scan Event Extracts:** User subscribes in Program Registration to receive Scan Event Extracts for a Mailer ID they own. File-based extracts provide all scan events that have occurred for any package with the subscribed Mailer ID in the package barcode. Extracts are sent to a customer provided server on a customer chosen frequency up to every five minutes.

Starting April 2026, **data access controls** will be implemented on the Tracking API, Tracking Webhook, and Scan Event Extracts for packages. Access to the Tracking API and Tracking Webhook will be available at no cost to end merchants, shippers, platforms, and label providers. Other businesses will be charged a monthly fee for Tracking API/Webhook use. A single API user may have both tracking information at no cost and paid. Scan Event Extracts will only be provided at no cost if the data is sent to a server that is owned by the customer who registered the Mailer ID. A fee will apply to scan event extracts provided to servers owned by a third party.

There are two types of authorizations, Mailer ID (MID) and Tracking. MID authorization provides label providers and consolidators with access to label generation, rates and tracking for select MIDs. Tracking authorization provides service providers and other companies with access to tracking data for select MIDs.

Before April 1, 2026, customers who use label providers, consolidators, and/or enterprise software vendors must confirm proper authorization through the Business Portal for their MIDs. This includes tracking information obtained via Tracking API, Webhooks, or Scan Event Extracts.

- **MID authorization:** To grant your service providers full access authorization to your Mailer IDs (MIDs) direct the service provider to contact the Customer Access Technology (CAT) team (<https://email.usps.com/s/web-tools-inquiry>).
- **Tracking only authorization:** Direct your service provider to the Business Portal>Quick Actions> IP Agreements so they can copy the URL and send it to you (the MID owner). Then you can approve request for the service provider to track packages for your MIDs.

## Data Access Controls and Fee Structure

### No Cost Tracking

Retailers, merchants, authorized partners, platforms, consolidators who ship with USPS will continue with no cost access to the Tracking API and Tracking Webhook. Retailers and merchants will be able to request detailed tracking information for any Mailer ID that is registered to them. Platforms and label providers will be able to request tracking information for any Mailer ID that is registered to them or any Mailer ID to which their customer has granted access via the Business Portal platform authorization process.

Platforms and label providers will need an active merchant access token to access tracking information for packages that have their customer's Mailer ID in the package barcode. For step-by-step instructions to set this up, see the [USPS API Enrollment Tech Sheet](#).

*Note: USPS will contact eligible no cost tracking customers for whom USPS will need to make a configuration change to their account to receive uninterrupted data access.*

Software vendors who provide label generation or manifest software, where customers of the software are responsible for submission of the manifest and the customer uses their own credentials for integration and upload of manifest with the USPS will not receive no cost access to tracking data.

## Paid Tracking

Customers looking for detailed tracking information on packages with a Mailer ID that they neither own nor create labels for will need to pay to use the Tracking API, Tracking Webhook, or Scan Event Extracts. Customers may want access to a limited number of MIDs or unlimited access to track any package. Customers will need a signed IP agreement outlining license terms and the monthly fee structure.

Service providers will work with their customers who ship with USPS to receive access to their specific Mailer IDs. The shippers will need to log into the Business Portal and grant 'Tracking Access' to the service provider. Service providers will only be able to request tracking information for package barcodes with a Mailer ID to which they have been granted access.

### Billing for Paid Tracking

Paid Tracking API requests, Tracking Webhook subscriptions, and Scan Data Extract subscriptions will be invoiced monthly. Users may have either an unlimited or transaction-based fee established in their IP agreement. Users will incur a monthly charge based on the number of tracking requests or packages tracked, debited from the Enterprise Payment Account (EPA) linked to the IP agreement, reflecting as "Tracking Data Usage Fee" transactions. If users do not already have an EPA, they will need to create one and fund it with a trust or ACH payment method. For additional information on setting up an EPA, see the [Enterprise Payment Account Creation Fact Sheet](#). To get access to paid Tracking API or Tracking Webhook data, users will have to include a payment token including the EPA from their IP agreement in the Tracking API request or Tracking Webhook Subscription. Access to Scan Data Extracts is coming soon. Throughout the month, users will be able to view their projected invoice on Business Portal.

