# Student Loan Essentials For Residents

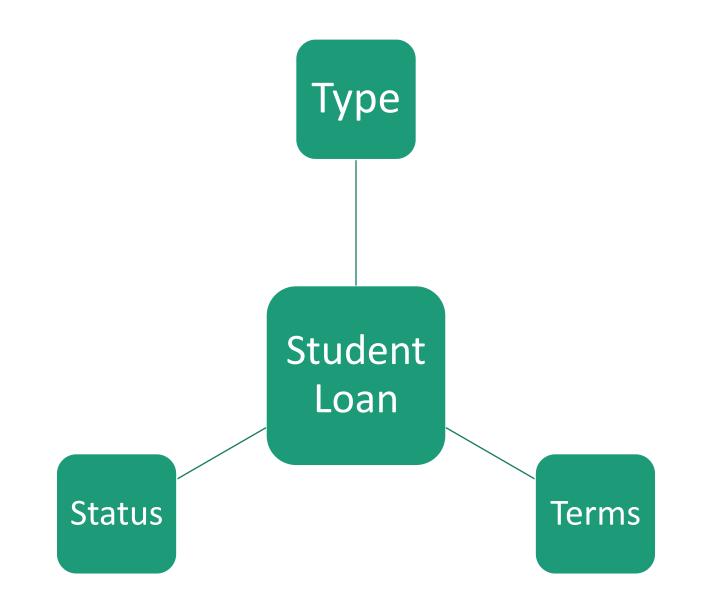
A Guide to Loan Types, Repayment Options, and Loan Forgiveness

Andrew McFadden, CFP®, MBA



### Overview

- ☐ Analyze your circumstances
  - Inventory Federal Loans
  - Inventory Private Loans
- ☐ Identify your goals
  - Where do your loans fit in your greater financial picture? Do you want...
    - An affordable monthly payment?
    - To minimize the cost of debt over time?
    - To improve your credit score and increase your financing options?
- ☐ Determine your options
  - Repayment
  - Consolidation
  - Forgiveness
- ☐ Develop the right strategy and establish next steps



### Type

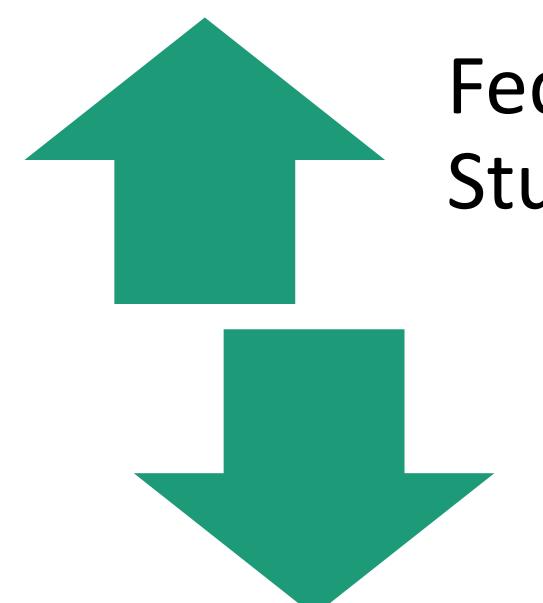
- Federal or Private
- FFEL or Direct
- Sub or Unsub
- Perkins
- Parent PLUS
- Grad PLUS
- Consolidation

#### Status

- Deferment
- Forbearance
- Grace
- Repayment
- Delinquent
- Default

#### Terms

- Statutes
- Regulations
- Administrative
   Guidance
- Promissory Note
- CollectionsRules



