Welcome to Navigating Your Student Loan Debt



While you are waiting, please log in: **www.neamb.com/start**



Navigating Your Student Loan Debt

With support from NEA Member Benefits

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February 2024



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Find Student Loan Debt Relief.

Find information about any forgiveness or cancellation programs you may qualify for, along with how much you can save.

Get Started

savi



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Trouble signing in? Call the Member Advocacy Center 800-637-4636

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This presentation represents the situation and regulations existing as of the date of the presentation only and may not be accurate at any future date. Use of this presentation content outside of the live presentation is not recommended, as information and situations may change. Further, today's presentation is intended to provide information, and does not constitute legal or financial advice. Members are advised to seek counsel from legal, financial, or other relevant professionals about their personal situation prior to making any decisions.

This presentation is accurate as of February 2024



Agenda

- Understanding Student Loan Forgiveness
 Programs and Eligibility
- Understanding PSLF Policy and Program Updates
- Getting Started with the NEA Student Debt Navigator
- Setting up a Savi Account
- Summary of Resources



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Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF)

General Requirements:

- Direct and/or Federal Stafford Loans are eligible subsidized and unsubsidized
- You are a new borrower (no outstanding balance on a Federal Loan before October 1, 1998)
- You have been employed for at least five consecutive years in an <u>qualifying</u> elementary or secondary school (listed in TCLI Directory, Teacher Cancellation Low Income)



Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF)

General Requirements continued...

- You are not in default on the loan for which you are seeking forgiveness
- You have not received a benefit for the same teaching service through the AmeriCorps Program
- You received the loan for which you are requesting forgiveness before the end of your fifth year of qualifying teaching



Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF)

How Much Is Forgiven...

- Certain highly qualified special education, secondary mathematics or science teachers can qualify for up to \$17,500 in forgiveness. Other eligible teachers can qualify for up to \$5,000
- You apply for TLF after you have completed the five-year teaching requirement
- School librarians, guidance counselors, and other administrative staff are not considered teachers for the purposes of this loan forgiveness program.



Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

- Complete loan balance forgiveness
- Eligible after you have made 120 qualifying payments under a qualified repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer
- Not required to be consecutive, only cumulative
- Direct Loans or loans consolidated into Direct Loans
- Paperwork filed annually



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PSLF Criteria:



Qualifying Employer

Government organizations at any level (federal, state, local, or tribal), not-for-profit 501(c)3s

Must work min. 30 hours per week

Can combine multiple/part-time employment to qualify (all employers must be eligible)



PSLF Criteria:



Qualifying Loans

Direct Federal Loans only

Consolidate Parent PLUS & FFEL



PSLF Criteria:



Qualifying Repayment Plan

Income-Driven Repayment Plan

On-Time and full monthly payments



Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

Additional Details

- Direct Loans Only
- Enroll in IBR, ICR, PAYE, or SAVE/REPAYE
- Make 120 income driven repayments, on-time, exact amount
- File for forgiveness
- Complete the IDR plan and PSLF Employment
 Certification Form for <u>each year</u> of full-time qualifying employment



PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS (PSLF) & TEMPORARY EXPANDED PSLF (TEPSLF) CERTIFICATION & APPLICATION William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program

OMB No. 1845-0110 Form Approved Exp. Date 08/31/2023 PSFAP - XBCR

WARNING: Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form or on any accompanying document is subject to penalties that may include fines, imprisonment, or both, under the U.S. Criminal Code and 20 U.S.C. 1097.

SECTION 1: BORROWER INFORMATION

Please enter or co	orrect the following information.
Check this be	ox if any of your information has changed.
SSN	
Date of Birth	
Name	
Address	
City	State Zip Code
Telephone - Primary	
Telephone - Alternate	
Email	



Understanding PSLF Policy & Program Updates

Information is accurate as of February 2024





Emergency Forbearance Ended

Back in March 2020, all federal student loans went into emergency forbearance, pausing all payments and dropping interest rates to 0%. This "payment pause" was extended several times and officially ended on **October 1, 2023.**

The payment pause ended in two stages:

- On September 1st, regular interest rates applied to all student loans.
- October 1st, monthly payments were restarted



Identifying Your Loan Servicer

- Many borrowers were transferred to a new loan servicer during the payment pause. Or, if your servicer ended their contract (like FedLoan Servicing) your loans were transferred to another servicer.
- If you applied for Public Service Loan Forgiveness, your loans have been or will be transferred to MOHELA.
- If you are not sure which servicer your loans were transferred to, log into your <u>Federal Student Aid dashboard</u>. If you can't log in, call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) for loan servicer information.



