



MARYLAND
CENTER *for*
**COLLEGIATE
FINANCIAL
WELLNESS**

KEYS TO LOAN FORGIVENESS

For University Employees

Tisa Silver Canady, EdD, MBA

AGENDA

- About MCCFW
- Goals for Today
- Student Loan Forgiveness: Two Key Questions
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Resources
- Q&A

ABOUT MCCFW

"BUILDING FINANCIAL LIFE SKILLS AND EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO THRIVE."



All college and career school students in Maryland are:

CREDITWORTHY

We want students to develop life skills necessary to manage their financial obligations including student loan debt.

READY

We want students prepared for the financial responsibility and academic focus of collegiate education and ready for success on the first day of each academic term.

RESILIENT

We want students to be aware of and have access to campus and community support services that will help them overcome obstacles to collegiate success, especially in the event of an issue that requires emergency financial assistance.



EMPOWERED

We want students to enter the financial marketplace capable of making informed decisions and protecting themselves against fraud and exploitation.

SUCCESSFUL

We want students to complete a degree or credential program and fulfill the purpose for which they enrolled.

THRIVING

We want students to complete their collegiate experience prepared to set and achieve personal financial goals that are in line with their individual preferences, circumstances, and priorities.



DISCLAIMER

The information shared during this presentation is for informational purposes only.

GOALS FOR TODAY

- Determine eligibility
- Get on track to benefit
- Maximize benefits

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

LOAN TYPES AND ACCESS TO BENEFITS

Relief Plan	Benefit	Eligible Loan Types
Biden-Harris Student Debt Relief Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$20,000 per borrower • Parent PLUS Loans only: Up to \$10,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct • Federally-held
Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)	Up to the entire remaining balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Only • Federally-held and commercially-held, only after they are consolidated into the Direct Loan Program
Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) Adjustment	Up to the entire remaining balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct • Federally-held • Commercially-held, only after they consolidated into the Direct Loan Program

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

WHAT IS PSLF?

Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) is a federal program that can cancel the remaining balance of Direct Loans after the borrower has made 120 qualifying payments while working full-time, directly for a qualifying employer.

Oct 2007: PSLF signed into law by President George W. Bush.

Source: FSA

PSLF: KEY QUESTIONS

LOAN TYPES

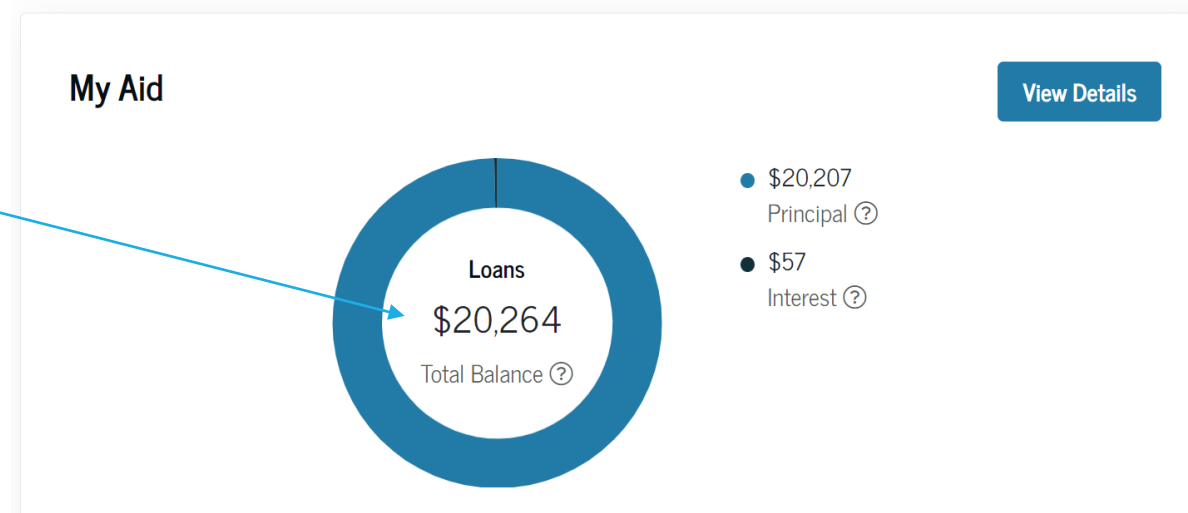
Are your loans federal or private?

Log into ***studentaid.gov***

On the Dashboard, look for a blue circle with a loan balance inside.