Federal Student Loans

Private Unaccomadatinf but easy but easy Student Loans

### Private Student Loans

Terms based on credit

Often variable interest rates with no cap

Lack borrower protections

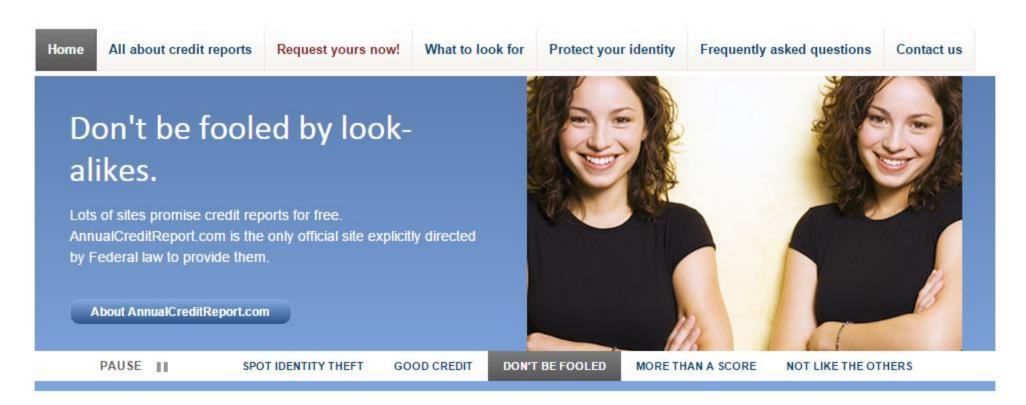
Lack flexible repayment terms

# Where to find information on private student loans

- 1. Credit Report
- 2. Loan Statements
- 3. Promissory Note Need to request from lender

#### Annual Credit Report.com

The only source for your free credit reports. Authorized by Federal law.



#### Your credit reports matter.

- · Credit reports may affect your mortgage rates, credit card approvals, apartment requests, or even your job application.
- · Reviewing credit reports helps you catch signs of identity theft early.

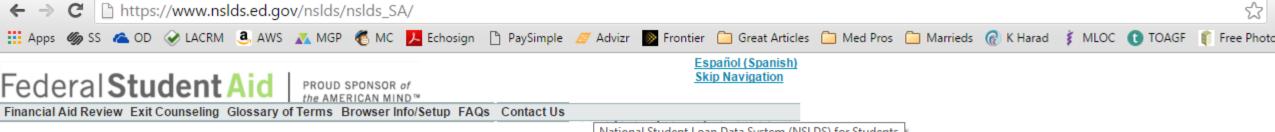
#### FREE Credit Reports. Federal law allows you to:

- · Get a free copy of your credit report every 12 months from each credit reporting company.
- . Ensure that the information on all of your credit reports is correct and up to date.

#### **BROUGHT TO YOU BY**







National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) for Students



# NSLDS STUDENT ACCESS

National Student Loan Data System

#### **Retrieve Your Loan Information**

The National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) is the U.S. Department of Education's (ED's) central database for student aid. NSLDS receives data from schools, guaranty agencies, the Direct Loan program, and other Department of ED programs. NSLDS Student Access provides a centralized, integrated view of Title IV loans and grants so that recipients of Title IV Aid can access and inquire about their Title IV loans and/or grant data.

Financial Aid Review

Exit Counseling

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WhiteHouse.gov | USA.gov | ED.gov

### NSLDS txt file

Total DIRECT CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIZED Outstanding Principal:\$25,500

Total DIRECT CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIZED Outstanding Interest:\$673

Total DIRECT CONSOLIDATED UNSUBSIDIZED Outstanding Principal:\$257,686

Total DIRECT CONSOLIDATED UNSUBSIDIZED Outstanding Interest:\$37,730

Total DIRECT STAFFORD UNSUBSIDIZED Outstanding Principal:\$0

Total DIRECT STAFFORD UNSUBSIDIZED Outstanding Interest:\$0

Total DIRECT PLUS GRADUATE Outstanding Principal:\$0

Loan Type:DIRECT CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIZED

Loan Award ID:\*\*\*\*8772S13G77778101

Loan Attending School Name: SCHOOL CODE FOR CONSOLIDATION LOANS

Loan Attending School OPEID:88888800

Loan Date:10/30/2013

Loan Repayment Begin Date:10/30/2013

Loan Period Begin Date:

Loan Period End Date:

Loan Amount:\$25,683

Loan Disbursed Amount:\$25,500

Loan Canceled Amount:\$183

Loan Canceled Date:12/30/2014

Loan Outstanding Principal Balance:\$25,500

Loan Outstanding Principal Balance as of Date:11/30/2015

Loan Outstanding Interest Balance:\$673

Loan Outstanding Interest Balance as of Date:11/30/2015

Loan Interest Rate Type:FIXED

Loan Interest Rate: 6.88%

Loan Repayment Plan Type:PAY AS YOU EARN REPAYMENT

Loan Repayment Plan Begin Date:12/30/2014

Loan PSLF Cumulative Matched Months:0

Loan Status:RP

Loan Status Description: IN REPAYMENT

Loan Status Effective Date:02/01/2015

Loan Status:FB

Loan Status Description: FORBEARANCE

Loan Status Effective Date:12/30/2014

Loan Status:RP

Loan Status Description: IN REPAYMENT

Loan Status Effective Date:02/01/2014

Loan Status:FB

Loan Status Description:FORBEARANCE

Loan Status Effective Date:12/19/2013

Loan Status:RP

Loan Status Description: IN REPAYMENT

Loan Status Effective Date:10/30/2013

Loan Disbursement Date:10/30/2013

Loan Disbursement Amount:\$25,500

Loan Contact Type:Current ED Servicer

Loan Contact Name: DEPT OF ED/FEDLOAN SERVICING (PHEAA)



Payment Summary			
Last Payment Received	10/19/2015		
Amount Past Due	\$0.00		
Late Fees Assessed	\$0.00		
Current Payment Due	\$32.80		
Total Due by 11/19/2015	\$32.80		

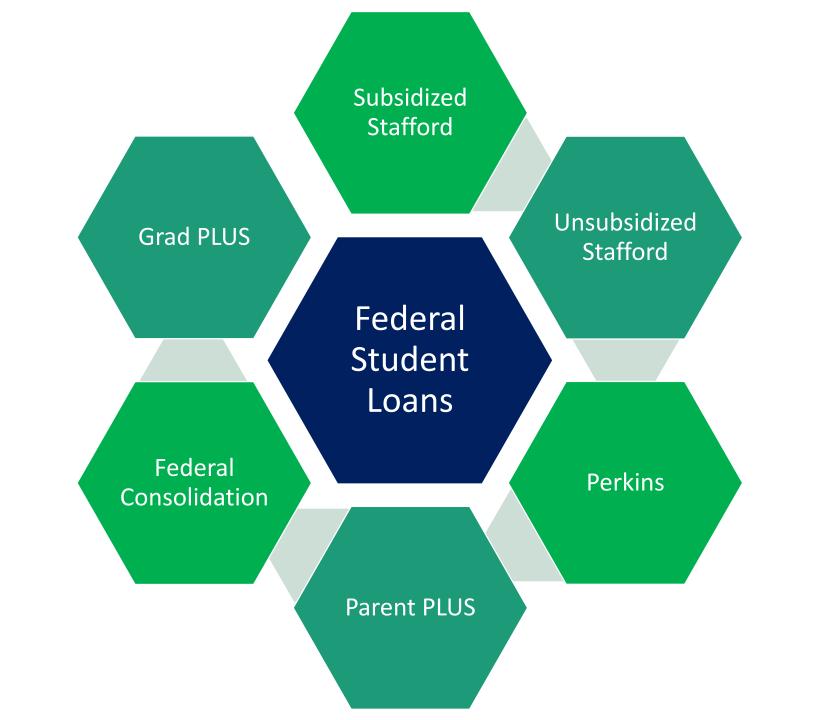
#### YOUR LOAN DETAILS

Date Disbursed	Loan Program	Original Balance	Current Balance	Interest Rate	Monthly Payment	Past Due	Current Due
10/30/2013	DLSCNS	\$25,500.00	\$25,500.00	6.875%	\$4.29	\$0.00	\$2.94
07/10/2013	DLUCNS	\$255,937.65	\$257,685.75	6.875%	\$43.99	\$0.00	\$29.86

Total paid since your last statement	\$50.00
Interest Satisfied	\$50.00
Principal Satisfied	\$0.00
Late Fees Paid	\$0.00

As of today, you've paid on your loans	\$450.00
Total Interest Satisfied	\$450.00
Total Principal Satisfied	\$0.00
Total Late Fees Paid	\$0.00

	Federal	Private
Type	If it's on NSLDS, it's federal If and only if it says "Direct" then it's Direct	If on Credit Report but <u>not</u> on NSLDS, it's Private  ➤ Get Promissory Note
Status	NSLDS Codes	Credit Report, Statement
Current Balance	NSLDS and Statement	Credit Report, Statement
Balance Upon Entering Repayment	NSLDS	Promissory Note
Disbursement Date	NSLDS	Promissory Note
Current Interest Rate	NSLDS	Statement, Promissory Note
Current Monthly Payment	Statement	Statement
Servicer	NSLDS or Statement	Credit Report, Statement
Lender	Might or might not be the same	Credit Report