## Customer Required Actions

The following actions are required for no cost tracking customers.

1. **Look out for new Terms & Conditions:** USPS will be updating the Terms & Conditions for the USPS API platform before the tracking access control changes in April 2026. Look out for an email from USPS when the updates are available.
2. **Review and accept terms:** Review the updated Terms & Conditions and confirm your acceptance.

In addition to the acceptance of the new Terms & Conditions, the following actions are required for platforms, consolidators, and label providers to receive no cost tracking.

1. **Merchant authorization:** Merchants will need to authorize platforms, consolidators, and label providers through the Business Portal, for step by step instructions see the Merchant Onboarding and Authorization tech sheet.

2. **Platform authorization:** Platforms, consolidators, and label providers will need an active merchant access token to access tracking information for packages that have their customer's Mailer ID in the package barcode. For step-by-step instructions to set this up, see the [USPS API Enrollment Tech Sheet](#).

The following actions are required for customers who require an IP agreement for access to tracking data.

1. **Initiate request for tracking data access:** Contact USPS via "[Email Us](#)" (<https://emailus.usps.com/s/web-tools-inquiry>) to initiate the order form and IP agreement process.
2. **Set up EPA:** Establish your EPA to enable payment processing.
3. **Review and sign the order form and IP agreement:** USPS will finalize the order form with customer-specific pricing and include a confidentiality clause to enable pricing discussions. Sign the IP agreement and acknowledge the Terms & Conditions.
4. **Account configuration:** After signature, USPS configures your account on the Business Portal so that your shippers can select you as their service provider with access to their scan data.
5. **Tracking authorization:** Direct the merchants to the business portal to delegate tracking authorization.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Shippers:

1. **Q:** Package Shipper – How will this change affect businesses that ship their own packages through USPS? Will they be required to pay for access to tracking data through APIs, webhooks, or Scan Event Extracts?  
**A:** Package shippers who ship only under MIDs registered to themselves in your IMPB will continue to access tracking data at no cost. If you are using a mailer ID not registered and are not authorized to track that MID you will not have access to that tracking data.
2. **Q:** Package Shipper – How does this change impact package shippers who hire another company to prepare their shipments?  
**A:** Package shippers who outsource shipment preparation will still have tracking for your MIDs access at no cost.
3. **Q:** Package Shipper – How does this change impact package shippers who use a third-party platform?  
**A:** Package shippers using a third-party platform will still be able to access tracking data for your MIDs through that platform after you delegate tracking access to the platform for your MIDs.

### Platforms:

1. **Q:** Platforms – How does this change impact platforms?  
**A:** Shipping platforms that provide a software solution for business or end customers that streamline shipping logistics will continue to have tracking access at no cost for MIDs for which they have delegated access.  
To avoid any interruptions in accessing tracking data follow the steps below:
  - a. **Review and accept terms:** Review the updated Terms & Conditions and confirm your acceptance.

- b. **Merchant authorization:** Merchants will need to authorize platforms, consolidators, and label providers through the Business Portal, for step-by-step instructions see the Merchant Onboarding and Authorization tech sheet.
- c. **Platform authorization:** Platforms, consolidators, and label providers will need an active merchant access token to access tracking information for packages that have their customer's Mailer ID in the package barcode. For step-by-step instructions to set this up, see the USPS API Enrollment Tech Sheet.

## Label Providers:

1. **Q:** Label Provider - How does this change impact service providers who generate manifests or labels via the USPS APIs for customers?

**A:** Label providers who host other companies and use their own credentials/MIDs or those MIDs delegated to them for manifest or label generation via USPS APIs for a customer's MIDs, and handle payment to USPS for those customers will get tracking at no cost. Both the service provider and end customer whose MIDs were used will receive tracking information at no cost.

To avoid any interruptions in accessing tracking data follow the steps below:

- a. **Review and accept terms:** Review the updated Terms & Conditions and confirm your acceptance.
- b. **Merchant authorization:** Merchants will need to authorize platforms, consolidators, and label providers through the Business Portal, for step-by-step instructions see the Merchant Onboarding and Authorization tech sheet.
- c. **Platform authorization:** Platforms, consolidators, and label providers will need an active merchant access token to access tracking information for packages that have their customer's Mailer ID in the package barcode. For step-by-step instructions to set this up, see the USPS API Enrollment Tech Sheet.

