Student Loan Repayment

MADE READY FOR STUDENTS
Everything you need to know about REPAYMENT

Understand the details of repayment on student loans

Who do I repay?

When do I repay?

What repayment options do I have?

Help develop a plan that puts you on track to pay back your loans on time and in full

Learn what resources are available to help navigate student loan repayment
Locating Loans

Where to locate student loan information:

**Federal** -
  - studentaid.gov
    - Select “Manage Loans”

**Private** -
  - Loan statements/personal records
  - Credit report
  - Financial Aid Office records
  - Documents, including promissory note
Federal Student Loan Types

- Direct Subsidized
- Direct Unsubsidized
- Parent PLUS
- Grad PLUS
- Perkins
- Consolidation

Please note that if you took out federal loans prior to June 30, 2010 you may have taken them under the FFEL Program.
Who Do you Repay?

Federal Loans

Private Loans

You should work with the lender you borrowed the loan from

Payments may be made directly to lender or to a servicing organization

Perkins Loans - contact the school for repayment options
Defining Interest

Interest rates are fixed for federal loans but private loans may have either fixed or variable rates.

**FIXED**
Rate will not change for the entire term of the loan

**VARIABLE**
Rate is subject to change periodically based on economic indicators like LIBOR or Prime
Defining Capitalized Interest

Interest capitalization occurs when unpaid interest is added to the principal amount of a student loan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORIGINAL LOAN AMOUNT</th>
<th>INTEREST RATE</th>
<th>ACCRUED INTEREST AFTER 4 YEARS AND 6-MONTH GRACE PERIOD</th>
<th>PRINCIPAL BALANCE AFTER 4.5 YEARS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>5.05%</td>
<td>$3,408.75</td>
<td>$18,408.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>7.10%</td>
<td>$4,792.50</td>
<td>$19,792.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>5.05%</td>
<td>$5,681.25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7.10%</td>
<td>$7,987.50</td>
<td>$32,987.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>5.05%</td>
<td>$11,362.50</td>
<td>$61,362.50</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$15,975.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>5.05%</td>
<td>$22,725.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>7.10%</td>
<td>$31,950.00</td>
<td>$131,950.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disclaimer: The figures used on this page are for illustrative purposes only and do not constitute the rates the borrower may receive and the results may not be typical results the borrower will receive.
Federal Student Loan Repayment Plans

- Standard
- Graduated Repayment
- Extended Repayment
- Revised Pay As You Earn Repayment (REPAYE)
- Income-Based Repayment (IBR)
- Income-Contingent Repayment (ICR)
- Income-Sensitive Repayment

(only for FFEL loans awarded prior to June 30, 2010)
Federal Student Loan Repayment Plans

**Standard**
- Fixed payments
- Repayment Plan
  - Up to 10 years
  - 10-30 years if consolidated
- Minimum payment $50 per month
- Assigned payment plan

**Graduated**
- Gradual payments
- Repayment Plan
  - Up to 10 years
  - 10-30 years if consolidated
- If your income is low now, but you expect it to increase steadily over time

**Extended**
- Federal debt greater than $30,000
- Repayment Plan
  - Up to 25 years
- Fixed or graduated payments
- Minimum payment $50 per month
Income-Driven Repayment Plans

Four Income-Driven Repayment Plans

- Revised Pay As You Earn Repayment Plan (REPAYE Plan)
- Pay As You Earn Repayment Plan (PAYE Plan)
- Income-Based Repayment Plan (IBR Plan)
- Income-Contingent Repayment Plan (ICR Plan)

Payments

- % of discretionary income and family size
- Recalculated annually
- May be $0 loan balance
- Forgiven after 20 or 25 years depending upon plan
- You may have to pay income tax on the amount forgiven

You should work with your loan servicer to choose what plan is right for you!
## PRIVATE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT OPTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>IMMEDIATE</strong></td>
<td>Make payments toward principal and interest while in school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTEREST-ONLY</strong></td>
<td>Make payments solely toward interest while enrolled in school and begin making principal and interest payments 6 months after graduation or dropping below half-time status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEFERRED</strong></td>
<td>Make payments toward principal and interest starting 6 months after graduating, dropping below half-time status or leaving school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Private Student Loan Repayment Options

