PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS WEBINAR

Thursday, June 9, 2022
12-1 p.m.
Presenters

• Mike Pierce
  • Executive Director,
    Student Borrower Protection Center

• Ashley Harrington
  • Senior Advisor to the Chief Operating Officer,
    U.S. Department of Education
Public Service Loan Forgiveness

Presented by the Student Borrower Protection Center

2022
Public Service Loan Forgiveness
Public Service Loan Forgiveness

Four Requirements:

1. Right type of loan
2. Right type of repayment plan
3. Right type of employment
4. Right number of payments

- Direct Loans
- IDR
- Public Service Employer [30 hours]
- 120 payments
Requirement One: Right Type of Loan

▪ Only Direct Loans are eligible for PSLF

▪ Borrowers with FFELP or Perkins loans can consolidate
  
  www.studentaid.gov to start consolidation process

▪ Borrowers with individual Direct Loans will lose any progress made towards PSLF if they consolidate

▪ Parent Plus loans can qualify if consolidated
Requirement Two: Right Type of Repayment Plan

- Income-driven repayment plans
  - Can be as low as $0 per month
- 10-year standard repayment plan
- Extended repayment *does not* qualify
- Graduated repayment *sometimes* qualifies
- Consolidation application will give you the option to enroll in IDR
Requirement Three: Right Type of Employment

▪ It doesn’t matter what you do. It matters where you work
  ▪ Government organization
  ▪ 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization
  ▪ Other not-for-profit providing certain qualifying services

▪ Full-time
  ▪ Greater of
    • 30 hours per week
    • Employer’s definition of full-time
  ▪ Can combine multiple part time jobs
Requirement Four: Right Number of Payments

120 qualifying payments:

- Payments made in full
- Partial payments made within 15 days of the due date
- Only prepay/make lump-sum payments for up to 12 months
PSLF: during COVID

Payment pause months count toward 120 payments, BUT

- You still need to meet all the other criteria
- Job loss or reduced hours
- Delays
- Retirement
Public Service Loan Forgiveness
Broken Promises
PROTECT BORROWERS

The New York Times | DealBook / Business & Policy
Student Loan Company Accused of Mismanaging Debt Forgiveness Program

npr
Why Public Service Loan Forgiveness Is So Unforgiving

This government loan forgiveness program has rejected 99% of borrowers so far

The 'broken' public service student loan forgiveness system is particularly brutal for military veterans

New Report Shows Public Service Loan Forgiveness Is A Mess
PSLF: sharing borrower stories

- 60 day comment period
- Nearly 50,000 comments
- Teachers, veterans, nurses, social workers, firefighters, doctors, legal aid, home health aides, adjuncts, public defenders, seniors, students, parents, grandparents, private borrowers
Time-Limited Waiver of Public Service Loan Forgiveness Requirements
Limited PSLF Waiver

- Loan type: Credit for payments on FFEL and Perkins loans if the borrower consolidates (or already has)
- Payment plan: any payment counts
- Employer and payment count still apply
- Military deferments and forbearances count
- Current employment not necessary
**Limited PSLF Waiver**

- Not completely automatic
  - FFEL/Perkins must consolidate
  - File ECF if have not previously
- FFEL and Perkins borrowers are at greatest risk of missing out

- Direct Loans
- IDR
- Public Service Employer [30 hours]
- 120 payments
OCTOBER 31, 2022, DEADLINE TO ACT
What Borrowers Need to Know
Do you need to take action? It depends.

1. Is your employer a qualified public service employer?
2. What loans do you have?
3. Have you certified your employment with the PSLF form?
Do you need to take action? It depends.

1. Is your employer a qualified public service employer?
   - Check on the [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) PSLF Help Tool to see if any of your employers since 2007 are already qualified as public service employers. If so, then consolidate.
   - If your employer is not listed, but you work for a government, 501(c)3, or certain other non-profit organizations, you can likely still qualify.
Do you need to take action? It depends.

2. What loans do you have?
   - If you have anything other than a Direct Loan, you must consolidate.
   - If you have a Direct Loan or already consolidated into a Direct Consolidation Loan, your loan types qualifies for PSLF.
Do you need to take action? It depends.

3. Have you certified your employment with the PSLF form?

○ If you have a Direct Loan and certified employment since having that loan, the Department will automatically review your account for PSLF credit.

