

# William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program

## Direct Subsidized Loan and Direct Unsubsidized Loan Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement

**Important Notice:** *This Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement provides additional information about the terms and conditions of the loans you receive under the accompanying Master Promissory Note (MPN) for Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loans (Direct Subsidized Loans) and Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford/Ford Loans (Direct Unsubsidized Loans). Please keep this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement for your records. You may request another copy of this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement at any time by contacting the Direct Loan Servicing Center.*

*Throughout this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement, the words "we," "us," and "our" refer to the U.S. Department of Education. The word "loan" refers to one or more loans made under the accompanying MPN.*

### 1. The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program.

The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program includes the following types of loans, known collectively as "Direct Loans":

- Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loans (Direct Subsidized Loans)
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford/Ford Loans (Direct Unsubsidized Loans)
- Federal Direct PLUS Loans (Direct PLUS Loans)
- Federal Direct Consolidation Loans (Direct Consolidation Loans)

The Direct Loan Program is authorized by Title IV, Part D, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

You must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before you receive a Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

Direct Loans are made by the U.S. Department of Education. Our Direct Loan Servicing Center services, answers questions about, and processes payments on Direct Loans. We will provide you with the address and telephone number of the Direct Loan Servicing Center after the school notifies us that the first disbursement of your loan has been made.

**2. Laws that apply to this MPN.** The terms and conditions of loans made under this MPN are determined by the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1070 *et seq.*) and other applicable federal laws and regulations. These laws and regulations are referred to as "the Act" throughout this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement. State law, unless it is preempted by federal law, may provide you with certain rights, remedies, and defenses in addition to those stated in the MPN and this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement.

**NOTE:** Any change to the Act applies to loans in accordance with the effective date of the change.

**3. Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans.** Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans are made to students to help pay for the cost of education beyond high school. To receive a Direct Subsidized Loan, you must have financial need. We do not charge interest on Direct Subsidized Loans while you are in school and during certain other periods. Direct Unsubsidized Loans are not based on financial need. We charge interest on Direct Unsubsidized Loans during all periods. For more information on interest charges, see item #9 of this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement ("Payment of interest").

**4. About the MPN.** You may receive more than one loan under this MPN over a period of up to 10 years to pay for your educational costs, as long as the school you are attending is authorized to use the multi-year feature of the MPN and chooses to do so.

If your school is not authorized to use the multi-year feature of the MPN or chooses not to do so, or if you do

not want to receive more than one loan under this MPN, you must sign a new MPN for each loan that you receive. If you do not want to receive more than one loan under this MPN, you must notify your school or the Direct Loan Servicing Center in writing.

**5. Use of your loan money.** You may use the loan money you receive only to pay for your authorized educational expenses for attendance at the school that determined you were eligible to receive the loan. Authorized expenses include the following:

- Tuition
- Room
- Board
- Institutional fees
- Books
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Dependent child care expenses
- Transportation
- Commuting expenses
- Rental or purchase of a personal computer
- Loan fees
- Other documented, authorized costs

**6. Information you must report to us after you receive your loan.** You must notify the Direct Loan Servicing Center and/or the financial aid office at your school about certain changes.

Until you graduate or otherwise leave school, you must notify your school's financial aid office if you:

- Change your address or telephone number;
- Change your name (for example, maiden name to married name);
- Do not enroll at least half-time for the loan period certified by the school
- Do not enroll at the school that determined you were eligible to receive the loan;
- Stop attending school or drop below half-time enrollment;
- Transfer from one school to another school; or
- Graduate.

You must also notify the Direct Loan Servicing Center if any of the above events occur at any time after you receive your loan. In addition, you must notify the Direct Loan Servicing Center if you:

- Change your employer, or your employer's address or telephone number changes; or
- Have any other change in status that would affect your loan (for example, if you received a deferment while you were unemployed, but you have found a job and therefore no longer meet the eligibility requirements for the deferment).

