

Stay
frugal
my friend

TOP 6 Things to Manage Your Student Loans

Whether you are graduating, transferring to another school or just leaving UW-L, these steps will help you successfully take control of our student loans.

#1 Complete federally required Exit Loan Counseling



#2 Identify Your Dept of Education Loan Servicer

Log-in to www.studentaid.gov to identify your servicer.

Register at your servicer's website (see below) and update your contact information

| Aidvantage | Edfinancial | MOHELA | NelNet |
|--|--|--|--|
| www.aidvantage.studentaid.gov | www.edfinancial.studentaid.gov | www.mohela.studentaid.gov | www.nelnet.studentaid.gov |
| 1-800-722-1300 | 1-855-337-6884 | 1-888-866-4352 | 1-888-486-4722x |

- Contact your Servicer to:
- Learn your account number and monthly payment
 - Setup your online account and/or enroll in automatic payment
 - Get answers to your federal student loan questions

#3 Know Your Total Loan Debt

Note the sum of your total indebtedness – principal plus interest

| Federal Direct Loans | Private Education Loans | Federal Perkins Loans |
|--|--|--|
| www.studentaid.gov | www.annualcreditreport.com | www.studentaid.gov |
| Outstanding Principal: _____ | Outstanding Principal: _____ | Outstanding Principal: _____ |
| Outstanding Interest: _____ | Outstanding Interest: _____ | Outstanding Interest: _____ |

#4 Calculate Your Level Payment

Using a Repayment Estimator at www.studentaid.gov, you should be able to enter the total amount of your loans and determine the approximate amount that your servicer will expect you to pay each month unless you ...

#5 Pick a Repayment Plan

There are repayment options that can lower your monthly payments. Keep in mind that these options may increase the total amount that you will repay on your loans due to increased interest that will accrue.

See the reverse side of this handout for information about these Repayment Options or contact your servicer.

#6 Mark Your Calendar

Most loans have a six month grace period. Calculate your payment due date six months after your graduation date. You can also contact your servicer to confirm the date of your first payment.

Repayment Options

| Repayment Option | Borrower Eligibility | Payment Terms/Calculations | Repayment Period |
|--|--|---|--|
| Standard | All | Payments are fixed | 10 years to repay |
| Graduated | All | Payments start lower and increase over a 10-year period | 10 years to repay |
| Extended | Must have \$30,000 loan debt in Direct loans | Payments are fixed or graduated | Up to 25 years to repay |
| Pay As You Earn* | Based on ability to pay | 10% of discretionary income | 20 years (forgiveness of remaining balance possible after 20 years) |
| Income-Based Repayment (IBR)* | Based on ability to pay | 10% of discretionary income | 20 years (forgiveness of remaining balance possible after 20 years) |
| Income-Contingent Repayment (ICR)* | All | Lesser of 12-year standard repayment schedule multiplied by income percentage factor or 20% of discretionary income | 25 years (forgiveness of remaining balance possible after 25 years) |
| Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE)* | Based on ability to pay | 5% of discretionary income (after July 1, 2024) | 20 years if only undergraduate loans 25 years if any are graduate loans |

* Income Driven Repayment Options are based on individual's income which is reviewed and recalculated annually.

Repayment Option Comparison

| Repayment Loan | Loan Amount | Monthly Payment | Total Interest paid | Total paid (Loan &+ Interest) |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Standard | \$30,000 | \$345 | \$11,428 | \$41,428 |
| Graduated | \$30,000 | 1-2 yrs: \$234 | \$13,666 | \$43,666 |
| | | 3-4 yrs: \$288 | | |
| | | 5-6 yrs: \$350 | | |
| | | 7-8 yrs: \$425 | | |
| | | 9-10 yrs \$517 | | |
| Extended | \$30,000 | \$208 | \$32,466 | \$62,466 |

Loan Forgiveness Programs

| Forgiveness Program | Eligible Loan Programs | Required Term | Amount Forgiven |
|---|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Public Service Loan Forgiveness | Direct loans | 10 year repayment | Remaining principal and interest |
| Stafford Loan Forgiveness for Teachers** | Direct loans | 5 consecutive years at same qualifying school | \$5,000 or \$17,500 |
| Federal Employee Student Loan (Payments onto loans) | Direct loans, and Perkins loans | Minimum 3 years of service required | Up to \$10,000 annually Up to \$60,000 maximum |

** Teaching in an elementary or secondary school designated as low income required