Before July 2010

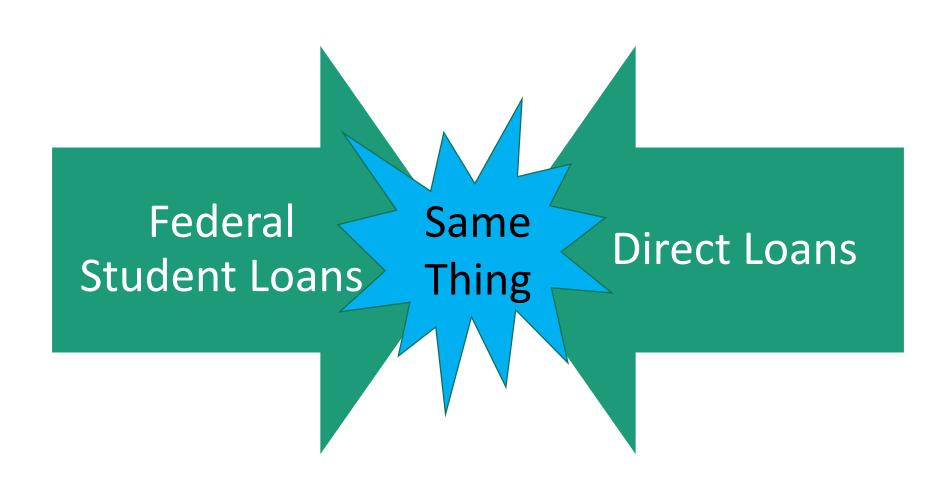


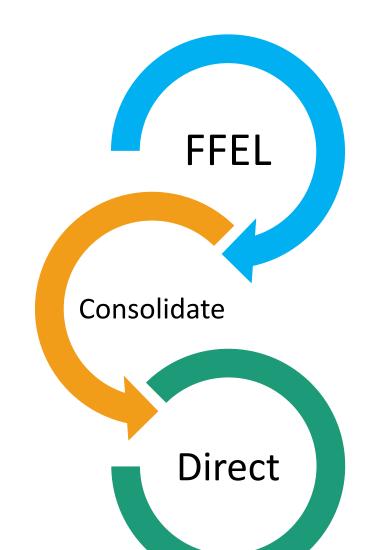


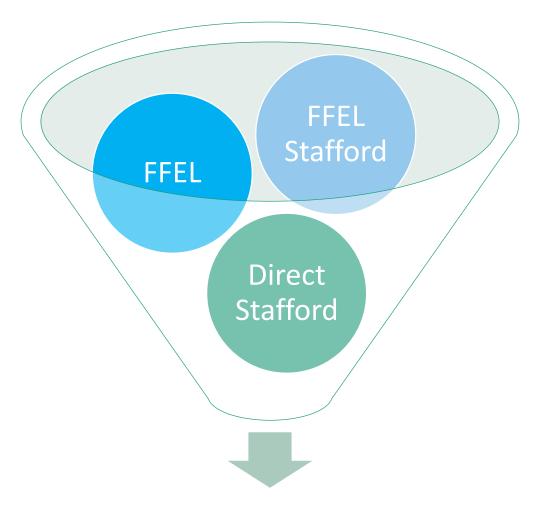
Federal Direct

\*Only if the loan says it's a "Direct" loan, is it a "Direct" loan

### Since July 2010





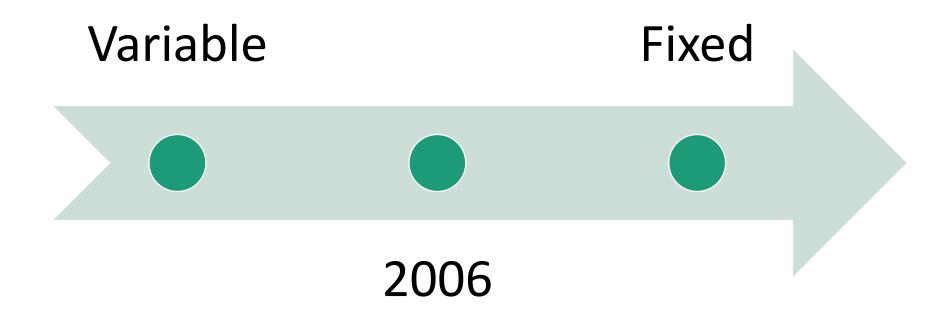


**Direct Consolidation Loan** 

Why Consolidate?