**7. Amount you may borrow.** The charts that follow show the maximum amounts of Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans that you may borrow for a single academic year (annual loan limits), and the maximum amounts that you may borrow in total for undergraduate and graduate study (aggregate loan limits). The annual and aggregate loan limits for independent undergraduates also apply to dependent undergraduates whose parents are unable to borrow under the PLUS program. If you are enrolled in certain health professions programs, you may qualify for higher annual and aggregate limits on Direct Unsubsidized Loans.

The actual loan amount you receive will be determined by your school, based on your academic level, dependency status, and other factors such as:

- The length of the program or the remaining portion of the program in which you are enrolled, if it is less than a full academic year;

- Your cost of attendance;
- Your Expected Family Contribution;
- Other financial aid you receive; and
- Your remaining eligibility under the annual or aggregate loan limits.

The actual amount you receive for an academic year may be less than the maximum annual amounts shown in the charts.

If you are an undergraduate student, your school must determine your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant before you may receive a Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan. Your school is also required to determine your eligibility for a Direct Subsidized Loan before determining your eligibility for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

If you have received student loans from another federal student loan program, you are responsible for informing your school and your lender of your other student loans. In some cases, you may not be eligible for loans for which you have applied.

### Annual Loan Limits for Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans:

Dependent Undergraduate Students (except students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS loans)	
First Year Total (maximum \$3,500 subsidized)	\$5,500
Second Year Total (maximum \$4,500 subsidized)	\$6,500
Third Year and Beyond (each year) (maximum \$5,500 subsidized)	\$7,500
Independent Undergraduate Students (and dependent students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS loans)	
First Year Total (maximum \$3,500 subsidized)	\$9,500
Second Year (maximum \$4,500 subsidized)	\$10,500
Third Year and Beyond (each year) (maximum \$5,500 subsidized)	\$12,500
Graduate and Professional Students	
Total Amount (each year) (maximum \$8,500 subsidized)	\$20,500

### Aggregate Loan Limits for Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized Loans:

Dependent Undergraduate Students (except students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS loans)	
Total Amount Cumulative (maximum \$23,000 subsidized)	\$31,000
Independent Undergraduate Students (and dependent students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS loans)	
Total Amount Cumulative (maximum \$23,000 subsidized)	\$57,500
Graduate and Professional Students	
Total Amount Cumulative (maximum \$65,500 subsidized; includes Stafford Loans received for undergraduate study)	\$138,500

**8. Interest rate.** The interest rate on Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans is a fixed rate.

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Different fixed interest rates may apply to separate loans made under this MPN depending on whether the loan is subsidized or unsubsidized, when the loan is first disbursed, and whether you are a graduate or undergraduate student. You will be notified of the actual interest rate for each loan you receive in a disclosure statement that we send to you.

**9. Payment of interest.** We do not charge interest on a Direct Subsidized Loan while you are enrolled in school at least half time, during your grace period, during deferment periods, and during certain periods of repayment under the Income-Based Repayment Plan. We charge interest on a Direct Subsidized Loan during all other periods (starting on the day after your grace period ends), including forbearance periods.

We charge interest on a Direct Unsubsidized Loan during all periods (starting on the day your loan is paid out). This includes periods while you are enrolled in school at least half time, during your grace period, and during deferment and forbearance periods. Therefore, you will pay more interest on a Direct Unsubsidized Loan than on a Direct Subsidized Loan.

If you do not pay the interest as it is charged on either type of loan, we will add it to the unpaid principal amount of your loan. This is called "capitalization." Capitalization increases the unpaid principal balance of your loan, and we will then charge interest on the increased principal amount.

The chart below shows the difference in the total amount you would repay on a \$15,000 Direct Unsubsidized Loan if you pay the interest as it is charged during a 12-month deferment or forbearance period, compared to the amount you would repay if you do not pay the interest and it is capitalized.

	If you pay the interest as it is charged...	If you do not pay the interest and it is capitalized...
<b>Loan Amount</b>	\$15,000	\$15,000
<b>Interest for 12 months (at an interest rate of 6.8%)</b>	\$1,020 (paid as accrued)	\$1,020 (unpaid and capitalized)
<b>Principal to be Repaid</b>	\$15,000	\$16,020
<b>Monthly Payment (Standard Repayment Plan)</b>	\$173	\$184
<b>Number of Payments</b>	120	120
<b>Total Amount Repaid</b>	\$21,734	\$22,123

In this example, you would pay \$11 less per month and \$389 less altogether if you pay the interest as it is charged during a 12-month deferment or forbearance period.