On-Ramp to Repayment

- To help borrowers transition to repayment, the Department of Education created the On-Ramp to Repayment that will last October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.
 - Payments are still due, however if you can't make your payment, this safety net is in place, and you won't be penalized for it.
 - Interest will continue to accrue during this time
 - Borrowers with federally held loans are automatically eligible for the On-Ramp



Student Aid Dashboard – FSA ID

- Go to <u>studentaid.gov</u> and create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID.
- This will provide you access to your student debt dashboard that provides a wealth of historical information on your federal student loans *and* forgiveness opportunities.
- If you already have an FSA ID, make sure your contact information is up to date.
- Your FSA ID is *not* the same as your login with your federal student loan servicer.





Introducing the SAVE Plan

- The Biden Administration has launched the **most** affordable IDR plan ever—the **SAVE Plan**.
- The SAVE Plan, like other income-driven repayment (IDR) plans, calculates your monthly payment amount based on your income and family size.
- The SAVE Plan provides the lowest monthly payments of any IDR plan available to nearly all student borrowers.





The SAVE Plan

Here are the SAVE Plan Details:

- **Decreases monthly payments** by increasing the amount of income that is excluded from the calculations. You will owe nothing if you are a single borrower earning \$32,800 or less or a family of four earning \$67,500 or less. Borrowers earning more will save at least \$1,000 a year.
- Eliminates extra interest accrual every month beyond your payment. For example, if \$50 in interest accumulates monthly and your monthly payment is \$30, the remaining \$20 of interest will not be added to your loan balance. Your principal balance will never increase if you make your regular monthly payments.
- **Excludes spousal income** for borrowers who file separately.
- More changes coming Summer 2024



The SAVE Plan

Applying for SAVE

- You can apply for the SAVE Plan today at <u>studentaid.gov/idr</u> If you are enrolled in the REPAYE Plan, or recently applied for it, you will be automatically enrolled in the SAVE Plan.
- If you are already on an IDR plan, you can check to see if you are on the REPAYE Plan by logging in to StudentAid.gov, going to your "My Aid" page, scrolling down, and viewing each loan. Each loan will list a repayment plan.
- Note: Parent PLUS borrowers are **not eligible** for the SAVE Plan (even after consolidation). Borrowers in default are **not eligible**, but you can get out of default NOW under the <u>Fresh Start</u> program.



Account Adjustment

- The Biden Administration is helping more borrowers get closer to forgiveness by *automatically* reviewing your payment history and counting more payments as qualifying.
- The **one-time account adjustment will count more time** towards PSLF and Income-Driven Repayment Plan Forgiveness, like:
 - *late and partial payments*
 - payments made under any repayment plan
 - payments made on Parent PLUS, FFEL, or Perkins loans before consolidation
 - months spent in an extended forbearance (12+ months consecutive; or 36+ months total



Account Adjustment Timeline

- Federal Direct Loan Holders (Happening NOW!)
 - The account adjustment will occur automatically in 2024. When you apply for PSLF your payment count will be adjusted.

• FFEL, Perkins, or Parent PLUS Holders

- You will need to apply for a direct loan consolidation prior to <u>April 30, 2024</u>.
- Once consolidation is complete, your payment count will be *temporarily* reduced to zero.
- After the account adjustment takes effect, your payment count will increase based on the adjustment.



Stay Connected and Informed

Stay aware of developments by:

- Enrolling in the NEA Student Debt Navigator powered by Savi at www.neamb.com/start
- Signing up for updates at www.studentaid.gov



Become an advocate of yourself and other education employees at: www.nea.org/advocating-for-change



Getting Started With the NEA Student Debt Navigator





What can the Navigator do for you?