First, let's talk about interest rates

## Federal Loans



<sup>\*</sup>Fixed rates used to be set by Congress, but since July 1, 2013, rates are tied to the market (depending on type)

Loan Type	Basis	Additional	Сар	Current Rate
Direct Undergrad Subsidized	10 Year Treasury	2.05	8.25	4.29
Direct Undergrad Unsubsidized	10 Year Treasury	2.05	8.25	4.29
Direct Graduate Unsubsidized	10 Year Treasury	3.60	9.50	5.84
Direct Grad PLUS	10 Year Treasury	4.60	10.50	6.84
Direct Parent PLUS	10 Year Treasury	4.60	10.50	6.84

## Private Loans

Based on Borrower's Creditworthiness

# Federal Direct Consolidation Loan Interest Rates

 Fixed Interest rates based on the weighted-average of the underlying loans

Capped at 8.25% for consolidation loans borrowed before July 1,2013

• For loans borrowed on or after July 1, 2013, there is no cap

Consolidation not about lowering interest rates!

# Why people used to consolidate...

• To get lower payments through longer repayment periods

Consolidation isn't the best way to lower payments anymore!

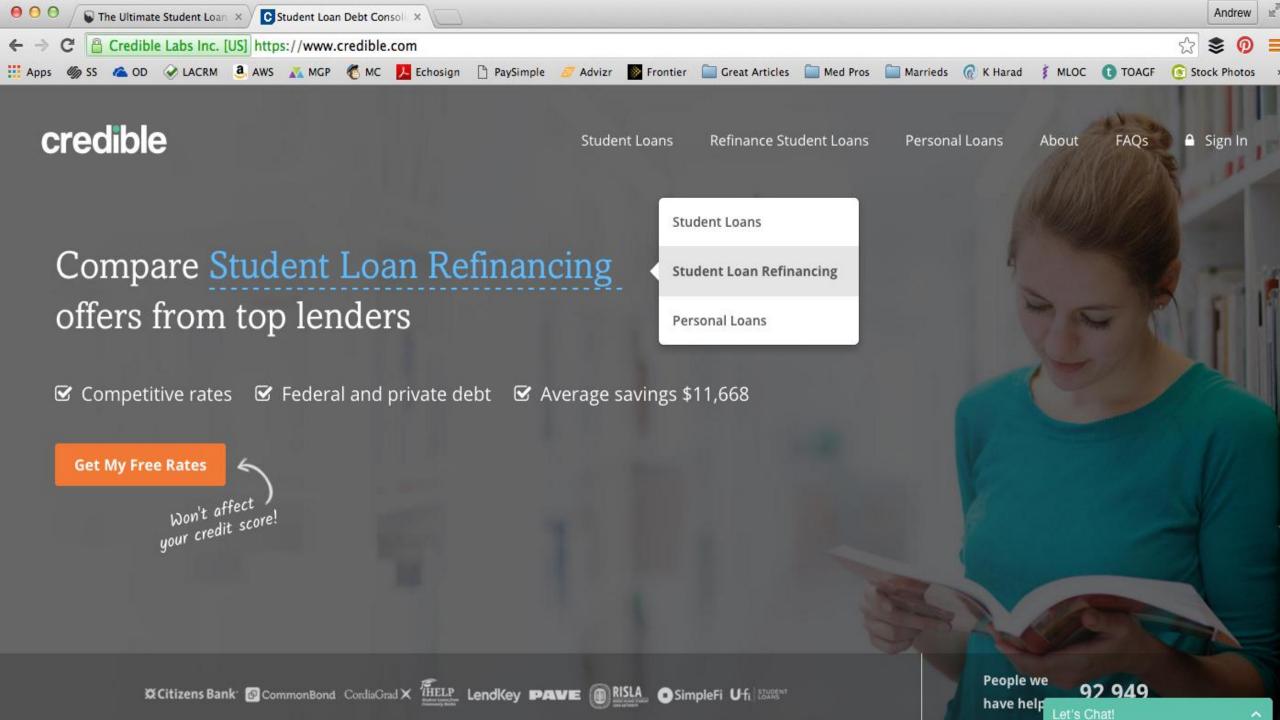
# Why you should consolidate today...

