

Please direct all
communications to:

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New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

Dear A.A. Friends,

In our ongoing efforts to ensure that A.A. literature is equally accessible throughout the Fellowship — to groups, Intergroups and Central Offices (large and small) — and to remove barriers that may hinder getting our life-saving literature into the hands of all who need it, we are happy to announce:

A 5-Month Test Pilot on Reduced Shipping Charges

Effective May 17 – October 18, 2021

Orders	Shipping charge
under \$25	\$5
\$25 - \$50	\$7
\$50 - \$250	12% of total
\$250 - \$500	10% of total
over \$500	Free Shipping

Note: Dollar totals are in U.S. currency. Shipping charges are based on totals before applicable sales tax.

As we continue to encourage members to purchase literature from their home groups and local distribution sources (Intergroups and Central Offices), this pilot shipping fee structure will allow us to chart the effects of reduced shipping charges for a limited-time, 5-month period.

Why are we doing this 5-month experiment?

We receive a high volume of comments daily stating that shipping charges for A.A. literature are too high. We hear this from the groups and individual members of Alcoholics Anonymous that the General Service Office has been created to serve.

A.A.W.S. has done a lot in recent years to help make our literature more accessible. We have not considered previously standard price increases for almost six years. Indeed, as of last April 15, 2020, we reduced and “normalized” prices for several items across languages (English, French and Spanish) and formats (such as large print and audiobook, for example). We have also eliminated handling charges.

We recognize that the individual members and groups of A.A. are not the only entities that purchase our literature. Intergroups and Central Offices are important partners for us. For that matter, they are incredibly important to the Fellowship as a whole, performing services locally that cannot be done by the General Service Office in New York. Although we feel that this change to our shipping cost structure will be beneficial to all who purchase literature directly from us, we want to confirm this before we make such a change permanent. Therefore, once the pilot is complete, we will:

- examine the data;
- listen to inputs from all those who buy from us; and
- carefully consider any positive or negative impacts.

We take our fiduciary responsibility seriously, which includes our oversight and decision-making on pricing, discounts and shipping charges. We are ever mindful that “money and spirituality mix” in each of these transactions.

Just like every member of the Fellowship, our goal is to carry recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic. The office and the A.A.W.S. board want to ensure that our literature is accessible to all. Hopefully, this will help to get our books into the hands of those who need them.

For questions, comments and sharing on this topic, please email us at publishingnews@aa.org.

Warmly,



Beau B.

Chair, A.A.W.S. Board of Trustees



Jimmy D.

Chair, A.A.W.S. Board Finance Committee