## Consolidators:

1. **Q:** How does this change impact consolidators?

**A:** Consolidators that combine multiple shipments from various customers into a single larger shipment before submitting them to USPS will continue to access tracking information for MIDs they have authorized tracking access to at no cost for MIDs.

To avoid any interruptions in accessing tracking data follow the steps below:

- a. **Review and accept terms:** Review the updated Terms & Conditions and confirm your acceptance.
  - b. **Merchant authorization:** Merchants will need to authorize platforms, consolidators, and label providers through the Business Portal, for step-by-step instructions see the Merchant Onboarding and Authorization tech sheet.
  - c. **Platform authorization:** Platforms, consolidators, and label providers will need an active merchant access token to access tracking information for packages that have their customer's Mailer ID in the package barcode. For step-by-step instructions to set this up, see the USPS API Enrollment Tech Sheet.
2. **Q:** Consolidator – How does this change impact package shipping consolidators who create child mailer IDs (MIDs) for each of their customers?



**A:** Both the consolidator and the owner of the child MID receive package tracking for MIDs they have tracking authorization to at no cost.

Before April 1, 2026, please confirm your customers have authorized you to access their tracking information for the relevant MIDs.

## Service Providers:

1. **Q:** Service Provider Platform – How does this change impact service providers who generate manifests for labels using USPS APIs?  
**A:** Service provider platforms that generate manifests or labels using USPS APIs and submit payment on behalf of the customer to USPS receive tracking for MIDs they have tracking authorization access to at no cost.
2. **Q:** Platform or Label Provider Expanded Tracking: How does this change impact service providers who track packages for a mailer ID (MID) they have been delegated access to?  
**A:** Service providers who track packages with MIDs to which they have been delegated tracking access and for which they did not generate a manifest, or label will be charged for package tracking information.
3. **Q:** Auditors – How does this change impact auditors with delegated tracking access to other companies' packages?  
**A:** Auditors with delegated access to others' MIDs will be charged for package tracking information.
4. **Q:** Label or Manifest Software Vendor – How does this change impact a software vendor that provides manifest or label generation software to users?  
**A:** Label or manifest software vendors who do not print labels, generate or submit manifests to USPS, or submit payment for labels to USPS will be charged for package tracking information.
5. **Q:** Tracking Analytics Software Vendor – How does this change impact platform analytics software vendors who track packages for specific mailer IDs (MIDs)?  
**A:** Tracking analytics software vendors who track packages for specific MIDs will be charged for package tracking information.

## Other:

1. **Q:** Tracking Website: How does this change impact public, open analytics website providers who allow any package to be tracked?

**A:** Website providers who provide public, open tracking data to all USPS packages, regardless of mailer ID (MID), will be charged for package tracking information.

To avoid any interruptions in accessing tracking data follow the steps below:

- a. **Initiate request for tracking data access:** Contact USPS via "Email Us" (<https://emailus.usps.com/s/web-tools-inquiry>) to initiate the order form and IP agreement process.
- b. **Set up EPA:** Establish your EPA to enable payment processing.

- c. **Review and sign the order form and IP agreement:** USPS will finalize the order form with customer-specific pricing and include a confidentiality clause to enable pricing discussions. Sign the IP agreement and acknowledge the Terms & Conditions.
  - d. **Account configuration:** After signature, USPS configures your account on the Business Portal so that your shippers can select you as their service provider with access to their scan data.
  - e. **Tracking authorization:** Direct the merchants to the business portal to delegate tracking authorization.
2. **Q:** Consumer Business – How will this change impact consumer businesses who track any packages regardless of who owns them?  
**A:** Consumer businesses who track all packages for all mailer IDs (MIDs) will be charged for package tracking information.  
To avoid any interruptions in accessing tracking data follow the steps below:
  - a. **Initiate request for tracking data access:** Contact USPS via "Email Us" (<https://emailus.usps.com/s/web-tools-inquiry>) to initiate the order form and IP agreement process.
  - b. **Set up EPA:** Establish your EPA to enable payment processing.
  - c. **Review and sign the order form and IP agreement:** USPS will finalize the order form with customer-specific pricing and include a confidentiality clause to enable pricing discussions. Sign the IP agreement and acknowledge the Terms & Conditions.
  - d. **Account configuration:** After signature, USPS configures your account on the Business Portal so that your shippers can select you as their service provider with access to their scan data.
  - e. **Tracking authorization:** Direct the merchants to the business portal to delegate tracking authorization.

