## Student Loan Exit Counseling

## Graduate/Professional



## To successfully manage Ioan repayment ...

- Understand the basic terms and conditions of your loans.
- Know how much you have to repay, when and to whom.
- Define your short/long-term financial goals.
- Develop a spending plan (budget) to achieve those goals.
- Select the loan repayment plan that best fits your budget.
- Take advantage of the loan forgiveness programs for which you may qualify.
- Keep good financial records.


## ASK QUESTIONS!

## View Northwestern Financial Aid History

 Northwestern CAESAR
## Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

| Aid Year Description | Academic Career |  | Lender |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Financial Aid Year 2016-2017 | Physician Assistant | US Department of Education | 20,500 |
| Financial Aid Year 2015-2016 | Physician Assistant | US Department of Education | 20,500 |


| Total Student Loans | 41,000 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Total Parent Loans | 0 |

Federal Grad Plus Loan

| Aid Year Description | Academic Career | Lender | Accepted |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Financial Aid Year 2016-2017 | Physician Assistant | US Department of Education | 30,131 |
| Financial Aid Year 2015-2016 | Physician Assistant | US Department of Education | 34,041 |
| Total Student Loans Total Parent Loans | 64,1720 |  |  |


| Grand Total Student |
| :--- |
| Loans |
| Grand Total Parent |
| Loans |
| External Links |
| National Student Loan Data System |

[^0]
## Monitor your Federal Student Loans




MyStudentData
Download

## National Student Loan Data System

MyStudentData Download

Loans

Type of Loan: 2 DIRECT CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIZED Loan obtained while attending the SCHOOL CODE FOR CONSOLIDATION LOANS

Date Entered Repayment: 11/18/2014
Next Payment Due Date: 05/26/2017
Loan Period Begin Date: N/A
Loan Period End Date: N/A
Income-Driven Repayment Plan Anniversary Date: 07/27/2017

| Prev | Next |
| :--- | :--- |



Disbursement(s) and Status(es)

| Disbursement Date | Disbursement Amount | Loan Status | Status | Description | Status Effective Date |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $11 / 18 / 2014$ | $\$ 28,987$ | RP | IN REPAYMENT | $12 / 20 / 2014$ |  |
|  |  | FB | FORBEARANCE | $11 / 18 / 2014$ |  |


| Servicer/Lender/Guaranty Agency/ED Servicer Information |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Contact Type | Contact |
| Current ED Servicer: | DEPT OF ED/FEDLOAN SERVICING(PHEAA) <br> PO BOX 530210 <br> ATLANTA GA 303530210 <br> 800-699-2908 <br> accountinfo@myfedloan.org <br> http://www.myfedloan.org |

FOIA | Privacy | Security | Notices
WhiteHouse.gov | USA.gov | ED.gov

## Direct Loan Servicers

## fedloan

## (n)elnet

## NAVI=NT.



## CMOHELA



## Federal Direct Loans

- Unsubsidized (Stafford) has a 6 month grace period.
- GradPLUS has a 6 month post-enrollment deferment.
- Have fixed interest rates.
- Unsubsidized
- 2016-2017 = 5.31\%
- 2017-2018 = 6\%
- GradPLUS
- 2016-2017 = $6.31 \%$
- 2017-2018 = 7\%
- Have been accruing interest since the date the funds disbursed.
- Unpaid interest will be capitalized when repayment begins.
- Offer multiple repayment plans (including income-driven) that can be changed by contacting your loan servicer.


## Federal Direct Consolidation Loan

## A Federal Direct Consolidation Loan allows you to:

- Combine all your Federal Stafford, Grad PLUS and Perkins loans into one new loan with a single payment
- Fix the interest rate; weighted average rounded to nearest $1 / 8$ of a percent
- Lengthen the repayment term up to 30 years reducing your monthly payment
- Take advantage of certain repayment plans
- Qualify your loans for Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Release your GradPLUS Loan cosigner


## Cautions:

- Repayment begins immediately.
- Unpaid interest is capitalized.
- Perkins cancellation benefits are lost.