Manage your student loans with ease:

- Check **eligibility** and **qualifications** for loan forgiveness
- See personalized repayment and forgiveness options
- Yearly recertification reminders of repayment and forgiveness plans
- Sign and submit paperwork digitally on your behalf
- Monitor for new programs and policy changes
- Receive **1-on-1 support** with student loan experts



What can the Navigator do for you?

- Enjoy one free year of ESSENTIAL access
- On average, members save \$2,000 annually on their student loans using the Navigator





www.neamb.com/start



NEA® Auto & Home Insurance Program

Auto Insurance. Unique Benefits.

NEA members could save an average of \$638* on auto insurance from Travelers.



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LIMITED TIME ONLINE BONUS OFFER: \$250 Amazon.com Gift Card (students not eligible). Apply here for this offer. Offers vary elsewhere.

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Find Student Loan Debt Relief.

Find information about any forgiveness or cancellation programs you may qualify for, along with how much you can save.

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Learn More

Nea Members Insurance Trust

Step 2 Click "Get Started"



Register/ Log In

nea Member Benefits savi	About How It Works	Pricing Testimonials FAQs Log	In Sign Up
IMPORTANT STUDENT LOAN UPDATES: I	Payments resuming in September 2023. Learn more about major policy ch	anges from the Department of Education <u>here</u> .	×
Finding	Savings & forgivenes	SS IS EASY. t loan relief.	
Savi lowered my monthly payment by \$340!	My expected income in 2023 is:		
	My federal monthly student loan payment:	Savi found the best plans for me.	
100	\$100.00	Public Service Loan Forgiveness 🛛	
The whole process was so	Presented by NEA Member Benefits	One-Time Debt Relief	
quick and easy.	Get My Estimate	Teacher Loan Forgiveness	
		Income Driven Repayment	



Provide family, income, employment, and education info



What state do you live in? 🔞	
Choose One	~
What is your most recent tax filing status? 😮	
Choose One	~
What is your current marital status?	
Choose One	~
How many dependents do you have? 😧	
What is your date of birth? 🔞	
mm/dd/yyyy	



Provide family, income, employment, and education info

APPLICATION PROGRESS 33%	Income
Estimated \$261/mo	How much do you currently pay per month for your federal loans? 🔞
	\$450
✓ FAMILY	Has your income significantly decreased this year? 🔞
	No
EMPLOYMENT	Enter your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) as reported on your most recent federal taxes 🛛 🚱
EDUCATION	\$50,000
	Save and continue later
2 SELECT ✓	



Provide family, income, employment, and education info





Sync Federal and Private Loans





Consider your plan options and choose the one that works best for you





Essential Membership





Application Monitoring

Active Applications		
10% Application Progress	Forgiveness - West Elm Elementary Period: Mar 2019 - Sept 2021	APPLICATION PROGRESS
	AWAITING HR SIGNATURE Your PSLF Form has been sent to your employer HR contact and is awaiting signature	1 2 3 4 Select Repayment Plan Submit Application Application Processing Complete
33% Application Progress	Forgiveness - University of Washington Period: Mar 2019 - Sept 2021	O Submit Application
	EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION FORGIVENESS FORM SUBMITTED TO FEDLOAN Your employer has successfully signed and certified your employment TPLP Forms have been submitted to FedLoan	Attach necessary documentation
66% Application Progress	Forgiveness - University of Washington Period: Mar 2019 - Sept 2021	Sign application
	SYNC FEDLOAN ACCOUNT Connect your FedLoan servicer account to Savi via loan Connect Loans	Savi received application
	sync so that we can accurately monitor your loan and forgiveness progress	Savi reviewing application
40% Application Progress	Income Driven Repayment	Application sent to Servicer
	CONTINUE APPLICATION Please attach your supporting documentation when you sign your application.	
	Show detailed view >	



Need help? Contact customer support





Summary of Resources

SIGN IN: neamb.com/start





Login issues?



Student Debt Navigator questions?

Call Member Advocacy Center 800-637-4636 Call Savi 833-382-3175



Learn more about student aid:

www.studentaid.gov



THANK YOU