You may be able to claim a federal income tax deduction for interest payments you make on Direct Loans. For further information, refer to IRS Publication 970, which is available at <http://www.irs.ustreas.gov>.

**10. Loan fee.** We charge a loan fee of up to 4 percent of the principal amount of each loan you receive. This fee will be subtracted proportionally from each disbursement of your loan. The loan fee will be shown on a disclosure statement that we send to you.

**11. Repayment incentive programs.** A repayment incentive is a benefit that we offer to encourage you to repay your loan on time. Under a repayment incentive program, the interest rate we charge on your loan may be

reduced. Some repayment incentive programs require you to make a certain number of payments on time to keep the reduced interest rate. The two repayment incentive programs described below may be available to you. The Direct Loan Servicing Center can provide you with more information on other repayment incentive programs that may be available.

### (1) Interest Rate Reduction for Electronic Debit Account Repayment

Under the Electronic Debit Account (EDA) repayment option, your bank automatically deducts your monthly loan payment from your checking or savings account and sends it to us. EDA helps to ensure that your payments are made on time. In addition, you receive a 0.25 percent interest rate reduction while you repay under the EDA option. We will include information about the EDA option in your first bill. You can also get the information on the Direct Loan Servicing Center's web site, or by calling the Direct Loan Servicing Center. The Direct Loan Servicing Center's web site address and toll-free telephone number are provided on all correspondence that the Direct Loan Servicing Center sends you.

### (2) Up-Front Interest Rebate

You may receive an up-front interest rebate on your loan. The rebate is equal to a percentage of the loan amount that you borrow. This is the same amount that would result if the interest rate on your loan were lowered by a specific percentage, but you receive the rebate up front. The correspondence that you receive about your loan will tell you if you received an up-front interest rebate.

To keep an up-front interest rebate that you receive on your loan, you must make all of your first 12 required monthly payments on time when your loan enters repayment. "On time" means that we must receive each payment no later than 6 days after the due date.

You will lose the rebate if you do not make all of your first 12 required monthly payments on time. If you lose the rebate, we will add the rebate amount back to the principal balance on your loan account. This will increase the amount that you must repay.

**12. Disbursement (how your loan money will be paid out).** Generally, your school will disburse (pay out) your loan money in more than one installment, usually at the beginning of each academic term (for example, at the beginning of each semester or quarter). If your school does not use academic terms, it will generally disburse your loan in at least two installments, one at the beginning of the period of study for which you are receiving the loan, and one at the midpoint of that period of study.

In most cases, if the Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan that you are receiving is your first student loan under either the Direct Loan Program or the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, you must complete entrance counseling before your school can make the first disbursement of your loan.

Your school may disburse your loan money by crediting it to your account at the school, or may give some or all of it to you directly by check or other means. The Direct Loan Servicing Center will notify you in writing each time your school disburses part of your loan money.

If your school credits your loan money to your account and the amount credited is more than the amount of your tuition and fees, room and board, and other authorized charges, the excess amount is called a credit balance. Unless you authorize your school to hold the credit balance for you, your school must pay you the credit balance within the following timeframes:

- If the credit balance occurs after the first day of class of a payment period (your school can tell you this date), your school must pay you the credit

balance no later than 14 days after the date the balance occurs.

- If the credit balance occurs on or before the first day of class of a payment period, your school must pay you the credit balance no later than 14 days after the first day of class of the payment period.