## Apply at studentloans.gov



## Public Service Loan Forgiveness (Direct Loans only)

- Must work full-time (30 hours per week) for:
- Federal, state or local government
- Public schools and colleges
- Non-profit, tax exempt, 501(c)(3) organizations
- Military service
- After making 120 qualifying loan payments after

October 1, 2007, your entire loan balance (principal \& interest) may be forgiven.

- Direct Loan payment
- Qualifying repayment plan
- Full regular monthly payment
- On-time payments


## Public Service Loan Forgiveness (Direct Loans only)

- Qualifying loans (cannot be in default):
- Federal Direct Subsidized Loans
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans
- Federal Direct GradPLUS Loans
- Federal Direct Consolidation Loans

- Qualifying repayment plans:
- 10 year standard
- Pay As You Earn (PAYE)
- Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE)
- Income-Based (IBR)
- Income-Contingent (ICR)


## Public Service Loan Forgiveness (Direct Loans only)

- You must maintain your employment qualification:
- While making each of the required 120 loan payments
- At the time you apply for loan forgiveness
- When the loans are actually forgiven
- Employment certification form
- Download from studentaid.ed.gov
- Submit annually to FedLoan Servicing (PHEAA)
- Employment does not have to be continuous.


## 



No post-deferment grace period on prior Stafford loans
Federal GradPLUS Loans:
6 month post-enrollment deferment
Federal Consolidation Loans:
no grace period

IMPORTANT: Unpaid interest is capitalized when repayment begins.

## Defining your Goals (the BIG picture)

## Short Term:

## Buying a car?

## Getting married?



## Moving expenses?

## Long Term:

Starting a family?
Buying a house? Retirement?


## Developing a Spending Plan to Achieve your Goals

Calculate monthly earnings and other available financial resources

- Use online tools (mint.com)

Estimate monthly expenses

- Include monthly student loan payment

- Include investment/savings contributions

Do the math - is there a surplus or a deficit?

- If there is a surplus, more can be allocated to debt repayment, to investment/savings and/or to lifestyle.
- If a deficit occurs, then what?


## Eliminating a Budget Deficit

Reduce spending on your lifestyle
Reduce your investment/savings contributions?

May make it more difficult to achieve your financial goals
Reduce amount you pay each month on student loans by choosing a different repayment plan?

## Traditional Repayment Plans

- Standard Repayment
- Fixed payments for 10 years
- Highest initial payment
- Lowest total interest
- Qualifying plan for Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Graduated Repayment
- Tiered payments for 10 years
- Payments increase incrementally
- Extended Repayment
- Payments may be fixed or tiered
- Payment term up to 25 years
- Must have more than \$30,000 in Direct Loan debt and/or \$30,000 in FFEL debt
- No outstanding loan balance prior to 10/7/1998


## Income-Driven Repayment Plans

- Income Contingent Repayment (ICR)
- Direct Loans only
- Pay As You Earn (PAYE)
- Direct Loans Only
- For new borrowers on/after 10/1/2007
- Must have received a Direct Loan disbursement on/after 10/1/2011
- Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE)
- Direct Loans Only
- Income-Based Repayment (IBR)
- The only income-driven plan available for FFEL Loans
- New IBR
- For new borrowers on/after 7/1/2014



