



Purchasing Post

January 2013

Volume 6, Issue 1

Announcements:

- **Jan. 27**
Postal Rates
Increase
(See Attached)
- **Jan. 28**
Fun At Work Day
- **Jan. 29**
Kansas Day
- **Feb. 13**
Last day to
change E-id
password
- **Feb. 14**
K-State 150
Kick-Off

January is Financial **Wellness Month.**



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ksu.edu/purchasing

Specifications

I bought a vehicle over Christmas break. No, I didn't write a formal bid request, public post it, and make the dealerships submit their quotes to me by 2:00 pm. It is a nice thought, though; might have saved some negotiation time.

I did write specifications, however, i.e. make a list of what features I needed beyond the standard engine, four tires, steering wheel, etc.

#1 for me was dependability. I don't have a clue as to how to repair a vehicle so I needed a vehicle with a good track record for low maintenance. The current copy of Consumer Reports magazine on 2013 vehicles was my resource and helped narrow the field.

#2 was front wheel drive since I live in Kansas in the winter.

#3 is height. Let's face it, I am not getting younger and my creaky joints don't bend like they use to when getting in and out of a sedan.

#4 was hauling space. I like to garden and buy bags of mulch & soil. Trucks or utility vehicles have cargo spaces that sit higher and are level. I don't have to pull a 50# bag over the edge of a trunk.

#5 was good gas mileage.

Once I zeroed in on some comparable vehicles, I test drove them. I used the web for pricing indicators on the various models. Then I went to the dealerships to discuss price.

Another consideration in my purchase was what to do with my old vehicle. There was still value in it. Trade-in? Sell it directly? Keeping it didn't make sense since I can only drive one vehicle at a time and have a single car garage.

Financing was the third factor. I didn't have the cash so I went shopping amongst lending institutions as well as the dealership to see who had the best interest rate, terms & conditions, etc. Throughout the process I told the dealerships and banks I was shopping around.

We all go through these thought processes when buying something. Sometimes personal preference comes into play which is fine on a personal purchase but difficult to defend when buying something for the University. That is why good, thought out specifications are critical. Also helps to get unbiased third party input, in my case Consumer Reports and Kelley Blue Book.

By the way, I bought a 2013 Honda CRV. It is a beautiful "Twilight Blue". (BONUS!!!!)

2013 POSTAL RATE CARD

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Your Representative's Contact Information

Name

Email

Phone

Rates as of January 27, 2013

First-Class Mail Retail Letters	1 Oz	\$0.46
Max Size: 11.5" L X 6 1/8" H X 1/4" Thick Max Weight: 3.5 Ounce	2	\$0.66
	3	\$0.86
	3.5	\$1.06
Postcard		\$0.33
Max Size: 6" L X 4 1/4" H X .016" Thick		
First-Class Mail Retail Flats	1 Oz	\$0.92
Exceeds any one dimension of a letter And no dimensions exceed: 15" Long, 12" Height, or 3/4" Thick	2	\$1.12
	3	\$1.32
	4	\$1.52
	5	\$1.72
	6	\$1.92
	7	\$2.12
	8	\$2.32
	9	\$2.52
	10	\$2.72
	11	\$2.92
	12	\$3.12
	13	\$3.32
First-Class Mail Retail Parcel	1 Oz	\$2.07
If your mailpiece exceeds the flats maximum size in any of the dimensions, you can use parcel rates. If your mailpiece is heavier, you may want to consider a Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope or Box for your shipment.	2	\$2.07
	3	\$2.07
	4	\$2.24
	5	\$2.41
	6	\$2.58
	7	\$2.75
	8	\$2.92
	9	\$3.09
	10	\$3.26
	11	\$3.43
	12	\$3.60
	13	\$3.77

Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes/ Envelope Rates	Retail	Commercial Base Pricing
Flat Rate Envelope	\$5.60	\$5.05
Flat Rate Small Box	\$5.80	\$5.15
Flat Rate Medium Box	\$12.35	\$11.30
Flat Rate Large Box	\$16.85	\$15.30

**Commercial Base Pricing is available to qualifying customers,
such as a Pitney Bowes meter user.**

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