Is there a balance?	
Yes	Your loans are federal.
No	You have no loans or your loans are private.

Dashboard



STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS: KEY QUESTIONS

LOAN TYPES

Are your federal loans in default?

Within ***studentaid.gov***

- On the Dashboard, locate the **My Loan Servicers** section.
- Click **View More**.


Instead of **Dept of Ed**, defaulted loans usually display the servicer “**Default Management Collection System**.”

Use the **Fresh Start Initiative** ASAP to return loans to good standing.


- Online: ***myeddebt.ed.gov***
- Phone: 1-800-621-3115
- TTY: 1-877-825-9923

DEPT OF ED/NELNET

 nelnet.com

 nelnetcustomersolutions@nelnet.com

 888-486-4722

 PO BOX 740283 ATLANTA, GA 30374(0283)

[Pay on Servicer Website](#) 



PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS REQUIREMENTS AND REJECTIONS

Oct 2017–Oct 2021: Program reports a 98% application rejection rate.

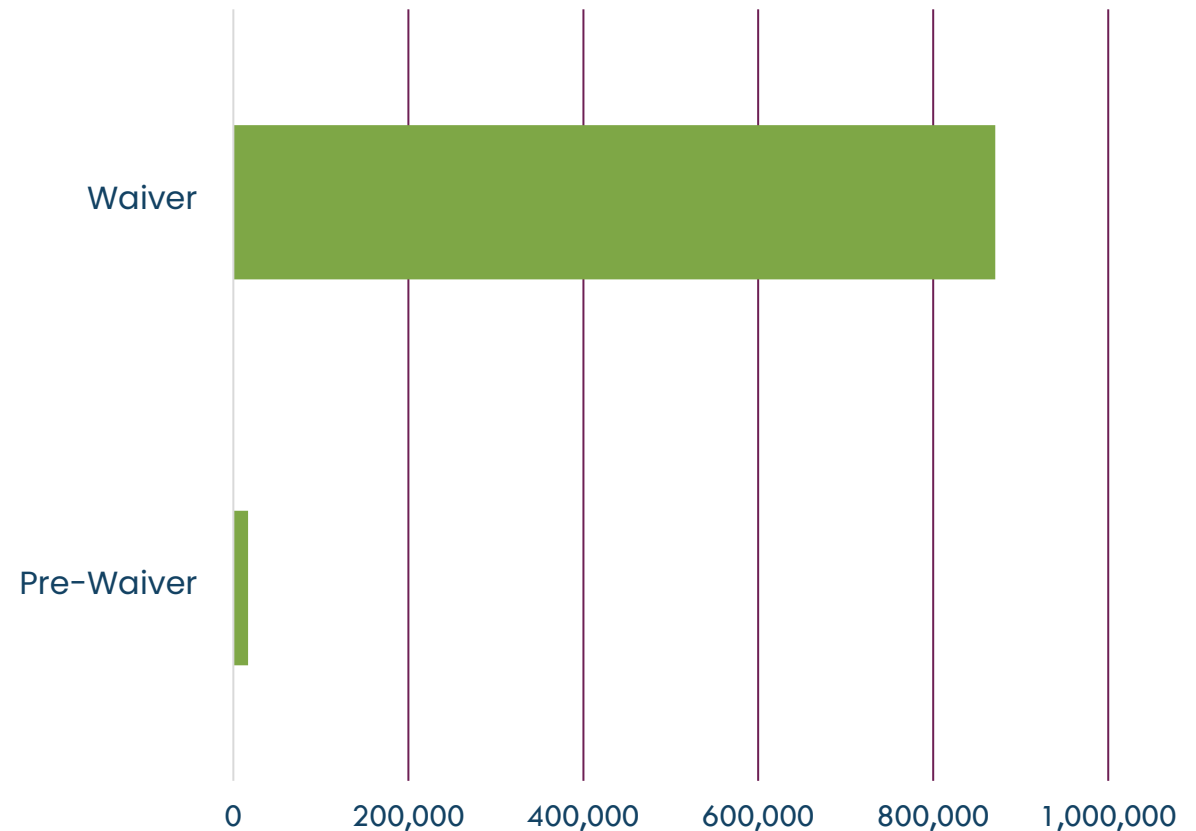
Borrowers Approved

As of Oct 2021: 16,000
As of March 2024: 871,000

What changed?

POTUS implemented temporary changes to program rules.