**13. Canceling your loan.** Before your loan money is disbursed, you may cancel all or part of your loan at any time by notifying your school. After your loan money is disbursed, there are two ways to cancel all or part of your loan:

- If your school obtains your written confirmation of the types and amounts of Title IV loans that you want to receive for an award year before crediting loan money to your account at the school, you may tell the school that you want to cancel all or part of that loan within 14 days after the date the school notifies you of your right to cancel all or part of the loan, or by the first day of your school's payment period, whichever is later (your school can tell you the first day of the payment period). If the school does not obtain your written confirmation of the types and amounts of loans you want to receive before crediting the loan money to your account, you may cancel all or part of that loan by informing the school within 30 days of the date the school notifies you of your right to cancel all or part of the loan. In either case, your school will return the cancelled loan amount to us. You do not have to pay interest or the loan fee on the part of your loan that you tell your school to cancel within these timeframes. If you received an up-front interest rebate on your loan, the rebate does not apply to the part of your loan that you tell your school to cancel. Your loan will be adjusted to eliminate any interest, loan fee, and rebate amount that applies to the amount of the loan that was cancelled.

If you ask your school to cancel all or part of your loan outside the timeframes described above, your school may process your cancellation request, but it is not required to do so.

- Within 120 days of the date your school disbursed your loan money (by crediting the loan money to your account at the school, by paying it directly to you, or both), you may return all or part of your loan to us. Contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center for guidance on how and where to return your loan money. You do not have to pay interest or the loan fee on the part of your loan that you return within 120 days of the date that part of your loan is disbursed. If you received an up-front interest rebate on your loan, the rebate does not apply to the part of your loan that you return. Your loan will be adjusted to eliminate any interest, loan fee, and rebate amount that applies to the amount of the loan that you return.

**14. Grace period.** You will receive a six-month grace period on repayment of each Direct Subsidized Loan and Direct Unsubsidized Loan that you receive. Your six-month grace period begins the day after you stop attending school or drop below half-time enrollment. You do not have to begin making payments on your loan until after your grace period ends.

If you are called or ordered to active duty for more than 30 days from a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces, the period of your active duty service and the time necessary for you to re-enroll in school after your active duty ends are not counted as part of your grace period. However, the total period that is excluded from your grace period may not exceed three years. If the call or order to active duty occurs while you are in school and requires you to drop below half-time enrollment, the start of your

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grace period will be delayed until after the end of the excluded period. If the call or order to active duty occurs during your grace period, you will receive a full six-month grace period at the end of the excluded period.

**15. Repaying your loan.** The repayment period for each Direct Subsidized Loan and Direct Unsubsidized Loan that you receive begins on the day after your grace period ends. The Direct Loan Servicing Center will notify you of the date your first payment is due.

You must make payments on your loan even if you do not receive a bill or repayment notice. Billing information is sent to you as a convenience, and you are obligated to make payments even if you do not receive a notice or bill.

You may choose one of the following repayment plans to repay your loan:

- **Standard Repayment Plan** – Under this plan, you will make fixed monthly payments and repay your loan in full within 10 years (not including periods of deferment or forbearance) from the date the loan entered repayment. Your payments must be at least \$50 a month and will be more, if necessary, to repay the loan within the required time period.
- **Graduated Repayment Plan** – Under this plan, you will usually make lower payments at first, and your payments will gradually increase over time. You will repay your loan in full within 10 years (not including periods of deferment or forbearance) from the date the loan entered repayment. No single payment will be more than three times greater than any other payment.
- **Extended Repayment Plan** – Under this plan, you will repay your loan in full over a period not to exceed 25 years (not including periods of deferment or forbearance) from the date the loan entered repayment. You may choose to make fixed monthly payments or graduated monthly payments that start out lower and gradually increase over time. If you make fixed monthly payments, your payments must be at least \$50 a month and will be more, if necessary, to repay the loan within the required time period. You are eligible for this repayment plan only if (1) you have an outstanding balance on Direct Loan Program loans that exceeds \$30,000, and (2) you had no outstanding balance on a Direct Loan Program loan as of October 7, 1998 or on the date you obtained a Direct Loan Program loan after October 7, 1998.
- **Income Contingent Repayment Plan** – Under this plan, your monthly payment amount will be based on your annual income (and that of your spouse if you are married), your family size, and the total amount of your Direct Loans. Until we obtain the information needed to calculate your monthly payment amount, your payment will equal the amount of interest that has accrued on your loan unless you request a forbearance. As your income changes, your payments may change. If you do not repay your loan after 25 years under this plan, the unpaid portion will be forgiven. You may have to pay income tax on any amount forgiven.
- **Income-Based Repayment Plan (effective July 1, 2009)** – Under this plan, your required monthly payment amount will be based on your income during any period when you have a partial financial hardship. Your monthly payment amount may be adjusted annually. The maximum repayment period under this plan may exceed 10 years. If you meet certain requirements over a specified period of time, you may qualify for cancellation of any outstanding balance on your loans.

