

## 8.5 POSTAL MONEY COLLECTION ORDERS - INLAND & FOREIGN (*Postauftrag, Postai megbizási*)

### 8.5.1 Introduction

This service was introduced throughout the Empire on 01.11.1882 via the Austrian *Handels Ministerium* **RGB 144, 09.10.1882** and the Hungarian **PTRT 37, 22.10.1882**. The principle of the service is that Person A can request payment for goods or services up to 200 *Fl* or *Ft* in value from Person B by filling in a form purchasable from a post office or stamp retailer for, initially,  $\frac{1}{2}$  *kr*, or later 1 *kr*, identifying Person B, the nature of the claim and the value, and then posting this together with any associated documents (weighing less than 250 g) by registered letter post to the post office in the district of the address of Person B. The postman then takes the form to Person B and requests the required payment, and on receipt of it hands over any documents posted with the form, prepares a postal money order in favour of Person A who receives it in the post in the usual way. Person B is charged with a 20 *kr* handling fee, and the normal charges for a money order. Person A receives the original requested sum minus 20 *kr*. Should person B refuse to pay or only part-pay there are several options for re-delivery attempts and for the return of the *Postai megbizási* and its related papers by registered post, for which Sender A has to pay nothing more.

Changes were made to the procedure by Austrian **PuTVB 42, 20.04.1886** and Hungarian **PTRT 22, 21.04.1886** with expansion of the service to some foreign countries.

This service is unrelated to the use of the green *Postai utárvételi jegy* form, first issued in 1874 in three language versions, which it is believed was intended to accompany COD parcels, or to replace the missing money order part of accompanying two-part COD parcel cards.

In 1916, the *megbizás* system was simplified for collecting small sums of up to 20 *K* by the issue of a two-part stamp-imprinted postal stationery card initially costing 20 *f*, of which 10 *f* was for ordinary letter post, and 10 *f* was a presentation fee (**PTRT 120, 15.09.1916**). This type of card was in use until 1944.

After WWII, the inland service recommenced on 16.09.1945 (start of Hyperinflation period 3), and rates are known from Morgan's book on Hyperinflation through to August 1945.

The following tables gives data for respectively, the higher value service and the low value inland service. Information is sparse or confusing for some aspects of the charging. Rates appear basically to follow those for COD letters and parcels, and for foreign use were subject to similar limits and conditions as for COD parcels (see section 8.4). Table 3 then gives the rates from Morgan's book for the Hyperinflation period.