Borrowers Approved for PSLF



PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS

REQUIREMENTS: ORIGINAL VS. IDR ADJUSTMENT (UNTIL 4/30/24)



PSLF Basic	IDR Adjustment
120 monthly payments	120 <i>“periods of repayment”</i>
On Direct Loans only	On Direct Loans only
While enrolled in a qualifying repayment plan	While enrolled in a qualifying repayment plan
While working full-time, directly for a qualifying employer	While working full-time, directly for a qualifying employer
When applying for and receiving PSLF	When applying for and receiving PSLF

**Months during the CARES Act Forbearance can count toward PSLF with proof of qualifying employment.*



STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

PSLF: NEXT STEPS TO APPLY

PSLF is for borrowers who work or have worked directly for qualifying employers after October 1, 2007.

Next steps:

- **Confirm employer eligibility**
 - Obtain your employer's EIN and login online to *studentaid.gov/pslf* to search the database of eligible employers
- **Know your loans**
 - Login online to *studentaid.gov* and verify your Loan Types.
- **Decision point: Consolidate?**
 - Apply online at *studentaid.gov* by **April 30, 2024**.
- **Certify your employment**
 - Use the PSLF Help Tool *studentaid.gov/pslf*.
 - Submit the application ASAP.



STEP 1: CONFIRM EMPLOYER ELIGIBILITY

SEARCH BY EIN: VALID FOR EMPLOYERS AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2007

PSLF requires working an average of 30 hours/week as a direct employee. Locate the EIN on your W-2 and enter the nine digits with no dashes.

Example: 5 2 6 0 0 2 0 3 3

52-6002033
STATE OF MARYLAND
100 STATE CIR. ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 US

Eligible  

To verify other employers, obtain the EINs from your W-2(s). Visit studentaid.gov/pslf and select

→ **Search Qualifying Employers**

→ **Search**

STEP 2: KNOW YOUR LOANS

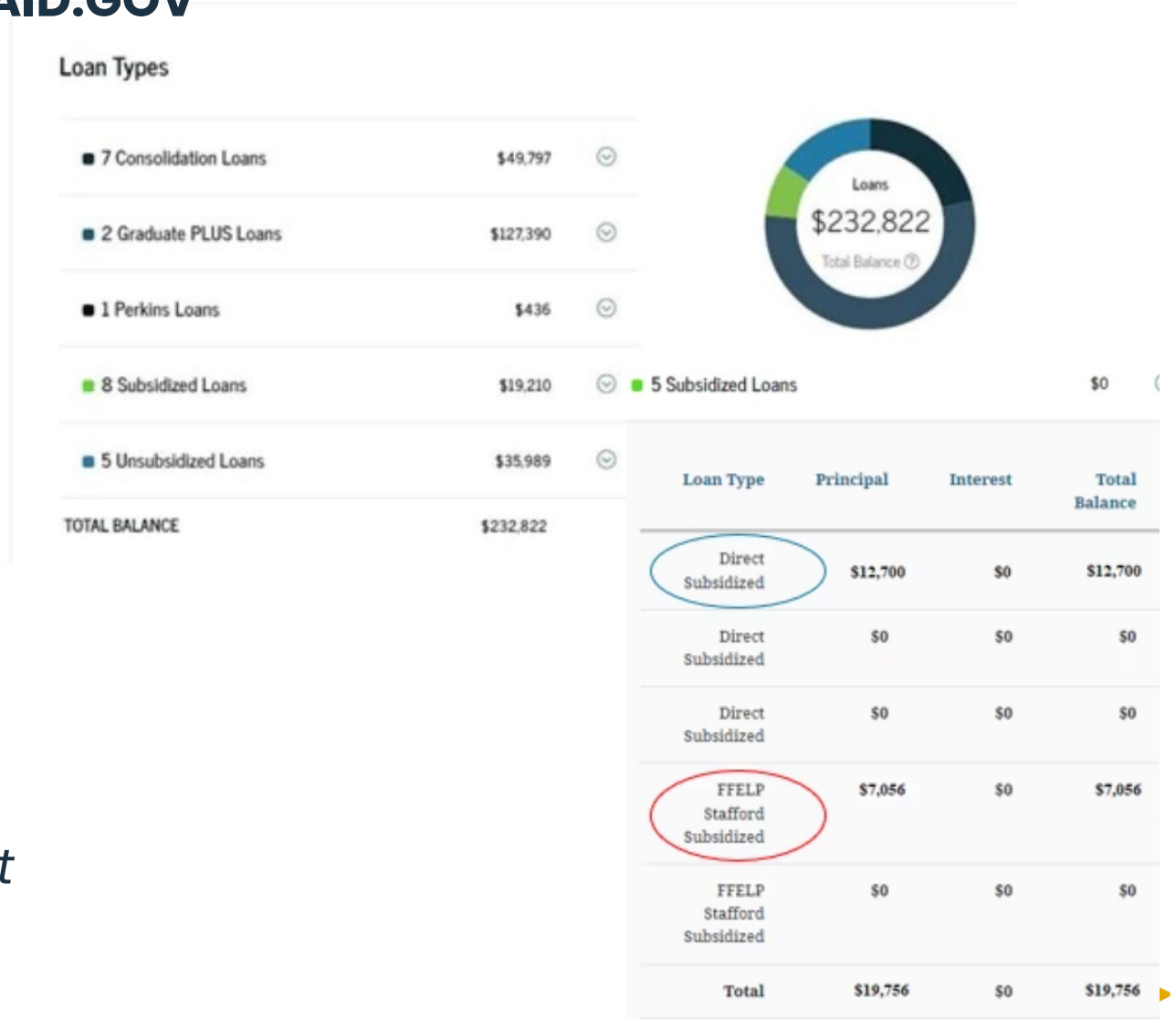
VERIFY YOUR LOAN TYPES AT STUDENTAID.GOV