If you can show to our satisfaction that the terms and conditions of the above repayment plans are not adequate to meet your exceptional circumstances, we may provide you with an alternative repayment plan.

If you do not choose a repayment plan, we will place you on the Standard Repayment Plan.

The chart at the end of this Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement ("Repaying Your Loans") allows you to estimate the monthly and total amounts you would repay under the Standard, Graduated, Extended, and Income Contingent repayment plans based on various initial loan amounts.

You may change repayment plans at any time after you have begun repaying your loan. There is no penalty if you make loan payments before they are due, or pay more than the amount due each month.

Except as provided by the Act for payments made under the Income-Based Repayment Plan, we apply your payments and prepayments in the following order: (1) late charges and collection costs first, (2) outstanding interest second, and (3) outstanding principal last.

When you have repaid a loan in full, the Direct Loan Servicing Center will send you a notice telling you that you have paid off your loan. You should keep this notice in a safe place.

**16. Late charges and collection costs.** If you do not make any part of a payment within 30 days after it is due, we may require you to pay a late charge. This charge will not be more than six cents for each dollar of each late payment. If you do not make payments as scheduled, we may also require you to pay other charges and fees involved in collecting your loan.

**17. Demand for immediate repayment.** The entire unpaid amount of your loan becomes due and payable (on your MPN this is called "acceleration") if you:

- Receive loan money, but do not enroll at least half-time at the school that determined you were eligible to receive the loan;
- Use your loan money to pay for anything other than expenses related to your education at the school that determined you were eligible to receive the loan;
- Make a false statement that causes you to receive a loan that you are not eligible to receive; or
- Default on your loan.

**18. Defaulting on your loan.** Default (failing to repay your loan) is defined in detail in the Terms and Conditions section of your MPN. If you default:

- We will require you to immediately repay the entire unpaid amount of your loan.
- We may sue you, take all or part of your federal and state tax refunds and other federal or state payments, and/or garnish your wages so that your employer is required to send us part of your salary to pay off your loan.
- We will require you to pay reasonable collection fees and costs, plus court costs and attorney fees.
- You may be denied a professional license.
- You will lose eligibility for other federal student aid and assistance under most federal benefit programs.
- You will lose eligibility for loan deferments.
- We will report your default to national credit bureaus (see #19, "Credit bureau notification").

**19. Credit bureau notification.** We will report information about your loan to one or more national credit bureaus. This information will include the disbursement dates, amount, and repayment status of your loan (for example, whether you are current or delinquent in making payments).

If you default on a loan, we will also report this to national credit bureaus. We will notify you at least 30 days in advance that we plan to report default information to a credit bureau unless you resume making payments on the loan within 30 days. You will be given a chance to ask for a review of the debt before we report it.

If a credit bureau contacts us regarding objections you have raised about the accuracy or completeness of any information we have reported, we are required to provide the credit bureau with a prompt response.

#### 20. Deferment and forbearance (postponing payments)

If you meet certain requirements, you may receive a **deferment** that allows you to temporarily stop making payments on your loan. If you cannot make your scheduled loan payments, but do not qualify for a deferment, we may give you a **forbearance**. A forbearance allows you to temporarily stop making payments on your loan, temporarily make smaller payments, or extend the time for making payments.

#### Deferment

You may receive a deferment while you are:

- Enrolled at least half-time at an eligible school;
- In a full-time course of study in a graduate fellowship program;
- In an approved full-time rehabilitation program for individuals with disabilities;
- Unemployed (for a maximum of three years; you must be diligently seeking, but unable to find, full-time employment); or
- Experiencing an economic hardship (including Peace Corps service), as determined under the Act (for a maximum of three years).
- Serving on active duty during a war or other military operation or national emergency or performing qualifying National Guard duty during a war or other military operation or national emergency and, if you were serving on or after October 1, 2007, for the 180-day period following the demobilization date for your qualifying service.

