

Overview

USPS is moving the USPS API Platform to the cloud to enhance customer experience through reduced latency and improved redundancy. Apps and Tokens from the legacy platform will not be supported in the cloud environment, however, enrolling in the new cloud platform is quick and easy – just follow the steps below.

To ensure a smooth transition, USPS is also providing a Test Environment for Mailers (TEM) where mailers can test functionality and performance without incurring charges. In TEM, mailers will be able to leverage their existing Production USPS account information for a seamless experience. To use the USPS APIs TEM environment, customers will need to begin each of their calls with <https://apis-tem.usps.com/>. See the Test Environment for Mailers (TEM) section for more information.

Customer Onboarding – New API Customers Only

New API customers can follow the steps below to onboard onto the USPS APIs platform. Existing API customers who are simply migrating to the cloud environment do NOT need to complete the onboarding steps and can skip this section.

1. Create a new USPS Business Account by navigating to the [Customer Onboarding Portal \(COP\)](#) and filling out the below prompts.
Note: COP will link to BCG automatically during setup. Customers who already have COP and Enterprise Payment Accounts setup can go directly to step 3.
2. Create a Username and Password.
3. Enter User Information.
4. Enter Company Information.
5. Verify the Company Address.
6. A Customer Registration ID (CRID) is assigned automatically.

Payment Setup (or EPS) – Optional

This is an optional step for customers who did not add a payment method to their account initially and want to update their payment account details in the Business Customer Gateway (BCG).

1. Sign up for an EPS or Payment method for your Business Customer Gateway account.
2. Once you login into your BCG account, on your dashboard below select “Manage Account” to add services like Payment.
Note: You can add as many services to your account as you would like.

Access the Developer Portal

Once enrolled in USPS APIs, all customers can go to <https://developers.usps.com> and use their COP credentials to finalize Developer access and link all credentials and payment services to their account.

1. Navigate to the USPS API Developer Portal at <https://developers.usps.com>.
2. Use Customer Onboarding Platform log in credentials.
Note: While all documentation is available without logging into the Developer Portal, the login credentials are required to create an App for using USPS APIs.

Creating an Application

Customers with a USPS business account can use the Developer Portal to register Apps, generate OAuth tokens, and access all USPS APIs.

To create and register an App, the customer must first be logged into the USPS APIs Developer Portal.

1. Once logged in, select “Apps” in the menu bar.

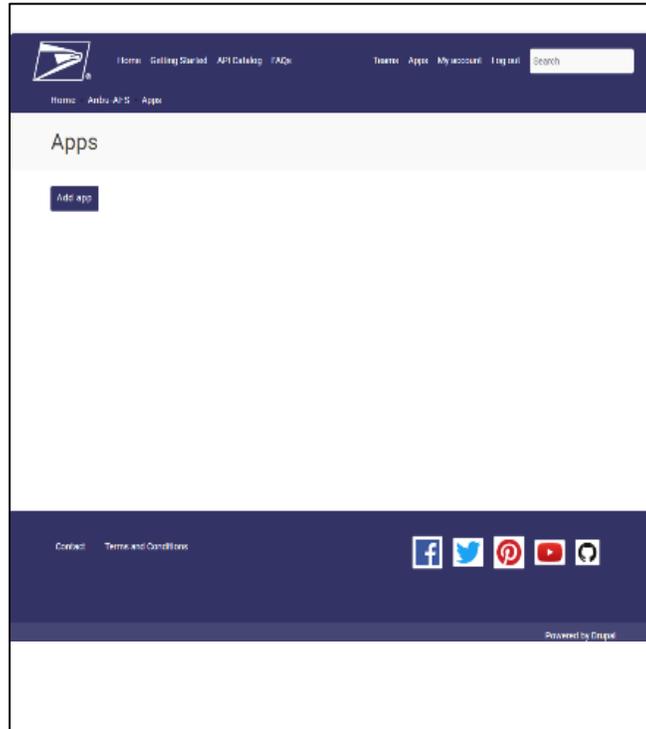


Figure 1: USPS Developer Portal Apps Page

2. Click the "Add app" button.
3. Enter "App Name" for your application (required).
4. Enter "Callback URL" (optional).
5. Enter "Description" (optional).
6. Select the API Product available (required) – Example: “Public Access I”.
 - a) For testing, also select the “Test Environment for Mailers - TEM” Product
7. Click "ADD APP" Button.

Add App

App name *

Callback URL

External site to which a consumer of this app is redirected to log in when using three-legged OAuth.

I have read, understand, and agree to the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy settings for App *

Description

APIs

Shipping Default

ADD APP

Figure 2: USPS Developer Portal Add Apps Page

Note: The default API Product will allow a customer to use the following APIs: Address API, Service Standards API, Domestic Price API and International Price API at a limited throughput.

- To access other APIs, please send a separate API Product request to the API management team to review and approve. To get the approval, the customer can reach out to APISupport@usps.gov.

Generating a Consumer Key and Secret

The Consumer Key and Secret are required credentials used when creating the OAuth token within the customer's software. The Consumer Key and Secret are used to gain access to the APIs.

Select the application you just registered and retrieve your Consumer Key and Consumer Secret from the credentials section. These credentials are required for generating the OAuth token.