• To access repayment or forgiveness provisions (if you qualify)

If you have pre-2010 FFEL Loans

# Private consolidation loans are available for people who have good credit

But **BEWARE** of giving up important borrower protections and flexible repayment provisions that only accompany federal student loans



# Repayment Plans

For Federal Student Loans

# Several Options

**Standard** 

Graduated

Extended

Income-Sensitive

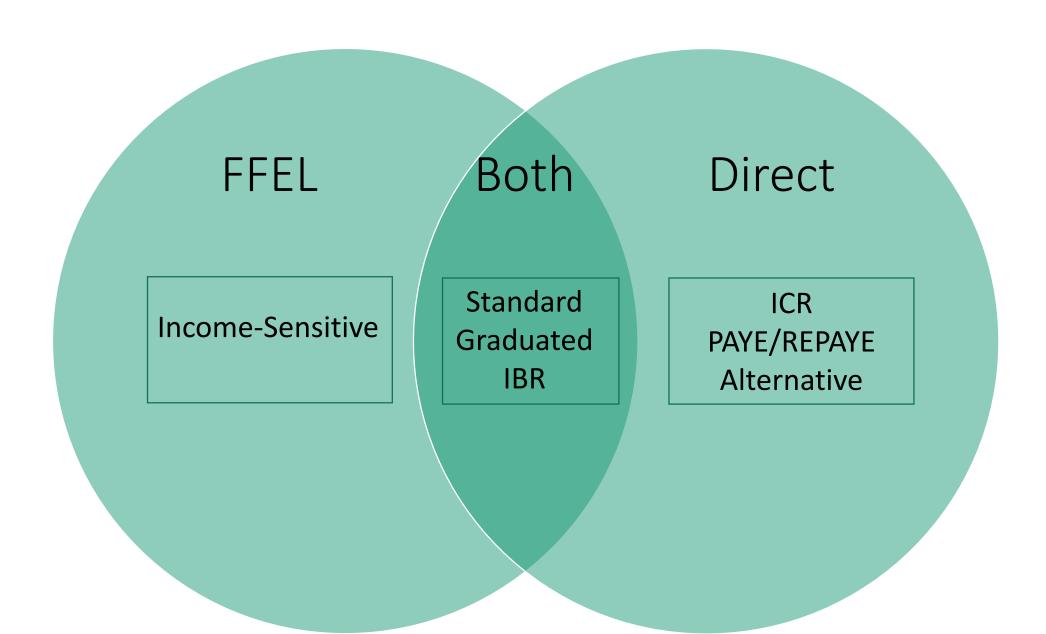
"Alternative"

Income-Based (IBR)

Pay As You Earn (PAYE)

Income-Contingent

## Repayment Options:



# Standard Repayment Plan

Equal fixed monthly payments

\$50 monthly minimum

5 – 10 year repayment term

10-30 year repayment term for consolidation loans

# Graduated Repayment Plan

Payments start lower and increase every two years

Minimum payment is accrued interest

5 – 10 year repayment term

Or 10-30 year repayment term for consolidation loans

# Loan Terms for Standard/Graduated Repayment Plans

Loan Balance	Maximum Loan Term
Less than \$7,500	10 years
\$7,500 to \$9,999	12 years
\$10,000 to \$19,999	15 years
\$20,000 to \$39,999	20 years
\$40,000 to \$59,000	25 years
\$60,000 or more	30 years