Effective October 1, 2007, if you are a member of the National Guard or other reserve component of the U.S. Armed forces (current or retired) and you are called or ordered to active duty while you are enrolled at an eligible school or within 6 months of having been enrolled, you are also eligible for a deferment during the 13 months following the conclusion of your active duty service, or until you return to enrolled student status, whichever is earlier.

You may be eligible to receive additional deferments if, at the time you received your first Direct Loan, you had an outstanding balance on a loan made under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program before July 1, 1993. If you meet this requirement, you may receive a deferment while you are:

- Temporarily totally disabled, or unable to work because you are required to care for a spouse or dependent who is disabled (for a maximum of three years);
- On active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, on active duty in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), or serving full-time as an officer in the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service (for a combined maximum of three years);
- Serving in the Peace Corps (for a maximum of three years);
- A full-time paid volunteer for a tax-exempt organization or an ACTION program (for a maximum of three years);
- In a medical internship or residency program (for a maximum of two years);

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- Teaching in a designated teacher shortage area (for a maximum of three years);
- On parental leave (for a maximum of six months); or
- A working mother entering or re-entering the workforce (for a maximum of one year).

You may receive a deferment based on your enrollment in school on at least a half-time basis if (1) you submit a deferment request form to the Direct Loan Servicing Center along with documentation of your eligibility for the deferment, or (2) the Direct Loan Servicing Center receives information from the school you are attending that indicates you are enrolled at least half-time. If the Direct Loan Servicing Center processes a deferment based on information received from your school, you will be notified of the deferment and will have the option of canceling the deferment and continuing to make payments on your loan.

For all other deferments, you (or, for a deferment based on active duty military service or qualifying National Guard duty during a war or other military operation or national emergency, a representative acting on your behalf) must submit a deferment request form to the Direct Loan Servicing Center, along with documentation of your eligibility for the deferment. In certain circumstances, you may not be required to provide documentation of your eligibility if the Direct Loan Servicing Center confirms that you have been granted the same deferment for the same period of time on a FFEL Program loan. The Direct Loan Servicing Center can provide you with a deferment request form that explains the eligibility and documentation requirements for the type of deferment you are requesting. You may also obtain deferment request forms and information on deferment eligibility requirements from the Direct Loan Servicing Center's web site.

If you are in default on your loan, you are not eligible for a deferment.

You are not responsible for paying the interest on a Direct Subsidized Loan during a period of deferment. However, you are responsible for paying the interest on a Direct Unsubsidized Loan during a period of deferment.

### Forbearance

We may give you a forbearance if you are temporarily unable to make your scheduled loan payments for reasons including, but not limited to, financial hardship and illness.

We will give you a forbearance if:

- You are serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program, and you meet specific requirements;
- The total amount you owe each month for all of the student loans you received under Title IV of the Act is 20 percent or more of your total monthly gross income (for a maximum of three years);
- You are serving in a national service position for which you receive a national service award under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. In some cases, the interest that accrues on a qualified loan during the service period will be paid by the Corporation for National and Community Service;
- You are performing service that would qualify you for loan forgiveness under the teacher loan forgiveness program that is available to certain Direct Loan and FFEL program borrowers;
- You qualify for partial repayment of your loans under the Student Loan Repayment Program, as administered by the Department of Defense; or
- You are called to active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces.

To request a forbearance, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center. The Direct Loan Servicing Center can

provide you with a forbearance request form that explains the eligibility and documentation requirements for the type of forbearance you are requesting. You may also obtain forbearance request forms and information on forbearance eligibility requirements from the Direct Loan Servicing Center's web site.

Under certain circumstances, we may also give you a forbearance without requiring you to submit a request or documentation. These circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Periods necessary for us to determine your eligibility for a loan discharge;
- A period of up to 60 days in order for us to collect and process documentation related to your request for a deferment, forbearance, change in repayment plan, or consolidation loan (we do not capitalize the interest that is charged during this period); or
- Periods when you are involved in a military mobilization, or a local or national emergency.