## Income-Driven Repayment Plans

| ICR | IBR | Pew IBR | REPAYE |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 20\% of <br> discretionary <br> income | 15\% of <br> discretionary <br> income | $10 \%$ of <br> discretionary <br> income | $10 \%$ of <br> discretionary <br> income | $10 \%$ of <br> discretionary <br> income |
| Spouse's AGI <br> used if joint tax <br> return filed | Spouse's AGI <br> used if joint tax <br> return filed | Spouse's AGI <br> used if joint tax <br> return filed | Spouse's AGI <br> used if joint tax <br> return filed | Spouse's AGI <br> used regardless <br> of filing status |
| Joint Direct Loan <br> debt may be used | Joint eligible loan <br> debt used if joint <br> tax return filed | Joint eligible loan <br> debt used if joint <br> tax return filed | Joint eligible loan <br> debt used if joint <br> tax return filed | Joint eligible loan <br> debt used <br> regardless of <br> filing status |
| Payment cap | Payment capped <br> at 10-year <br> standard | Payment capped <br> at 10-year <br> standard | Payment capped <br> at 10-year <br> standard | No 10-year <br> standard payment <br> cap |
| Forgiven after 25 | Forgiven after 25 <br> years (taxable) | Forgiven after 20 <br> years (taxable) | Forgiven after 20 <br> years (taxable) | Forgiven after 25 <br> years (taxable) |
| years (taxable) | yend |  |  |  |

## Comparing Payment Plans Direct Unsubsidized (Stafford) \& GradPLUS Loans

| Repayment Plan | First Monthly Payment | Last Monthly Payment | Total Amount Paid | Projected Loan <br> Forgiveness | Repayment Period |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Standard i | \$1.140 | \$1,140 | \$136,808 | \$0 | 120 months |
| Graduated i | \$656 | \$1,968 | \$146,879 | \$0 | 120 months |
| Extended Fixed (i) | \$681 | \$681 | \$204,253 | \$0 | 300 months |
| Extended Graduated (i) | \$549 | \$985 | \$221,513 | \$0 | 300 months |
| Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) | \$268 | \$1,084 | \$179,229 | \$69,253 | 300 months |
| Pay As You Earn (PAYE) (i) | \$268 | \$823 | \$120,770 | \$111,030 | 240 months |
| Income-Based <br> Repayment (IBR) | \$402 | \$1,140 | \$221,051 | \$0 | 277 months |
| IBR for New Borrowers (i) | \$268 | \$823 | \$120,770 | \$111,030 | 240 months |
| Income-Contingent <br> Repayment (ICR) | \$635 | \$1.079 | \$167,601 | \$0 | 187 months |

Assumptions: Loan Debt $=\$ 100,000$; average interest rate $=6.6 \%$
Single household; AGI = \$50,000 (5\% annual increases)

## Balancing Trade-offs

You may choose to pay off debt ...

- as fast as possible
- least amount of interest

- more slowly
- to afford a more comfortable lifestyle
- to maximize ability to save and/or invest for the future
***NO PENALTY FOR PREPAYMENTS***


## Typical Debt Portfolio <br> Managing Cash Flow to Repay Debt



## Postponing Repayment

## Deferment

In-school - no time limit - must be enrolled at least half-time
Economic Hardship - up to 36 months
Unemployment - up to 36 months
Military - no time limit
Subsidized Direct (Stafford) and Perkins loans do not accrue interest during periods of deferment.

## Forbearance

All loans accrue interest during periods of forbearance.

Unpaid interest is capitalized at the end of the deferment/forbearance.
Contact your loan servicer to submit required documentation.
Deferment/forbearance do not affect your credit rating.

## Consequences of loan default

- Your academic records will be placed on hold.
- You may be liable for all collection costs.
- You may be subject to administrative wage garnishment.
- You may be sued with court costs and legal fees added to your loan balance.

- Your income tax refund may be withheld.
- Your credit rating and ability to borrow will be seriously damaged.
- You may lose future eligibility for financial aid and student loans.
- Your professional license could be denied or revoked.
- You may be denied certain types of employment.


## Your Credit

All of your federal loans are reported to at least one credit bureau. TransUnion.

Factors reported:
Timeliness of your payments
Missed payments
Outstanding balance

## Rights/Responsibilities

Review your promissory notes for a complete list of all your rights and responsibilities.

Keep In Touch with your Lenders/Servicers.