## 8.5.2 Rate tables to 1944

**Table 1: Postal money collection order (*Postai megbizási*) - Higher value fees - Inland and foreign**

| Date        | Period | Basis           | Request card charge         | Presentation fee | Collection fee Dom./For.      | Refusal fee [1] Dom./For.     | Maximum amount      | PTRT                 |
|-------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 01.11.1882  | -      | Reg. letter fee | 0.5 <i>kr</i>               |                  | 20 <i>kr</i>                  |                               | 200 <i>Ft</i>       | PTRT 37, 22.10.1882  |
| 01.05.1886  | -      | Reg. letter fee | 1 <i>kr</i>                 |                  | 5 <i>kr</i>                   |                               | 400 <i>Fl</i>       | PTRT 22, 21.04.1886  |
| 01.01.1900  | -      | Reg. letter fee | 2 <i>f</i>                  |                  | 10 <i>f</i>                   |                               | 800 <i>K?</i>       |                      |
| 01.10.1916  | -      | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 10 <i>f</i>                   |                               | As for money orders | PTRT 120, 15.09.1916 |
| 01.06.1918  |        | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | War tax [2]                   |                               |                     | PTRT 53, 29.05.1918  |
| 01.01.1920  | 1      | Reg. letter fee |                             | 40 <i>f</i>      | 40 <i>f</i>                   |                               |                     | PTRT 76, 22.12.1919  |
| 01.06.1920  | 2      | Reg. letter fee |                             | 80 <i>f</i>      | 80 <i>f</i>                   |                               |                     | PTRT 43, 28.05.1920  |
| 01.07.1921  | 3      | Reg. letter fee |                             | None             | 3 <i>K</i>                    | 2 <i>K</i>                    |                     | PTRT 48, 28.06.1921  |
| 01.01.1922* | 4      | Reg. letter fee |                             | None             | 4 <i>K</i>                    | 2.5 <i>K</i>                  |                     | PTRT 101, 20.12.1921 |
| 01.08.1922  | 5      | Reg. letter fee |                             | -                | 7 <i>K</i>                    | 5 <i>K</i>                    |                     | PTRT 56, 28.07.1922  |
| 05.10.1922  | 6      | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 30 <i>K</i>                   | 20 <i>K</i>                   |                     | PTRT 77, 02.10.1922  |
| 01.11.1922  | 7      | Reg. letter fee | 2 <i>K</i> [3]              |                  |                               |                               |                     | PTRT 83, 27.10.1922  |
| 16.04.1923  | 8      | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 60 <i>K</i>                   | 40 <i>K</i>                   |                     | PTRT 27, 13.04.1923  |
| 01.07.1923  | 9      | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 100 <i>K</i> / 150 <i>K</i>   | 100 <i>K</i>                  |                     | PTRT 45, 27.06.1923  |
| 13.08.1923  | 10     | Reg. letter fee | 10 <i>K</i>                 |                  | 200 <i>K</i> / 300 <i>K</i>   | 200 <i>K</i>                  |                     | PTRT 60, 09.08.1923  |
| 01.10.1923  | 11     | Reg. letter fee | 10 <i>K</i>                 |                  | 300 <i>K</i> / 500 <i>K</i>   | 300 <i>K</i>                  |                     | PTRT 70, 27.09.1923  |
| 01.01.1924  | 12     | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 500 <i>K</i> / 800 <i>K</i>   | 500 <i>K</i> / 600 <i>K</i>   |                     | PTRT 89, 27.12.1923  |
| 21.02.1924  | 13     | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 1000 <i>K</i> / 1500 <i>K</i> | 800 <i>K</i> / 1000 <i>K</i>  |                     | PTRT 15, 16.02.1924  |
| 11.04.1924  | 14     | Reg. letter fee | 50 <i>K</i> from 03.05.1924 |                  | 1500 <i>K</i> / 2400 <i>K</i> | 1000 <i>K</i> / 1600 <i>K</i> |                     | PTRT 29, 07.04.1924  |
| 01.06.1924  | 15     | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | 2000 <i>K</i> / 3000 <i>K</i> | 1500 <i>K</i> / 2000 <i>K</i> |                     | PTRT 33, 06.05.1924  |
| 01.01.1925  | 16     | Reg. letter fee |                             |                  | No change                     | No change                     |                     | PTRT 38, 28.05.1924  |
| 01.10.1925  | 16     | Reg. letter fee | 100 <i>K</i>                |                  | 2000 <i>K</i> / 4500 <i>K</i> | 1500 <i>K</i> / 2500 <i>K</i> |                     | PTRT 76, 29.12.1924  |
| 01.04.1926  | 17     |                 |                             |                  | No data                       | No data                       |                     | PTRT 56, 26.09.1925: |
| 01.01.1927  | -      | Reg. letter fee | 1 <i>f</i>                  |                  | 15 <i>f</i> / 30 <i>f</i>     | 10 <i>f</i> / 20 <i>f</i>     |                     | PTRT 15, 30.03.1926  |
| 15.11.1930  | -      | Reg. letter fee | 2 <i>f</i>                  |                  |                               |                               |                     | PTRT 31, 13.07.1926  |
|             |        |                 |                             |                  |                               |                               |                     | PTRT 61, 18.12.1926  |
|             |        |                 |                             |                  |                               |                               |                     | PTRT 62, 21.12.1926  |
|             |        |                 |                             |                  |                               |                               |                     | PTRT 52, 08.11.1930  |

There are no obvious changes in rates up to 1944.

[1] Collected as postage due from the sender.

[2] War tax collected from the returning money order - see [1] below next table.