You are responsible for paying the interest on both Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans during a period of forbearance.

**21. Discharge (having your loan forgiven).** We will discharge (forgive) your loan if:

- You die. The Direct Loan Servicing Center must receive acceptable documentation of your death, as defined in the Act.
- Your loan is discharged in bankruptcy. However, federal student loans are not automatically discharged if you file for bankruptcy. In order to have your loan discharged in bankruptcy, you must prove to the bankruptcy court that repaying the loan would cause undue hardship.
- We determine that you are totally and permanently disabled (as defined in the Act), based on a physician's certification, and you meet additional requirements during a 3-year conditional discharge period. During that period, your earnings from work must not exceed the poverty line amount for a family of two, and you must not receive any additional loans under the Direct Loan, FFEL, or Federal Perkins Loan programs. You may not receive a discharge due to total and permanent disability based on a condition that existed before your loan was made, unless a doctor certifies that the condition substantially deteriorated after the loan was made.

In certain cases, we may also discharge all or a portion of your loan if:

- You could not complete a program of study because the school closed;
- Your loan eligibility was falsely certified by the school;
- A loan in your name was falsely certified as a result of a crime of identity theft; or
- The school did not pay a refund of your loan money that it was required to pay under federal regulations.

We may forgive a portion of any student loans you received under the Direct Loan or FFEL program after October 1, 1998 if you teach full time for five consecutive years in certain low-income elementary and/or secondary schools and meet certain other qualifications, and if you did not owe a Direct Loan or FFEL program loan as of October 1, 1998, or as of the date you obtain a loan after October 1, 1998.

A public service loan forgiveness program is also available. Under this program, the remaining balance due on your eligible Direct Loan Program loans may be cancelled after you have made 120 payments on those loans (after October 2, 2007) under certain repayment plans while you are employed in certain public service jobs.

To request a loan discharge based on one of the conditions described above (except for discharges due to death or bankruptcy), you must complete a loan discharge application that you may obtain from the Direct Loan Servicing Center.

In some cases, you may assert, as a defense against collection of your loan, that the school did something wrong or failed to do something that it should have done. You can make such a defense against repayment only if the school's act or omission directly relates to your loan or to the educational services that the loan was intended to pay for, and if what the school did or did not do would give rise to a legal cause of action against the school under applicable state law. If you believe that you have a defense against repayment of your loan, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center.

We do not guarantee the quality of the academic programs provided by schools that participate in federal student financial aid programs. You must repay your loan even if you do not complete the education paid for with the loan, are unable to obtain employment in the field of study for which your school provided training, or are dissatisfied with, or do not receive, the education you paid for with the loan.

**22. Loan consolidation.** A Direct Consolidation Loan Program is available that allows you to consolidate (combine) one or more of your eligible federal education loans into one loan. Consolidation allows you to extend the period of time that you have to repay your loans, and to combine several loan debts into a single monthly payment. This may make it easier for you to repay your loans. However, you will pay more interest if you extend your repayment period through consolidation, since you will be making payments for a longer period of time. Contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center for more information about loan consolidation.

**23. Department of Defense and other federal agency loan repayment.** Under certain circumstances, military personnel may have their federal education loans repaid by the Secretary of Defense. This benefit is offered as part of a recruitment program that does not apply to individuals based on their previous military service or to those who are not eligible for enlistment in the U.S. Armed Forces. For more information, contact your local military service recruitment office.

Other agencies of the federal government may also offer student loan repayment programs as an incentive to recruit and retain employees. Contact the agency's human resources department for more information.

**24. AmeriCorps program education awards.** Under the National and Community Service Act of 1990, you may receive an education award that can be used to repay a Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan if you successfully complete a term of service in an AmeriCorps program. For more information, contact an official of your program.