- Notify all your servicers of name and address changes.
- Make payments even if a billing statement is not received.
- Be proactive! Contact your servicer before you miss a payment.
- Beware of student loan assistance agencies that charge fees.
- Do not give your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID to any agency!

Student loans must be repaid whether you:

- were satisfied with your educational experience
- completed your program
- obtained employment



## FSA Ombudsman

The FSA Ombudsman is an impartial, confidential resource after other avenues are exhausted to resolve borrower concerns.

Self-Resolution Checklist


To request mediation regarding federal student loan issues, follow the directions at:

## studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/disputes

## The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997

|  | Full Deduction | Partial Deduction | NO Deduction |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Single | $\$ 65,000$ or less | $\$ 65,001$ to $\$ 79,999$ | $\$ 80,000$ or more |
| Married <br> Filing <br> Jointly | $\$ 130,000$ or less | $\$ 130,001$ to $\$ 159,999$ | $\$ 160,000$ or more |

- IRS Form 1098E will be issued by your lender/servicer(s) for eligible interest payments of $\$ 600$ or more in any calendar year.
- Voluntary payments may be eligible.
- Capitalized interest may be included.
- Deduction may not exceed \$2,500 per year.
www.ìs.gov/publications/p970

- Complete a Consolidation Loan Application and Promissory Note
- Use the Repayment Estimator
- Apply for an Income-Driven Repayment Plan
- Co-sign Spouse's Income-Driven Repayment Plan Request
- Access Repayment Forms



## studentaid.ed.gov

## FederalStudent Aid <br> An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Prepare for College
$\checkmark \quad$ Types of Aid
$\checkmark \quad$ Who Gets Aid

FAFSA: Applying for Aid
How to Repay Your Loans

Home » How to Repay Your Loans


## Here's your guide to repaying your federal student loans.

Find the right repayment plan for you, learn how to make payments, get help ifyou can't afford your payments, and see what circumstances might result in a loan being forgiven, canceled, or discharged.

Understanding how to repay your federal student loans can save you a lot of time and money. We're here to help you manage repayment and answer any questions you have along the way.

Ready to make a payment but not sure how? Find out where to start.

Finding the Right Repayment Plan for You

- How to Make a Payment
- What to Do If You Can't Afford Your Payments
© Student Loan Forgiveness, Cancellation, and Discharge
Finding the Right Repayment Plan for You

There are several repayment plans available, providing the flexibility you need. Here are some things you should know:

## Quick Links

> Understanding Repayment
> Loan Servicers
> Repayment Plans
> Income-Driven Plans
> Loan Consolidation
> Deferment and Forbearance
> Forgiveness. Cancellation, and Discharge
> Understanding Default
> Resolving Disputes
> Leave Us Feedback

Resources


Federal Student Loans: Be a Responsible Borrower
VIEW FILE >

## Looking @̂@ Ahead

- Compare your loan amounts in CAESAR with the amounts on NSLDS, the national database.
- Check your credit reports for errors.
- Create a folder for all your loan documents (preferably online).
- Update your address on your loan servicer(s) website(s).
- Develop an affordable spending plan.
- When you receive notice from your loan servicer(s) that your loans will be going into repayment in the near future:
- Contact your loan servicer(s) to select a repayment plan.
- Pay off the accrued interest on your Direct Unsubsidized (Stafford) \& GradPLUS loans before repayment begins to avoid capitalization.
- If you are not ready to begin repayment, submit the required deferment or forbearance forms to your loan servicer(s).
- Apply for loan forgiveness/cancellation (if eligible).
- Pay your bills on time. On time payments are a key factor in determining your credit score.


## We are here to help!

## Evanston Office of Graduate Financial Aid

555 Clark St - 3rd Floor<br>Evanston, IL 60208

847) 491-8950

## gradfinaid@northwestern.edu


[^0]:    FA Office Contact Information
    US Department of Education Loan Servicing Website