[3] 2 *K* from 01.02.1923 (**PTRT 7, 30.01.1923**)

**Table 2: Postal money collection order (*Postai megbízási*) - Low value stationery cards - Inland only**

| Date               | Period | Stationery card charge               | Imprint value | Postage element | Presentation element | Collection fee | Maximum            | Other                  | PTRT                                                              |
|--------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01.10.1916         | -      | 20 <i>f</i>                          | 20 <i>f</i>   | 10 <i>f</i>     | 10 <i>f</i>          | 10 <i>f</i>    | 20 <i>K</i>        |                        | PTRT 120, 15.09.1916                                              |
| 01.06.1918         | -      |                                      |               |                 |                      | 10 <i>f</i>    |                    | 5 <i>f</i> war tax [1] | PTRT 53, 29.05.1918                                               |
| 01.01.1920         | 1      | 80 <i>f</i>                          | 20 <i>f</i>   | 40 <i>f</i>     | 40 <i>f</i>          | 40 <i>f</i>    | 20 <i>K</i>        | [2]                    | PTRT 76, 22.12.1919                                               |
| 01.06.1920         | 2      | 80 <i>f</i>                          | 20 <i>f</i>   | 40 <i>f</i>     | 40 <i>f</i>          | 80 <i>f</i>    | 100 <i>K</i>       |                        | PTRT 43, 28.05.1920                                               |
| 01.07.1921         | 3      | 80 <i>f</i>                          | 20 <i>f</i>   |                 | 80 <i>f</i>          | 80 <i>f</i>    | 200 <i>K</i>       |                        | PTRT 48, 28.06.1921                                               |
| 01.01.1922         | 4      | [3] 1.5 <i>K</i>                     | 1.5 <i>K</i>  | 1.5 <i>K</i>    |                      |                | 500 <i>K</i>       |                        | PTRT 101, 20.12.1921                                              |
| 01.08.1922         | 5      |                                      |               |                 |                      |                | 1,000 <i>K</i>     |                        | PTRT 56, 28.07.1922                                               |
| 05.10.1922         | 6      | [3] [4]                              |               |                 | 6 <i>K</i>           | 6 <i>K</i>     | 1,000 <i>K</i>     |                        | PTRT 77, 02.10.1922                                               |
| 16.04.1923         | 7      | 5 <i>K</i> from<br>03.05.1923        |               |                 | 10 <i>K</i>          | 10 <i>K</i>    | 5,000 <i>K</i>     |                        | PTRT 26, 09.04.1923<br>PTRT 27, 13.04.1923<br>PTRT 38, 18.05.1923 |
| 01.07.1923         | 8      | 10 <i>K</i> from<br>15.07.1923       |               |                 |                      | 30 <i>K</i>    | 20,000 <i>K</i>    |                        | PTRT 48, 27.06.1923<br>PTRT 53, 15.07.1923:                       |
| 13.08.1923         | 9      | 20 <i>K</i>                          |               |                 |                      | 100 <i>K</i>   | 50,000 <i>K</i>    |                        | PTRT 60, 09.08.1923                                               |
| 01.10.1923         | 10     | 50 <i>K</i> from<br>16.11.1923       |               |                 |                      | 150 <i>K</i>   | 100,000 <i>K</i>   |                        | PTRT 70, 27.09.1923<br>PTRT 80, 14.11.1923                        |
| 01.01.1924         | 11     |                                      |               |                 |                      | 200 <i>K</i>   | 200,000 <i>K</i>   |                        | PTRT 89, 27.12.1923                                               |
| 21.02.1924         | 12     |                                      |               |                 |                      | 400 <i>K</i>   | 200,000 <i>K</i>   |                        | PTRT 15, 16.02.1924                                               |
| 11.04.1924         | 13     | 150 <i>K</i> from<br>03.05.1924      |               |                 |                      | 1,000 <i>K</i> | 500,000 <i>K</i>   |                        | PTRT 29, 07.04.1924<br>PTRT 33, 06.05.1924                        |
| 01.06.1924         | 14     | 200 <i>K</i> from<br>01.08.1924      |               |                 |                      | 1500 <i>K</i>  | 1,000,000 <i>K</i> |                        | PTRT 38, 28.05.1924<br>PTRT 55, 30.07.1924                        |
| 01.10.1925         | 15     | Same                                 |               |                 |                      | 1,500 <i>K</i> | 1,000,000 <i>K</i> |                        | PTRT 56, 26.09.1925:                                              |
| 13.07.1926         | 16     | Same                                 |               |                 |                      | Same           | 1,500,000 <i>K</i> |                        | PTRT 31, 13.07.1926                                               |
| 01.01.1927         |        | 10 <i>f</i>                          |               | 8 <i>f</i>      |                      | 10 <i>f</i>    | 120 <i>P</i>       |                        | PTRT 61, 18.12.1926                                               |
| From<br>01.02.1927 |        | New card 10 <i>f</i>                 | 8 <i>f</i>    |                 |                      |                |                    |                        | PTRT 62, 21.12.1926<br>PTRT 3, 26.03.1927                         |
| 15.11.1930         |        | 12 <i>f</i><br>New card 12 <i>f</i>  | 10 <i>f</i>   |                 |                      |                |                    |                        | PTRT 52, 08.11.1930<br>PTRT 59, 19.12.1930                        |
| 15.09.1941         |        | 14 <i>f</i><br>New cards 14 <i>f</i> | 12 <i>f</i>   |                 |                      |                |                    |                        | PTRT 44, 09.09.1941<br>PTRT 50, 17.10.1941                        |
| 01.07.1943         |        | 20 <i>f</i><br>New cards 20 <i>f</i> |               |                 |                      |                |                    |                        | PTRT 32, 26.06.1943<br>PTRT 42, 21.08.1943                        |
| 01.02.1944         |        |                                      |               |                 |                      |                | 200 <i>P</i>       |                        | PTRT 5, 28.01.1944                                                |