○ If you have a Direct Loan and have never certified, you must submit the PSLF Form (formerly an ECF) using the [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) PSLF Help Tool.

○ If you have to consolidate into a Direct Loan, you must submit the PSLF Form (formerly ECF) after you consolidate.
Confirming Employers
Log in at https://studentaid.gov/
Confirm your employer
Confirm your employer

Search for Employer

Employer Identification Number (EIN)
146013200

How do I find my EIN?
This is my current employer

Employment Start Date: 09/02/2019
Employment End Date: 07/02/2021

Search

Search Results

If you recognize the name of the employer that resulted from your search, we strongly encourage you to select a result that relates to your employer's name. You should do this even if:
- the name differs slightly.
- the name is for a larger organization or agency that your employer belongs to,
- there is no address,
- the address is different from where you typically work, or
- the address is a P.O. Box.

Please note that many state and local governments use a common EIN to pay their employees so you should select the appropriate result below if one displays. Likewise, many federal agencies share EINs so you may need to click through multiple pages to find your employer. As a last resort, you can manually add the name of your employer, however, doing so will add review time and delay your FER form.

146013200

State of New York
No address on file

State of New York
Identifying Your Student Loans
How to tell what type of federal student loan you have

Step 1: Log into studentaid.gov

Step 2: Under your student aid dashboard, navigate to “View Details”

Step 3: On the top right, select “Download My Aid Data”
How to tell what type of federal student loan you have

Loan Types

- 2 Consolidation Loans
  - Direct Consolidation Unsubsidized: $126,965, Interest: $0, Total Balance: $126,965
  - Direct Consolidation Subsidized: $9,951, Interest: $0, Total Balance: $9,951
- Total: $136,916, Interest: $0, Total Balance: $136,916

- 3 Graduate PLUS Loans
- 1 Perkins Loans
- 3 Subsidized Loans
- 6 Unsubsidized Loans
Consolidating Your Student Loans
Log in at https://studentaid.gov/
What is Loan Consolidation?

If you have multiple student loans you may be able to combine them into one loan with a fixed interest rate based on the average of the interest rates on the loans being consolidated. Learn more about loan consolidation.

A Direct Consolidation Loan allows you to consolidate multiple federal education loans into one loan at no cost to you.

Through your completion of the free Federal Direct Consolidation Loan Application and Promissory Note, you will confirm the loans that you want to consolidate and agree to repay the new Direct Consolidation Loan.

Once the consolidation is complete, you will have a single monthly payment on the new Direct Consolidation Loan instead of multiple monthly payments on the loans you consolidated.

Alert! On Oct. 6, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education announced a temporary period during which borrowers may receive credit for payments that previously did not qualify for PSLF or TEPSLF. Learn more about this time-limited opportunity.
- Select the loans to consolidate

- View the amount and interest rate for your new Direct Consolidation Loan
Certifying Employment
Log in at https://studentaid.gov/
Confirm your employer
Confirm your employer

PROTECT BORROWERS

Search for Employer

Employer Identification Number (EIN)
146013200

How do I find my EIN?
☐ This is my current employer

Employment Start Date
09/02/2019
To
07/02/2021

Search Results

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146013200

☐ State of New York

No address on file

protectborrowers.org
Generating an Employer Certification Form

The PSLF Help Tool has not been updated for the COVID-19 or limited PSLF waiver.

This tool was created before COVID-19 relief measures began. To get the most accurate info, make sure to care for "Special Notice for the COVID-19 Emergency.

As part of the COVID-19 emergency relief, federal student loan payments will restart after Jan. 31, 2022. In addition, certain payments will be deferred until Oct. 6, 2021, to Oct. 31, 2022. Learn more about this limited waiver.

Note: You still need to have qualifying employment.
Submitting an Employer Certification Form

Borrower and Employer complete PSLF Form → FedLoan determines loan eligibility → Loans are transferred to FedLoan* → FedLoan determines employment eligibility → FedLoan determines qualified payments
Common Issues
Common Issues

3. Employer Address:

701 Prairie Hawk Drive
Castle Rock, CO 80109 US
620 Wilcox Street
Castle Rock, CO 80104

4. Employer Website (if any):

www.dcsdk12.org

5. Employment Begin Date:

07/31/2013  7/1/2015
Common Issues

What will happen after you submit this form for processing?