## Extended Repayment Plan

No outstanding balance on a FFEL or Direct Loan on or before October 7, 1998

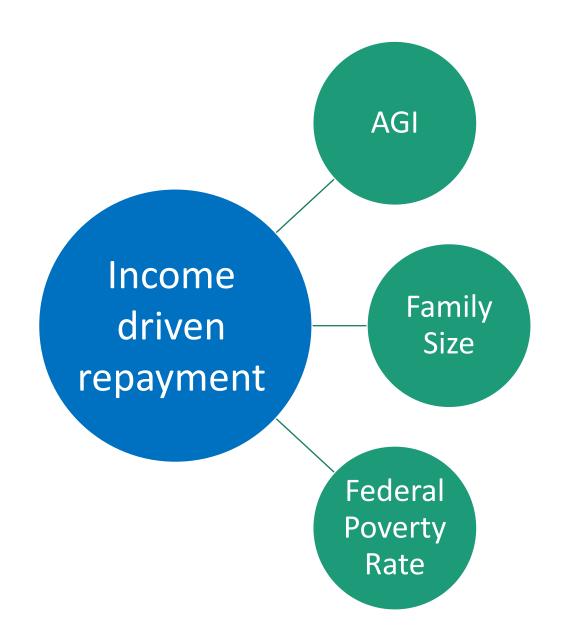
Must have more than \$30,000 in outstanding FFEL or Direct Loans

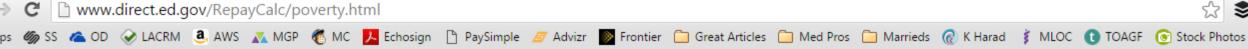
Choice of fixed or graduated monthly payments

Minimum payment of \$50 for fixed extended

Maximum repayment period is 25 years

# How can you qualify for an income-driven repayment plan?







#### **Direct Loans**

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#### Poverty guidelines for 2015–2016

The following chart contains information from the <u>Department of Health and Human Services</u> (HHS). To determine your family size, count your children if they receive more than half their support from you, and count other persons if they live with you as well as receive more than half their support from you currently and for the foreseeable future. Support includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car, medical and dental care, payment of college costs, and so on.

Next, find the column that represents your place of residence. Read down to your family size. This is the poverty guideline for you.

Family size	48 Contiguous states and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$11,770	\$14,720	\$13,550
2	15,930	19,920	18,330
3	20,090	25,120	23,110
4	24,250	30,320	27,890
5	28,410	35,520	32,670
6	32,570	40,720	37,450
7	36,730	45,920	42,230
8	40,890	51,120	47,010
For each additional person, add	4,160	5,200	4,780

Last updated July 6, 2015

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Income-Driven Repayment Plan	Payment Amount
Income-Contingent Repayment	<ul> <li>The lesser of:</li> <li>20 percent of discretionary income, or</li> <li>what borrower would pay on a fixed payment over 12 years, adjusted to income</li> </ul>
Income-Based Repayment - IBR  (for those who are not new borrowers on or after July 1, 2014)	15 percent of discretionary income, but never more than 10- year Standard Repayment Plan Amount

Pay As You Earn - PAYE

borrowed on or after October 1, 2011)

Income-Based Repayment - IBR

Revised Pay As You Earn – REPAYE

(regardless of when you borrowed)

(for those who are new borrowers on October 1, 2007 and

(for those who are new borrowers on or after July 1, 2014)

10 percent of discretionary income, but never more than the

10 percent of discretionary income, but never more than the

10-year Standard Repayment Plan Amount

10-year Standard Repayment Plan Amount

10 percent of discretionary income, with no cap

### Advantages of Income-Driven Plans

Affordable monthly payments

- Two potential routes to forgiveness:
  - Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)
    - Occurs after making 120 QUALIFYING payments if balance still remains at that point
  - Making payments for 20-25 years (depends on income-based repayment plan)

## Who should consider income-driven repayment?

Government and nonprofit employees

High-debt graduate and professional borrowers

Borrowers with low income compared to debt

Loan Type	IBR	PAYE/REPAYE	ICR
Direct Subsidized Loans	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Direct Unsubsidized Loans	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Direct Grad PLUS Loans	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Direct Parent PLUS Loans	Not eligible	Not eligible	Eligible if consolidated
Direct Consolidation that did not repay Parent PLUS Loans	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Direct Consolidation that repaid Parent PLUS Loans	Not eligible	Not eligible	Eligible if consolidated
Subsidized FFEL Loans	Eligible	Eligible if consolidated	Eligible if consolidated
Unsubsidized FFEL Loans	Eligible	Eligible if consolidated	Eligible if consolidated
FFEL Graduate PLUS Loans	Eligible	Eligible if consolidated	Eligible if consolidated
FFEL Parent PLUS Loans	Not eligible	Not eligible	Eligible if consolidated
FFEL Consolidation that did not repay Parent PLUS Loans	Eligible	Eligible if consolidated	Eligible if consolidated
FFEL Consolidation that repaid Parent PLUS Loans	Not eligible	Not eligible	Eligible if consolidated