## Tracking API:

1. **Q:** How will this change impact an API call that includes 35 tracking numbers in the transaction request?  
**A:** Customers who will be subject to a fee for tracking information beginning April 2026, will be charged by tracking number. For one Tracking API with 35 tracking numbers, it will count as 35 chargeable requests.

## Webhooks:

1. **Q:** How will this change impact a Webhook call that includes 35 tracking numbers in the transaction request?  
**A:** Customers who will be subject to a fee for tracking information beginning April 2026, will be charged by tracking number. For one Webhook call with 35 tracking numbers, it will count as 35 chargeable requests
2. **Q:** How will this change impact a Mailer ID (MID) based Webhook subscription?

**A:** Customers who will be subject to a fee for tracking information beginning April 2026, will be charged by tracking number. For a MID based Webhook subscription, the customer will only be charged once per tracking number.

## Scan Event Extracts:

1. **Q:** How does this change impact scan event extract users who have a mailer ID used for shipping services?

**A:** Scan event extract users who have a mailer ID in the header of the Detail 1 (D1), Logistic Manager Mailer ID, Mail Owner Mailer ID, or Tracking Number Mailer ID, will continue to have tracking access at no cost. For more information on the Shipping Services File D1 Fields see [Pub 199](#).

## Indicia:

1. **Q:** How will this impact customers who use labels printed through enterprise software vendors?

**A:** The enterprise software vendors who printed the labels will be able to track packages at no cost.

2. **Q:** How will this change impact enterprise software vendor customers who print labels outside of the enterprise software vendor?

**A:** Current enterprise software vendor customers must authorize their enterprise software vendor to receive their tracking data for the end customer's MIDs. Then the enterprise software vendor will need a signed IP agreement and be subject to a fee for tracking data access.

If you do not delegate tracking access for your MIDs to the enterprise software vendor by April 1, 2026, and the enterprise software vendor does not have unlimited authorization they will no longer be able to access tracking data.

3. **Q:** How will this change impact labels printed outside of an enterprise software vendor by an enterprise software vendor customer?

**A:** Current enterprise software vendor customers must authorize their enterprise software vendor to receive their tracking data for the end customer's MIDs. Then the enterprise software vendor will need a signed IP agreement and be subject to a fee for tracking data access.

- If you do not delegate tracking access for your MIDs to the enterprise software vendor by April 1, 2026, and the enterprise software vendor does not have unlimited authorization they will no longer be able to access tracking data.

4. **Q:** How will this change impact websites such as tracking service providers who allow any users to track any USPS package?

**A:** Tracking service providers who allow any users to track any USPS package will be subject to a fee for tracking. This does not include service providers who play a role in shipping such as generating or printing a label, generating or submitting a manifest, pay postage, or induct mail.

# Package Tracking Access Control

## Resources

- [Enterprise Payment System](#)
- [USPS Business Portal](#)
- [Industry Alert Tracking Access Validation December 8, 2025](#)
- [Package Tracking Options and Modernization | PostalPro](#)
- [PTR Modernization Overview](#)
- [Subscriptions Tracking 3.0 Modernization Specs \(also referenced as Subscriptions Tracking 3.2 – Webhooks\)](#)
- [Tracking 3.0 Modernization API Specs \(also referenced as Tracking 3.2\)](#)
- USPS API Developer Portal - [Getting Started](#)
- [USPS API Platform Integration](#)
- USPS API Support - [APISUPPORT@usps.gov](mailto:APISUPPORT@usps.gov)
- Customer Access Technology (CAT) Team <https://email.usps.com/s/web-tools-inquiry>