Loan features - vary by loan type and servicer

**Grace Period**
Set period of time, typically 6 months, from school separation before repaying your student loan

**Co-Signer Release**
Ability to release your co-signer after making the required payments

**Deferment/Forbearance**
Temporarily postpone, reduce or extend time for loan payments

**Deferment Examples**
- Unemployment
- Graduate Fellowship
- Military
- In-school
- Medical/Dental
- Internship/Residency

**Forbearance Examples**
- AmeriCorps
- National Guard
- Medical/Other Acceptable Reasons
- Economic Hardship
Repayment Summary

Studentaid.gov/loan-simulator
- find out what plans you may be eligible for
- estimates how much you would pay monthly and overall

Lowest payment likely will cost you more over the life of the loan

Understand the cost of borrowing money

The choice of loan options will impact how much you repay
## Private Refinance Vs. Federal Consolidation

### Private Refinance

- Combine **private** and federal payments into one payment
- Possibly **lower interest rate** and/or payments
- Interest is based on your (or your co-signer’s) creditworthiness with **choice** of fixed or variable rate
- Current interest rates and/or loan term can **lower** the overall cost of the loan
- Pays off existing loans and may reflect a **lower monthly payment** on your credit report

You should **compare rates** and terms and apply with the lender of your choice

### Federal Consolidation

- Combine **federal** payments into one payment
- Possibly **lower monthly payment** with longer loan term
- The interest rate is the **weighted average of included loans**, rounded up to the nearest 1/8th of a percent
- You will **pay more interest** over the life of the loan if the repayment period is extended
- You **may lose** some benefits offered with the original loan

Apply for a direct consolidation loan at [https://studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
Loan Forgiveness & Discharge

Loan forgiveness releases you from all or a portion of your loan obligation

Direct Loan Forgiveness and Discharge options may exist under certain conditions:

- Teacher Loan Forgiveness programs
- School Related Discharge (School Closing, Fraud, ID Theft, False Certification, Unpaid Refund)
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Bankruptcy
- Cases of total and permanent disability or death

Private Loan Forgiveness options may exist under certain conditions:

- Cases of total and permanent disability or death

To verify loan forgiveness options for federal loans visit https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans

For private loans contact your lender or servicer!
Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

Forgives the remaining balance on Federal Direct Loans

- To qualify for PSLF you must
  - Be employed by a government organization, 501(c)(3) not for profit organization or other not-for-profit organizations providing specific qualifying services
  - Working full time for that qualifying employer
  - Repay the loans under an income-driven repayment plan
  - Make 120 qualifying payments

- To find out if you qualify, you should submit the PSLF Employer Certification Form found on studentaid.gov
Avoiding Delinquency & Default

Falling behind on federal student loan payments can have major ramifications!

**Delinquency**
- Federal loan servicer has not received payment by the stated due date

**Default**
- If a federal student loan is delinquent for more than 270 days, it goes into default

**Default Consequences**
- Loans may become due immediately (fees and collection costs)
- State and Federal Income Tax Returns withheld
- Wage Garnishment
- Damaged Credit Score
- Difficulty getting hired
- Unable to renew professional license
- Higher interest rates
- No more federal financial aid
- Lawsuits and court costs
Coronavirus/Forbearance

Borrowers experiencing financial hardship should check with their lender to see if there are emergency payment relief options available.

Federal Loans - relief options approved through September 30, 2021

- Payments suspended
- Stopped collections on defaulted loans
- Set interest rates to 0%
Where To Get Help?

FSA Feedback System - send a compliment or a complaint, suggest website improvements, report suspicious activity

Federal Student Aid Ombudsman Group - a neutral, informal, and confidential resource to help resolve disputes about federal student aid

Some private law firms specialize in student loan repayment

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau - report unfair, deceptive or abusive acts or practices, submit consumer complaints
CALL TO ACTION
Steps You Should Be Taking

- Get to know your loans
- Can you consolidate/refinance? Should you?
- Figure out how much your monthly payments will be
- Make your loan payments automatic
- Determine if you qualify for Loan Forgiveness
- Pay more if you can
- Ask about employer assisted loan repayment programs
Whitman Class of 2021
Average Student Loan Debt

• $18,564
  (4-year private (not-for-profit) average: $29,214)

• Estimated monthly payment: $187
• Total Paid (Loan + Interest): $22,448

*A Direct Subsidized Loan repaid at 3.9% interest, assuming the standard repayment plan of 10 years, or 120 payments
Questions?

- Contact your financial aid office!
- Email: finaid@whitman.edu
- Call: (509) 527-5178
THANK YOU

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