

**LONG DISTANCE MESSAGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE**

**A. Method of Applying Rates**

Long Distance Message Telecommunications Service rates between points (cities, towns, or localities) within the same LATA are based on the air line distance between rate centers. In general, each point is designated as a rate center; certain small towns or localities are assigned adjacent rate centers with which they are closely associated for communication purposes or by community of interest.

For the purpose of determining air line mileages vertical and horizontal grid lines have been established across the United States and Canada. The spacing between adjacent vertical grid lines and between horizontal grid lines represents a distance of one coordinate unit. This unit is the square root of 0.1, expressed in statute miles. A vertical (V) and a horizontal (H) coordinate is computed for each rate center from its latitude and longitude location by use of appropriate map projection for determining air line mileages, at a particular intersection of an established vertical grid line with an established horizontal grid line. The distance between any two rate centers is the air line mileage computed as explained in the following:

**B. Determination of Airline Mileages**

To determine the rate distance between any two rate centers proceed as follows:

1. Obtain the (V) and (H) coordinates for each rate center.
2. Obtain the difference between the (V) coordinates of the two rate centers. Obtain the difference between the (H) coordinates.  
NOTE: The difference is always obtained by subtracting the smaller coordinate from the larger coordinate.
3. Divide each of the differences obtained in 2. by three, rounding each quotient to the nearer integer.
4. Square these two integers and add the two squares. If the sum of the squares is greater than 1777, divide the integers obtained in 3. by three and repeat step 4. Repeat this process until the sum of the squares obtained in 4. is less than 1778.
5. The number of successive divisions by three in steps 3. and 4. determines the value of "N". Multiply the final sum of the two squares obtained in step 4. by the multiplier specified in the following table for this value of "N" preceding:

<u>N</u>	<u>Multiplier</u>	<u>Minimum Rate Mileage</u>
1	0.9	--
2	8.1	41
3	72.9	121
4	656.1	361
5	5,904.9	1,081
6	53,144.1	3,241

6. Obtain square root of product in 5. and, with any resulting fraction, round up to next higher integer. This is the message rate mileage except that when the mileage so obtained is less than the minimum rate mileage shown in 5. preceding, the minimum rate mileage corresponding to the "N" value is applicable.