Log in to studentaid.gov

1. In the My Aid section, click **View Details**.
2. Scroll down to **Loan Types**.
3. For each Loan Type, click the down arrow next to the dollar amount to expand the list of loans.
4. Look at each loan with a remaining balance. Does the Loan Type include the word "Direct"?

Direct Loans qualify for PSLF.

Note for Parent PLUS Loan borrowers:
Direct Parent PLUS Loans must be consolidated for future payments to count toward PSLF.



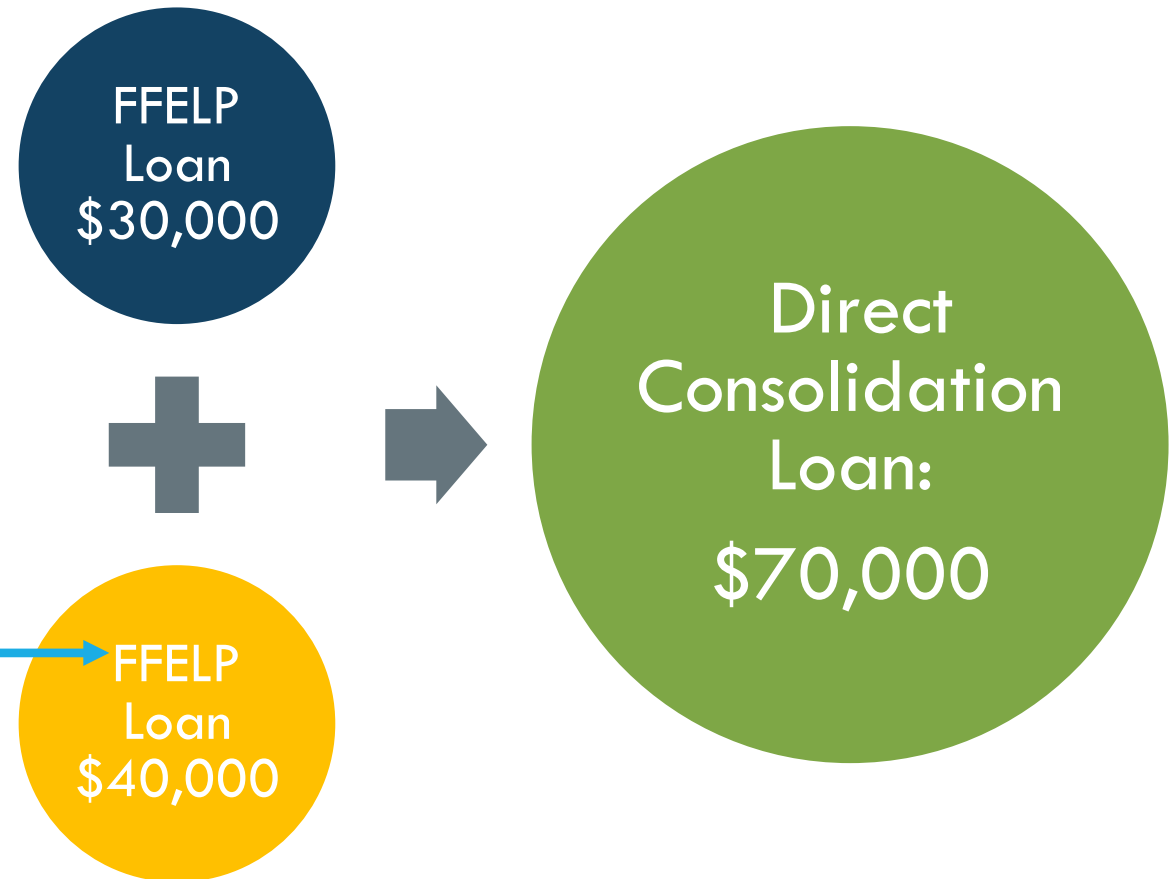
STEP 3: DECISION POINT

DO YOU NEED TO CONSOLIDATE? COMPLETE THE APPLICATION AT [STUDENTAID.GOV](https://studentaid.gov)