William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program  
 Direct Subsidized Loan and Direct Unsubsidized Loan Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement

Repaying Your Loans<sup>1</sup>

Initial Debt When You Enter Repayment	Standard		Extended <sup>2,3</sup>		Graduated		Income Contingent <sup>5,6</sup> Income = \$15,000				Income Contingent <sup>5,6</sup> Income = \$25,000				Income Contingent <sup>5,6</sup> Income = \$45,000			
	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per <sup>4</sup> Month	Total	Single		Married/HOH <sup>7</sup>		Single		Married/HOH <sup>7</sup>		Single		Married/HOH <sup>7</sup>	
							Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total
<b>3,500</b>	50	4,471	Not Available		25	5,157	21	6,939	20	6,673	27	6,092	25	6,405	36	5,128	36	5,128
5,000	58	6,905	Not Available		40	7,278	30	9,912	29	9,533	38	8,703	36	9,150	51	7,326	51	7,326
<b>5,500</b>	63	7,595	Not Available		43	8,007	33	10,903	30	10,463	42	9,574	40	10,065	56	8,059	56	8,059
7,500	86	10,357	Not Available		59	10,919	45	14,868	30	14,019	57	13,055	54	13,725	76	10,989	76	10,989
<b>10,500</b>	121	14,500	Not Available		83	15,283	64	20,815	30	18,877	80	18,277	76	19,215	107	15,385	107	15,385
15,000	173	20,714	Not Available		119	21,834	87	29,685	30	25,229	114	26,110	108	27,451	153	21,978	153	21,978
<b>18,500</b>	213	25,548	Not Available		146	26,929	87	35,992	30	29,465	140	32,203	134	33,856	188	27,106	188	27,106
<b>23,000</b>	265	31,762	Not Available		182	33,479	87	43,141	30	34,128	174	40,036	166	42,091	234	33,699	234	33,699
30,000	345	41,429	Not Available		237	43,668	87	52,340	30	39,756	228	52,221	197	55,743	407	43,956	407	43,956
40,000	460	55,239	277	83,289	316	58,229	87	62,005	30	44,827	253	72,717	197	84,352	468	58,608	468	58,608
<b>46,000</b>	529	63,524	319	95,782	363	66,956	87	66,084	30	46,378	253	89,828	197	105,472	509	67,399	509	67,399
50,000	575	69,048	347	104,111	395	72,778	87	68,153	30	46,860	253	103,268	197	111,575	587	73,260	587	73,260
60,000	690	82,858	391	140,816	474	87,334	87	71,219	30	46,934	253	136,615	197	124,085	587	88,251	587	88,251
70,000	806	96,667	456	164,285	535	101,890	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	148,551	197	133,106	587	106,551	587	106,551
80,000	920	110,477	522	187,754	632	116,445	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	157,373	197	138,907	587	128,146	587	128,146
90,000	1,036	124,287	587	211,224	711	131,002	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	163,227	197	141,925	587	152,967	587	152,967
100,000	1,151	138,096	652	234,693	790	145,556	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	166,457	197	142,386	587	181,224	587	181,224
110,000	1,266	151,906	717	258,162	869	160,111	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	167,172	197	142,386	587	213,485	587	213,485
120,000	1,381	165,716	782	281,632	948	174,668	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	167,172	197	142,386	587	250,281	587	250,281
130,000	1,496	179,525	848	305,101	1,024	189,224	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	167,172	197	142,386	587	292,313	587	292,313
<b>138,500</b>	1,594	191,264	903	325,050	1,094	201,596	87	71,721	30	46,934	253	167,172	197	142,386	587	332,912	587	332,912

<sup>1</sup> The **estimated** payments were calculated using a fixed interest rate of 6.80%.

<sup>2</sup> This repayment plan is available only to borrowers who have an outstanding balance on Direct Loan Program loans that exceeds \$30,000, and who had no outstanding balance on a Direct Loan Program loan as of October 7, 1998 or on the date they obtained a Direct Loan Program loan on or after October 7, 1998.

<sup>3</sup> These amounts are fixed, rounded to the nearest dollar, and calculated based on a 25-year repayment term.

<sup>4</sup> This is your beginning payment, which may increase during your 10-year repayment term.

<sup>5</sup> Assumes a 5% annual income growth (Census Bureau).

<sup>6</sup> The **estimated** payments were calculated using the formula requirements in effect during 2006.

<sup>7</sup> HOH is Head of Household; assumes a family size of two.