

Important Notice for City Employees with Student Loan Debt

As a current or prospective employee of the City of New York, you may be eligible for federal loan forgiveness programs and state repayment assistance programs. Please review this notice to see if you may be eligible for programs and how to apply.

Federal Student Loan Forgiveness Programs

If you qualify, the federal government may forgive, cancel, or discharge your federal student loan¹, which means you may no longer need to repay it.

Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program

The PSLF Program forgives the remaining balance on your Direct Loan after you have made 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full time for a qualifying employer like the City of New York. You may be able to consolidate a Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) and Federal Perkins Loan into a Direct Loan to qualify for PSLF.

⇒ Visit studentaid.gov and click MANAGE LOANS > Public Service Loan Forgiveness to learn which jobs qualify for PSLF, which loans are eligible, and how to apply.

Note:

- In response to the pandemic, under temporary rules in effect until October 31, 2022, you may receive credit for payments that previously did not qualify for PSLF. Click *Limited PSLF Waiver Information* under *PSLF Resources* to learn more.
- Use the *PSLF Help Tool* or download and complete the PSLF form.
- Your employer will need to certify your employment in order to qualify for loan forgiveness, which happens after 120 qualifying payments.

Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program

If you teach full time for five complete and consecutive academic years in a low-income school or educational service agency and meet other qualifications, you may be eligible for forgiveness of up to \$17,500 on your Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans and your Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans.

⇒ Visit studentaid.gov and click MANAGE LOANS > Teacher Loan Forgiveness to learn if you qualify and how to apply.

¹ The U.S. Department of Education's federal student loan program is the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program. There are four types of Direct Loans: Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, Direct Plus Loans, and Direct Consolidation Loans. The Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) or "Stafford Loan" program ended on July 1, 2010. All loans are now made through the Direct Loan Program. For more information about federal student loans, visit studentaid.gov.

Federal Perkins Loan Cancellation and Discharge

You may be eligible for cancellation or discharge if you work as a teacher, firefighter, law enforcement officer, nurse, and more.

- ⇒ Visit studentaid.gov and click MANAGE LOANS > Perkins Loan Cancellation and Discharge to learn which jobs qualify and how to apply.

New York State Student Loan Repayment Assistance Programs

You must be a New York State resident to qualify to receive payment assistance for eligible student loans.

The state offers loan forgiveness programs if you:

- work as an attorney, social worker, teacher, and more, and also meet other eligibility requirements;
- earned an undergraduate degree from a New York State college or university in December 2014 or after, have an adjusted gross income of less than \$50,000, and meet other eligibility requirements. (Known as the New York State Get on Your Feet Loan Forgiveness Program, this program offers up to 24 months of loan forgiveness.)

- ⇒ Visit the Higher Education Services Corporation website at hesc.ny.gov and click Repay > Loan Forgiveness, Cancellation & Discharge to learn more about New York State loan forgiveness programs and how to apply.

Quick Links

Federal Student Aid, an Office of the U.S. Department of Education: studentaid.gov

New York State Higher Education Services Corporation: hesc.ny.gov

Complaints

Complaints about a student loan servicer

A loan servicer is a company that handles the billing and other services on your federal student loan. Attempt to resolve your complaint with the company first. You should be able to file a complaint by phone, in writing, and often online.

Complaints about student loan products and servicers in New York State

You can file a secure complaint with the New York State Department of Financial Services online at dfs.ny.gov/complaint.