



The USPS Postal Service:

In general, a “post office” is a place where people can buy stamps, mail packages and obtain a range of other postal services provided by the US Postal Service. Do you know the difference between a main post office, a branch, a station and a contract post office?

Main Post Office: The main postal facility is usually the largest post office in a city that has other satellite facilities. Each post office is responsible for collection, delivery, and retail operations in a certain geographic area. It is managed by a postmaster.

Station: A station is a secondary post office operated by a postal employee (not a contract person) that is located *within* the city limits.

Branch: A branch is also a secondary post office operated by a postal employee (not a contract person) and is located *outside* the city limits.

Contract Post Office: This post office is located anywhere, but it is operated by a person (civilian) who has contracted to provide basic postal services. A contract post office does not provide all the services available at a main post office, a station or a branch.