Non-Direct Loans **must be consolidated to be considered for PSLF.**

Consolidation pays off existing loans and creates one new loan for the same overall amount.

- The application is free.
- There is no origination fee.
- Your interest rate will not skyrocket.
- Outstanding interest will capitalize but the goal is total forgiveness.



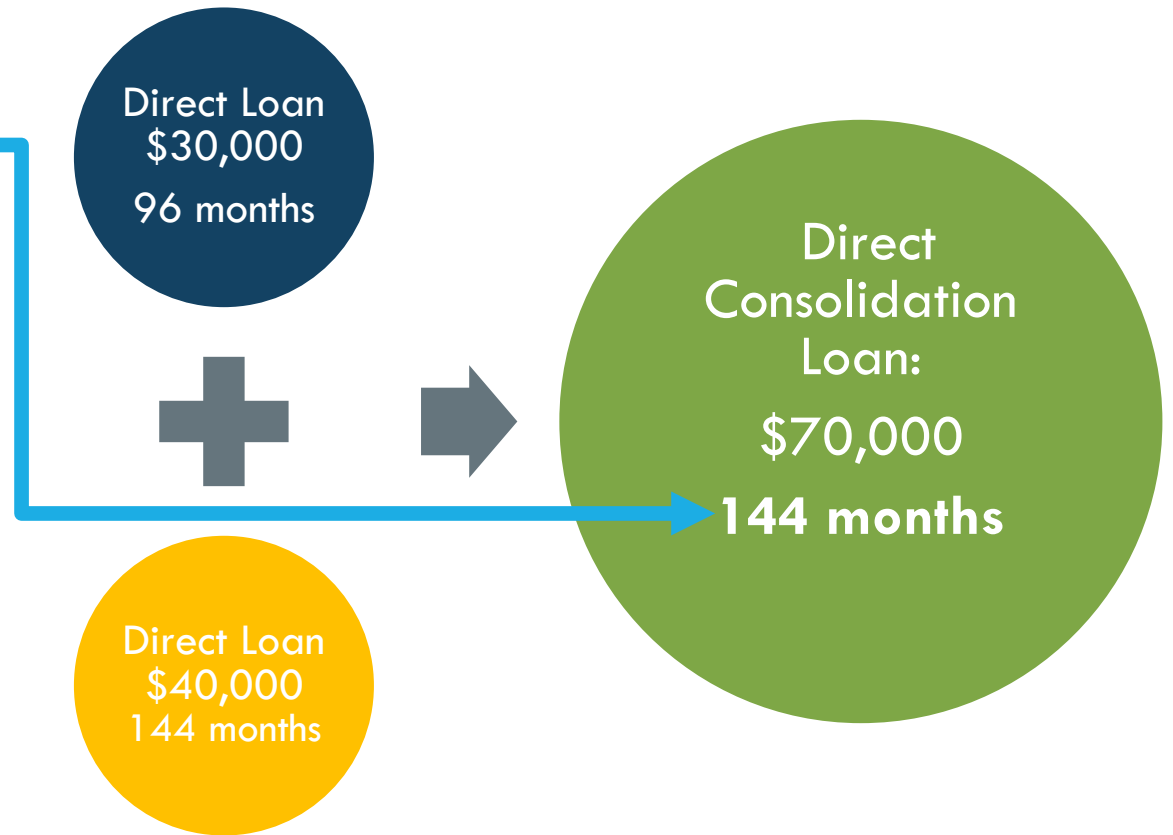
STEP 3: DECISION POINT

SHOULD YOU CONSOLIDATE? COMPLETE THE APPLICATION AT [STUDENTAID.GOV](https://studentaid.gov)

Direct Loans with different lengths of repayment history may benefit from consolidation.