Once FedLoan Servicing receives your form, they will begin their review. Once they review your employment, they'll determine the number of qualifying payments you've made and will send you a notice informing you of that number.

**Note:** It may take up to 120 days to process your employment information and review your payment information.

You will not receive confirmation that your loan, employment, or payments qualify for PSLF or TEPSLF, or that you are eligible for forgiveness until you submit this form.

**RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS**

Some of your loans do not qualify for the PSLF Program, but there are actions you could consider taking.

**GET OUT OF DEFERMENT OR FORBEARANCE**

The loans listed below are in deferment or forbearance; therefore, you aren't making eligible monthly payments on those loans. If you can't afford your monthly payments, use Loan Simulator at StudentAid.gov/loan-simulator to estimate payments on different repayment plans. It’s important to stop postponing payments so you can make qualifying payments for the PSLF Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Type</th>
<th>Loan Status</th>
<th>Servicer</th>
<th>Qualifying Payments Made</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct Unsubsidized Loan</td>
<td>Forbearance</td>
<td>DEPT OF ED/MOHEDA</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Special Notice for the COVID-19 Emergency Payment Pause**

As part of the COVID-19 emergency relief, federal student loan payments were paused. Payments will restart after Jan. 31, 2022.

You do not need to remove your loans from the COVID-19 payment pause to qualify for PSLF. As long as you are employed full-time for a qualifying employer during this time, you can receive credit toward PSLF.

Want to see your qualifying payments show up in your account? Submit a PSLF form to certify your employment for the
Common Issues

Have you made 120 qualifying payments? 🔄

If you don’t know, take your best guess! We will always review to see if you are eligible for forgiveness, so your answer won’t negatively impact you in any way.

Why do we ask this question?

- Yes, I have made 120 qualifying payments and qualify for forgiveness right now.

Choose this option if you think you have made at least 120 qualifying payments on at least one of your loans while working for a qualifying employer.

- Are You Sure?

Based on your loan information, you have not been in repayment for at least 10 years and do not yet qualify for PSLF. Select "No" in response to this question to continue.

- No, I haven’t made 120 qualifying payments.

Choose this option if you just want to find out how many qualifying payments you have made to date, or if your employer is a qualifying employer and you don't think you qualify for forgiveness right now.
# Common Issues

## PSLF Qualifying Payment Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Sequence</th>
<th>Disbursement Date</th>
<th>Loan Program</th>
<th>PSLF Eligible Payments</th>
<th>PSLF Qualifying Payments (Total)</th>
<th>PSLF Qualifying Payments (Remaining)</th>
<th>Estimated Eligibility Date for PSLF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td>11.02.2021</td>
<td>DLSCNS</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>03/2032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0002</td>
<td>11.02.2021</td>
<td>DLUCNS</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TEPSLF Candidates:** We will send you separate correspondence with additional details, if you are eligible for reconsideration under TEPSLF.

**Good to Know:** The charts above display the total number of eligible and qualifying payments you have made (out of the required 120) on your eligible loans for PSLF and TEPSLF, including any periods we have assessed as eligible or qualifying under the Limited PSLF Waiver. Please ensure that you have certified all periods of eligible employment.

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If you believe you may have additional eligible employment, please submit a PSLF Form for the appropriate period. For more details regarding your payments made towards both PSLF and TEPSLF, please visit us on the web at [MyFedLoan.org/PSLF](http://MyFedLoan.org/PSLF).
Important Takeaways
Important Takeaways

▪ Credit will be given for months during which any loan type was in repayment
▪ Deadline of October 31, 2022, to consolidate and/or submit PSLF Form (ECF)
▪ Confirm your employer
▪ Confirm your loan types
▪ Consolidate if necessary
▪ Submit a PSLF Form
▪ File a complaint if you experience any issues
Questions?
Additional Resources

• For more information on PSLF:  
  Forgivemystudentdebt.org

• For more information on your loans:  
  Studentaid.gov  
  Studentaid.gov/help-center/contact

• Contact pslf@protectborrowers.org with questions

• Contact NC Department of Justice:  
  ncdoj.gov/protecting-consumers/college-consumers/student-loan-relief/
Thank you for your service!