1. After creating the platform App, the select/click the **Approved** button to view credentials.
2. Use the provided Consumer (Client) Key and Customer (Client) Secret to create the OAuth token.
3. The Consumer Key uniquely identifies the Customer App (Username), and Consumer Secret (Password).

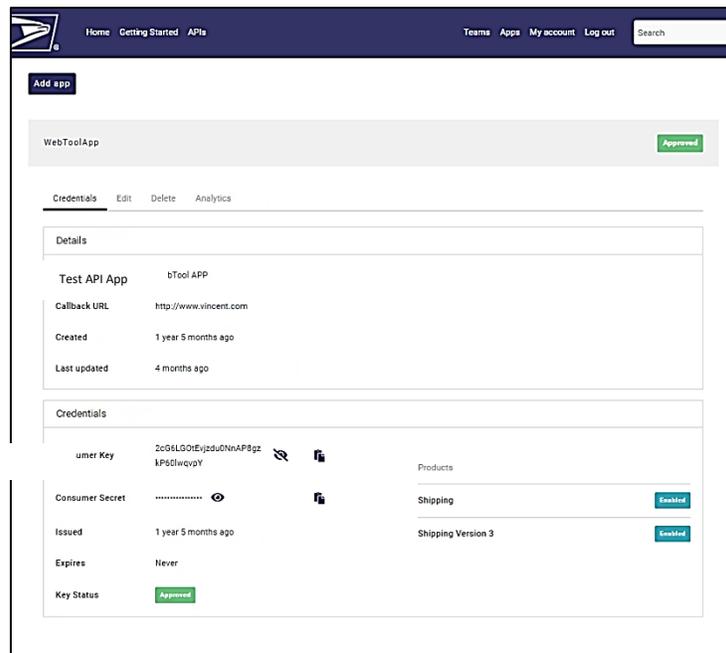


Figure 3: USPS Developer Portal Credentials Page

Authorize Your Apps to Access Protected Information Resources

Enter your [Consumer Key](#) to authorize your App to access your payment accounts, permits, CRIDs, MIDs, and subscriptions, which will be required by several USPS APIs.

Using the USPS APIs Platform

The base URL for all USPS APIs in the Cloud is: **apis.usps.com**

Follow the below instructions to generate an OAuth Token and Payment Token used for both domestic and international labels. Postman is the software used to generate these tokens for demonstration purposes below.

Note: Any third-party software can be used to generate these tokens. **Postman is not mandatory.**

Test Environment for Mailers (TEM)

USPS offers the Test Environment for Mailers (TEM) to allow for testing prior to deployment to Production without incurring charges. In TEM, mailers will be able to leverage existing Production USPS account information for a seamless transition.

How to Use TEM

The steps outlined above need to be performed only once to apply to both the Production and TEM environments. Although the API endpoints will remain the same, the base URL for the TEM environment will differ slightly from Production. Customers will need to begin each of their calls with <https://apis-tem.usps.com/> to use the USPS APIs TEM environment.

Environment	Base URL
TEM	apis-tem.usps.com
PROD	apis.usps.com

Table 1: TEM vs PROD Base URLs

APIs Available in TEM

The following APIs will be available in TEM:

- Addresses
- Containers*
- Domestic Labels*
- Domestic Prices
- International Labels*
- International Prices
- Locations
- Payments*
- SCAN Form*
- Service Standards
- Shipping Options
- Tracking

*Contact APISupport@usps.gov to obtain access to these APIs in TEM.

Labels API in TEM

All functionality currently available for the Labels API in Production will be available in TEM. However, a watermark will be applied to all label images generated in TEM and there will be no actual postage charged to the mailers' live payment accounts.

For additional information, refer to the Labels API specifications: <https://developers.usps.com/api/71>.

Performance/Load Testing in TEM

Mailers who intend to conduct performance and/or load test in the TEM environment must provide 72 hours' advance notice, excluding weekends. Requests must be sent to APISupport@usps.gov.

Appendix A – USPS Ship Enrollment for eVS Customers

USPS improved their manifest processing, package pricing, verification, and payment for commercial manifest shippers. USPS Ship simplifies the existing solution for manifest processing and payment. USPS Ship is a prerequisite for USPS Ship Pilot, Production and Reports.



Figure 6: USPS Ship Details

Note: Migrating eVS customer to USPS Ship is a pre-requisite before printing labels on the new API platform. Follow below guidelines to get onboarded to USPS Ship using the [USPS Ship Guide](#).

Existing Shipper Migration

Existing shippers must migrate from eVS to USPS Ship with their existing customer profiles. eVS shippers must consider all their existing credentials (Mailer IDs, Enterprise Payment Accounts, Permits, Contract/Customized Pricing) for the migration.

Appendix B – Useful Links

Below you will find a curated selection of useful links and resources that will provide support on how to use Postman, sample code, how to contact additional support as well as online resource guides, and lastly Tools for API migration.

Postman Collection

API specifications needed to support the use of Postman API Client tools <https://github.com/USPS/api-examples>.

cURL Command Samples

Sample code to call APIs from a command prompt (Windows or Unix) <https://github.com/USPS/api-examples/blob/main/README.md>.

Online Resources

- USPS Ship Onboarding Guide - [USPS Ship | PostalPro](#)
- USPS API Developer Portal - <https://developers.usps.com>
- USPS API Catalog - <https://developers.usps.com/apis>

