



United States Postal Service Stamp Program

Each year, the Postal Service receives approximately 30,000 suggestions for new postage stamps. Given this high level of interest, producing a balanced stamp program of approximately 25 – 30 stamp issuances each year is a daunting task.

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee

To ensure an annual stamp program that touches on all aspects of our nation's heritage, the Postal Service relies on the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) to review all suggestions from the public. Established in 1957, CSAC is comprised of up to 15 members appointed by the Postmaster General. CSAC members use their collective expertise in history, science, technology, art, education, sports, and other areas of public interest to consider and then recommend stamp subjects to the Postmaster General for final approval. CSAC meets quarterly and all meetings are confidential.

Criteria for Stamp Consideration

The full list of the criteria used by CSAC when considering stamp subjects can be found on the committee's website, <https://about.usps.com/who/csac>. A condensed version follows:

- Primarily features American or American related subjects
- Honors extraordinary contributions to American society, history, culture or environment
- Ideas must be submitted three or more years in advance
- Living people will not be considered. Proposals for a deceased individual will be considered three years after death
- Historic events considered for commemoration on anniversaries in multiples of 50
- Themes of widespread national appeal and significance
- Commemorative postage stamps will be issued at intervals of 50 years from the date of a state's first entry into the union
- Generally, stamps do not single out government agencies, localities, non-profit organizations, associations, or religious institutions or individuals whose principal achievements are associated with religious undertakings or beliefs
- Negative occurrences and disasters will not be commemorated on postage stamps or stationery
- A memorial stamp will be issued honoring U.S. presidents after they are deceased
- Stamps may be issued for the six active-duty branches.

How to Suggest a Stamp

CSAC does not accept in-person appeals, phone calls, or e-mails. Interested parties may submit a proposal in writing by U.S. mail to the address below and should include pertinent historical information and important dates associated with the subject of the proposal:

Stamp Development
Attn: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

If the Committee decides not to recommend a subject for issuance as a stamp, the **proposal can be resubmitted for consideration following a three-year interval. It should also be noted that no credit or compensation is given for the submission of a stamp subject that is selected.**

30,000+ Stamps suggestions
received each year
All reviewed by CSAC for recommendation to
the Postmaster General

20,000+ Items in the William
Gross Stamp Gallery
Opened in 2013 at the Smithsonian's
National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C.,
it is the largest stamp gallery in the world.