## Interest and capitalization benefits accompany the income-driven plans

### Original IBR

- 3 year subsidy
- No capitalization unless no PFH or leaves IBR
- No limit on amount of capitalization

## PAYE/IBR 2014

- 3 year subsidy
- No capitalization unless no PFH or leaves PAYE
- 10% cap on interest capitalization

#### REPAYE

- 3 year subsidy, plus ½ subsidy after that
- No capitalization unless leaves REPAYE

### Disadvantages of income-driven plans

Negative amortization means lots of interest adds up

 Payments are based on AGI reported on tax returns so married people must sometimes trade off tax benefits for student loan benefits (with REPAYE, it doesn't matter)

Possibility of substantial tax liability upon forgiveness

Paperwork like you've never seen

### Partial Financial Hardship

Required debt-to-income ratio in order to qualify to choose IBR or PAYE

#### Married student loan borrowers must choose:

 File taxes jointly and have monthly payment based on joint AGI and combined student debt, or

 File taxes separately and have monthly payment based on individual AGI and individual student debt

 For REPAYE, it actually doesn't matter because both incomes are considered either way

### Disadvantages of "married filing separately" tax status

- Tax rate is generally higher
- Limitations in child and dependent care credits/exclusions
- Cannot take Earned Income Tax Credit
- Limitations in adoption credit
- Cannot take education credit or student loan interest deduction
- Limitations on IRA deduction

### Community property

"Alternative documentation of income" for married couples

## Although AGI is driven by federal tax return, family size is not

- This means you can count a spouse in your family size even if you choose to file separate returns
- According to federal regulations, family size is determined by counting:
  - The borrower
  - The spouse
  - Children if they receive more than half of their support from the borrower
  - Other individuals if they (1) live with the borrower and (2) receive more than half their support from the borrower and will continue to receive this support for the year the borrower certifies family size

## Public Service Loan Forgivness (PSLF) is earned by making

120
"qualifying"
payments

### Public Service Loan Forgiveness in Five Steps

- 1. Make the right kind of payments,
- 2. On the right kind of loans,
- 3. While working in the right kind of job.
- 4. Repeat 120 times.
- 5. Prove it.

## Who should consider income-driven repayment?

Government

**Americorps** 

Peace Corps

501 (c) (3) Nonprofit

Public Service Organization

### Any amount forgive under PSLF is not taxable as income!!!!

### Loan Repayment Programs in California

- California State Loan Repayment Program
- The Health Professions Loan Repayment Program
- There may be county/city specific programs
- NHSC Loan Repayment (Primary care, dental, mental/behavioral health)
- Military-based or research specific federal programs
- Check with your future employer

## Don't make career choice based on student loan forgiveness!!!

### Example

Reza Ronaghi, 1<sup>st</sup> year resident

- Stats
  - \$250k in federal direct loans
    - Average 6.8% interest rate
  - \$50k in private student loans
    - 7% variable interest rate
  - \$10k in credit card debt
    - 21% interest rate

### Example

Reza Ronaghi, 1<sup>st</sup> year resident

#### Goals

- Pay off debt as soon as possible
- Plans to attend fellowship for 3 years after residency
- Might work for teaching hospital for career

What to do???

### Example

• Reza Ronaghi, 1st year resident

#### Strategy

- Apply for Pay As You Earn income-driven repayment
- Seek better interest rate on private loans; get fixed rate
- Start attacking credit card debt
- Once credit card debt is eliminated, focus on paying down private loans
- If career is in qualifying employer for PSLF, continue making minimum PAYE payment
- If career is elsewhere, set target date for payoff and create payment plan

### I Need Help!!!

### www.aamc.org

Association of American Medical Colleges

Email me for the link to their guide!



#### Student Loan Services

#### Basic

- 1 Hr meeting to determine payment goals
- Student loan inventory and evaluation
- Recommended strategy
- \$299 one time payment

#### Premiere

- 1 Hr meeting to determine payment goals
- Student loan inventory and evaluation
- Tax analysis included
- Recommended strategy
- Ongoing tax strategy review
- Employment certification filing assistance
- Income certification filing assistance
- Record storage
- \$399 up front plus \$49 per month

### Andrew McFadden, CFP®, MBA

Email: amcfadden@panoramicfinancial.com