#### Table 2 footnotes:

[1] **PTRT 53, 29.05.1918:** War tax of 5 *f* is added to postal money collection orders, deducted from the amount collected.

1. No other fee shall be charged for letters containing postal orders, both in domestic and international traffic, at the time of posting, in addition to the fee for ordinary registered letters. However, in the event of redemption of the order, the delivering post office shall deduct a collection fee of 4 *K* (30 *centimes*) per document from the amount received, which shall be charged on the order list. For the presentation of the non-redeemed mandate documents, a fee of 2 *K* 50 *f* (20 *centimes*) per document shall be charged, which, in the case of partial redemption, shall be deducted by the delivery office from the amount received after the redeemed document or documents. However, if the amount received does not cover the amounts to be deducted, the presentation fee for the non-redeemed documents, or the part thereof not covered by the amount received, shall be charged as postage on the registered item containing the non-redeemed documents and collected from the sender of the mandate.

The delivery office shall determine the amount remaining after the collection and, if applicable, presentation fees for the amount received, the transfer fee due in accordance with Section 7, points 1 and 2; this shall also be deducted from the amount and used to clear the transfer. The transfer shall be issued from the amount remaining after the deductions.

2. The fees mentioned in the previous point 1. are also applicable when using a postal order form.

3. The amount that can be collected by postal order cannot be greater than the amount that can be sent by postal order, but the postal order form.

[2] **PTRT 76, 22.12.1919:** Money order form charge no longer made.

[3] The 20 *f* card withdrawn by end of April 1922 (**PTRT 16, 17.03.1922**) while the 1.5 *K* version was issued, but reinstated for continued use in **PTRT 85, 02.11.1922** with uprating to the current postcard rate. Finally withdrawn by **PTRT 37, 21.05.1924**.

[4] 4 *K* from 01.02.1923 (**PTRT 7, 30.01.1923**).

### 8.5.3 Foreign rates:

Note: Many of the PTRTs cited in section 8.4 for foreign COD parcels during the period 1918-1944 also apply to postal money collection orders, including the charge rates and the on-off validity situation during 1930s and 1940s.

