



## Shipping and Declaration Note Instructions (3 Pages of Instructions)

Global Medical Libraries (GML) donors send their donated educational materials to one of the following: Army Post Offices, Fleet Post Offices, Diplomatic Post Offices and require the Declaration Note inside each box. Some USPS locations require the US Custom form PS2976-R. GML's partnership with the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture does not require the Custom form. Shipments benefiting the African veterinary medical schools do not have weight and quantity restrictions. All of the other instructions, including Declaration Note, below apply.

**IMPORTANT: Please read through all the instructions below before boxing up the books.**

- Check with your local USPS branch regarding requiring PS2976-R to mail. The forms and clear envelope are available at no charge. Instructions to complete the form are on page 3 of these instructions. Much of the information for the Declaration Note is also needed for form.
- Due to Diplomatic Pouch procedures, it is important that large shipments be spread out over time. Please do not send more than 4 boxes at a time to a specific US Embassy. Shipments of 5 boxes or more from the same address to the same address on the same day may trigger rejection. Please space shipments by 5-7 days so the DPO system doesn't get overloaded.
- The Diplomatic Pouch has a strict enforcement of the 20-pound maximum per box. Boxes weighing more than 20 pounds will be returned.
- Box size is another concern of the DPO. The maximum size is 10" x 12" x 10".
- Boxes with any of these words on the outside cannot be used: fragile, glass, liquor, perishable
- Reinforce all sides of the box with ample clear mailing tape to keep box intact during transit
- Fill empty spaces in the box with newspaper; loose books move in transit and break the box
- Use separate "to" and "from" address shipping labels on the box
- Include the recipient's zip code on the address shipping label
- Place completed Declaration Note in the top/inside of the box. See below for Declaration Note instructions.
- Seal top of box securely with clear mailing tape
- If required by your USPS branch office, complete and affix the USPS Customs Form PS2976-R on the outside of the box.

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## Page 2

- Write MEDIA MAIL in black marker somewhere on the top of the box
- **Only send through the US Postal System. Do NOT send through UPS.**
- It takes 4 weeks for the POC/recipient to receive the shipment
- Insurance is not necessary

On the outside of each box, write the recipient's address in the center of the box. Your return address should be written on the upper left-hand corner of the box. Shipping labels are recommended, but not required. If your local post office requires PS2976-R, place it in the center of the box instead of a label.

The recipient is not in the United States and we don't want them to incur in country customs taxes. As such, **every box requires a Declaration Note in the inside of the box with the fields/information shown below.** It should be visible when the box is opened. There is no official Declaration Note form. The book donor can create their own Declaration Note or use the country template available on the website. See the instructions below. For shipments with multiple boxes, the Declaration Note can be copied. Please make sure that the quantity and value are accurate for the box.

**The Declaration Note template for each recipient country is available on the GML website: Donate Books page.**

### Declaration Note Required Information

**From:** Your name, mailing address and email address.

**To:** Use the complete address on the GML Recipients list.

**Detailed Description of Contents:** Write: **Used medical textbooks for <insert name of institution>**

**Qty:** Number of textbooks

**Value:** Just make your best estimate. It doesn't have to be exact and doesn't affect the price of the shipping.

**IMPORTANT! Write: The books are a Gift.**

**AES/ITN/Exemption:** Write: **NOEEI 30.37 (a) IMPORTANT- Write the highlighted words and NOEEI 30.37 (a)**

**Signature and Date:** Your signature and date

**If needed by your USPS branch, see page 3 for step-by-step instructions to complete the form PS2976-R**

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## How to Complete the US Customs Declaration and Dispatch (PS Form 2976-R)

**Sender's Information:** Your name, mailing address and email address. Please include USA in the "country" field.

**Addresses' Information:** Use the complete address on the GML Recipients list. Please include USA in the "country" field.

Only complete the following fields/boxes on the form:

**Shipment Information:**

**Item #1: Only check, "Gift"**

**Used medical textbooks for <insert name of institution>**

**Item #2: Detailed Description of Contents:**

**Used medical textbooks for <insert name of institution>**

**Item #3: Quantity: Number of textbooks**

**Item #4: Weight: Leave blank**

**Items #5: Value: Just make your best estimate. It doesn't have to be exact and doesn't affect the price of the shipping.**

**Item #6: Total Value: Add all values**

**Item #7: Sender's Email Address: Your email address**

**Item # 8-13: Leave blank**

**Item # 14: AES Exemption NOEEI: 30.37 (a) – which is center of first row**

**Item #15-22: Restrictions: Leave blank**

**Item #23: Sender's Signature and Date: Your signature and date**

All other boxes are left blank.

With the exception of the SEE/GML partnership for visual health books, book donors absorb shipping costs.

**SEE/GML Partnership:** For those shipping ophthalmic, optometric, and other visual health related educational materials to developing countries, GML has partnered with SEE International to reimburse USPS Media Mail shipping costs. Visit [www.seeintl.org/gml](http://www.seeintl.org/gml) for details and instructions.

In 2023-2024, SEE has budgeted \$250 maximum for shipping reimbursements. *Once reimbursements exceed the allocated funds, shipping costs will then be the responsibility of the shipper.* To inquiry if there are currently available shipping reimbursement funds, email [info@seeintl.org](mailto:info@seeintl.org). The reimbursement request form and the instructions are on [www.seeintl.org/gml](http://www.seeintl.org/gml). This partnership will end on December 15, 2024.

**GML is unable to provide tax-donation receipts.**

If you have any questions, please email Valerie at [info@GlobalMedicalLibraries.org](mailto:info@GlobalMedicalLibraries.org)