## 8.5.4 Rate tables from 1945

**Table 3: Postal money collection orders - Inland - 1945-1946** (from Morgan)

Note: Besides the cost of the card, there was (1) a collection fee per document (*beszedési díj okiratonként*), (2) a presentation fee (*bermutatási díj okiratonként*) and (3) a postal money collection order presentation/collection fee (*megbízási lap beszedési, illetőleg bermutatási díja*). From period 14, fees were standardised at the rate for a local postcard.

| Rate period | Collection fee per document (1) | Presentation fee per document (2) | Postal money collection order presentation /collection fee (3) |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3           | 5 P                             | 3 P                               | 3 P                                                            |
| 4           | 20 P                            | 20 P                              | 20 P                                                           |
| 5           | 60 P                            | 40 P                              | 40 P                                                           |
| 6           | 300 P                           | 200 P                             | 200 P                                                          |
| 7           | 1,500 P                         | 1,000 P                           | 1,000 P                                                        |
| 8           | 8,000 P                         | 5,000 P                           | 5,000 P                                                        |
| 9           | 16,000 P                        | 10,000 P                          | 10,000 P                                                       |
| 10          | 24,000 P                        | 15,000 P                          | 15,000 P                                                       |
| 11          | 32,000 P                        | 20,000 P                          | 20,000 P                                                       |
| 12          | 64,000 P                        | 40,000 P                          | 40,000 P                                                       |
| 13          | 200,000 P                       | 125,000 P                         | 125,000 P                                                      |
| 14          | 800,000 P                       | 800,000 P                         | 800,000 P                                                      |
| 15          | 4,000,000 P                     | 4,000,000 P                       | 4,000,000 P                                                    |
| 16          | 16,000,000 P                    | 16,000,000 P                      | 16,000,000 P                                                   |
| 17          | 48,000,000 P                    | 48,000,000 P                      | 48,000,000 P                                                   |
| 18          | 160,000,000 P                   | 160,000,000 P                     | 160,000,000 P                                                  |
| 19          | 1,600,000,000 P                 | 1,600,000,000 P                   | 1,600,000,000 P                                                |
| 20          | 8,000,000,000 P                 | 8,000,000,000 P                   | 8,000,000,000 P                                                |
| 21          | 160,000,000,000 P               | 160,000,000,000 P                 | 160,000,000,000 P                                              |
| 22          | 16 bP                           | 16 bP                             | 16 bP                                                          |
| 23          | 800 bP                          | 800 bP                            | 800 bP                                                         |
| 24          | 40 ebP                          | 40 ebP                            | 40 ebP                                                         |
| 25          | 10,000 eP                       | 10,000 eP                         | 10,000 eP                                                      |
| 26          | 50,000 eP                       | 50,000 eP                         | 50,000 eP                                                      |
| 27          | 200,000 eP                      | 200,000 eP                        | 200,000 eP                                                     |

Note: Morgan terms this a ‘postal assignment to collect’.

This service must have continued beyond the Hyperinflation period because the price of a card is listed as 16 f in the 1948 edition 41/2 of *Postarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek*, but no other information is available.

### 8.5.5 Other information:

**PTRT 120, 15.09.1916:** Changes in the postal money order collection order service.

From 1 October 1916, the following innovation will come into force in the postal money order collection service: instead of a registered letter with the inscription 'closed postal order' in domestic traffic and in traffic with Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina, a claim not based on a document, up to a maximum of 20 K, can be collected by means of a postal order form issued for this purpose and treated as an ordinary letter.

This postal order form, as shown in the following sample, consists of two parts, one of which is the actual order form and the other is the order voucher. The sender must fill in both parts in accordance with the printed text, but only the part circled in thick lines. On the back of the order form, the sender may only write a statement regarding the amount to be collected. The sender issues the order voucher to the address of the person to whom he wishes the collected amount to be paid.

The price of the order slip is 20 f, of which 10 f serves as a presentation fee.

The order form must be sent as a simple letter post item. Registered or express delivery cannot be arranged.

The sender may not demand that the person be notified separately of the refusal to redeem it, or that the order form be returned immediately or presented to someone else for redemption.

The order form may be forwarded to the indicated addresses, but it may not be sent abroad.

The post office does not guarantee the loss of the order form and the consequences arising from its delayed delivery or presentation, but it assumes the same guarantee for the amount collected on the basis of the order form as for the amount paid by postal order.

The office of sending the order form must examine whether it meets the prescribed requirements, therefore it is desirable that it be sent to the hands of the receiving officer. The receiving office shall return an incomplete or meaningless order form to the sender; such irregular forms found in the collection boxes shall be returned to the sender with due information. The receiving office shall stamp an order form found to be faultless in two places, and in the upper left corner of the order form and in addition shall stamp the 20 f indicum printed in the right corner of the order form.

The destination post office shall stamp the order form received by it with the place and date stamp on the left corner of the back, and shall then enter it in the arrival log of postal orders (print no. 282), the current number of which shall be recorded on the order form (next to the place and date stamp) and on the address page of the postal order voucher belonging to the order form in the space designated for this purpose.

Treasury post offices issue the order form to the deliverer for presentation, and retain the voucher belonging to the order form at the office. Non-treasury offices deliver a receipt of the order form and the debtor must appear at the post office to redeem the order form.

Both treasury and non-treasury offices send a "Notification and Receipt" to the debtor residing in the delivery district.

If the debtor redeems the order form, the coupon to be cut from the order form must be provided to him as a receipt.

However, the handling and storage of an order form not redeemed upon first presentation (7-day storage, etc.) is governed by Section III, Part I, Section 3, Section 15 of the Postal Tariffs and Business Regulations.

The amount collected on the basis of the order form shall be paid by the destination post office, after deducting the money order fee and — if the money order is addressed to a place where the amount is paid at the addressee's home (1. list of offices to be published later), after deducting the payment fee — into the order postal money order separated from the order form, and shall be recorded as revenue in the money order journal. The settlement data shall also be recorded in the last vertical column of the order arrival journal. The deductions made shall be indicated on the order postal money order slip.

If the order postal money order is lost before it is recorded as revenue, an official (blue) money order form shall be used, on the slip of which the settlement shall be made.

Order forms that have not been redeemed by the retention period have to be returned to the sender with an appropriate label attached, but beforehand the postal reservations (current number) on both the order form and the money order must be erased and the coupon intended as a receipt must be crossed out with thick pen strokes as a sign of invalidation. The reason and date of the return of the order form must also be entered in the last column of the order arrival log.

The voucher belonging to the order form returned undelivered is retained by the destination post office and kept as an appendix to the order arrival log.

In the event of redemption, the order form itself—without coupon and voucher—is included as an appendix to the log.

In the event of forwarding, the new destination of the order form must be entered in the log.

Otherwise, the general rules governing postal orders apply to the handling of order forms.

The rules governing ordinary postal orders will change from October 1, 1916, insofar as only one document may be attached to a postal order for the purpose of redemption in domestic traffic, with Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The

previous collection fee will henceforth be replaced by a presentation fee to be deducted upon posting for every postal order.

Finally, I would like to inform the Royal Offices that on the money orders belonging to the order forms originating from Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina, instead of writing out the amount transferred in letters, a printed number line is used, from which all digits are to be erased with thick strokes of a pen, except for the one that expresses the amount transferred.

**PTRT 124, 24.09.1916:** Changes to postal rates from 01.10.1916.

§ 13. Postal money collection order.

1. Only one claim based on a claim document may be collected with a postal order within Hungary, to Austria and to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In addition to the fee for a registered letter containing a postal order, a presentation fee of 10 *f* must be collected at the time of posting and a postage stamp corresponding to the fee must be affixed to the letter.

2. For the collection of claims not based on a document, up to 20 *K*, within Hungary and in circulation with Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina, newly introduced postal order forms will now be used. The fee for these order forms is 20 *f*, of which 10 *f* is for a delivery fee and 10 *f* for a presentation fee.
3. In addition to the money order fee, if the money is returned to domestic, home-delivery offices, the payment fee indicated in § 12 above shall be deducted from the amount collected on the basis of both regular postal orders and postal order forms. In addition, the 2 *f* fee for the official postal order form for domestic purposes shall be deducted from the amount collected.

This amount shall not be deducted for order forms under 2.

4. The rules of the order service shall not change in transactions with Germany or abroad.