Example: One loan has 96 months of history, another has 144 months.

Apply to consolidate by 4/30/24 for the entire consolidation loan to be credited with 144 months.



STEP 4: CERTIFY YOUR EMPLOYMENT

SUBMIT AN ERROR-FREE APPLICATION

Use the PSLF Help Tool at studentaid.gov/pslf

- Using the EIN, add each qualifying employer you have worked for since 10/1/07. You will need to indicate:
 - Start and ending employment dates
 - Average hours worked per week (contractual obligation)
 - An “authorized official” who will sign the application to verify your employment

Who is an “Authorized Official”?

Any person who can access and review employment information. Ask your manager or human resources representative if there is a designee for your organization.

You can obtain the signature of an authorized official manually or ****electronically.****

STEP 4: CERTIFY YOUR EMPLOYMENT

SUBMIT AN ERROR-FREE APPLICATION

- Intro: Help Tool Overview
- Step 1: Employment History
 - Click “Add Employer”
 - Enter the EIN without dashes
 - Toggle “This is my current employer”
 - Select Employment dates (select the year first)

Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Help Tool

1 Employment History 2 Loan Eligibility 3 Form Type 4 Personal Information 5 Review 6 Sign

Search for Employer ⓘ

Employer Identification Number (EIN)

How do I find my EIN?

This is my current employer

Employment Start Date To Employment End Date

52-6002033 Eligible ⓘ

STATE OF MARYLAND
100 STATE CIR. ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 US

STEP 4: CERTIFY YOUR EMPLOYMENT

SUBMIT AN ERROR-FREE APPLICATION

- Step 1: Employment History (cont'd)
 - Hours per week
 - Contractual obligation
 - No decimals
 - **Adjunct faculty:** Use 3.35 hours per credit hour taught. *Example: Teaching two sections of 3 credit course equates to $2 \times 3 \times 3.35 = 20$ hours.*
- Step 2: Loan Eligibility
- Step 3: Form Type
 - Your answer does not affect eligibility.

Your Employment Details

Employment Status

Full-time

Part-time

Hours Per Week (Average)

Is this organization closed, or have they refused to certify your employment?

Yes

No

[Previous](#) [Save Employer](#)

Have you made 120 qualifying payments? ?

If you don't know, take your best guess! We will always review to see if you are eligible for forgiveness, so your answer won't negatively impact you in any way.

Why do we ask this question?

Yes, I have made 120 qualifying payments and qualify for forgiveness right now.

No, I haven't made 120 qualifying payments.

[Previous](#) [Continue](#)

STEP 4: CERTIFY YOUR EMPLOYMENT

SUBMIT AN ERROR-FREE APPLICATION

- Step 4: Personal Information
- Step 5: Review
- Step 6: Sign
 - Applicant
 - Employer (Provide email address to verify via DocuSign)

Understandings & Certification

To qualify for forgiveness, I must have made 120 qualifying payments on my Direct Loans while employed full-time by a qualifying employer. Neither the 120 qualifying payments nor employment have to be consecutive.

To qualify for forgiveness, I must be employed full-time by a qualifying employer when I apply for and get forgiveness.

By submitting this form, I understand that my student loans held by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) may be transferred to MOHELA.

If ED determines that I have met the initial eligibility criteria for forgiveness, it may contact my employer to confirm I remain an employee at the point my forgiveness is granted.

If I am eligible for forgiveness, the amount forgiven will be the principal and interest that was due on my eligible Direct Loans when I made my final qualifying payment. Any amount that I pay on those loans after I have made my final qualifying payment will be treated as an overpayment. I must continue to make payments on any of my other loans.

If I am not eligible for forgiveness, I will be notified of the determination, why it was made, and how many qualifying payments I have made towards PSLF and TEPSLF. If I requested forbearance while my eligibility was being determined, my loans will return to their active status.

Sign your PSLF form

- I, Tisa Silver Canady, certify that all of the information I have provided on this form and in any accompanying documentation is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and that if I cease to be employed by a qualifying employer after I submit this form, but before forgiveness is granted, I will notify ED immediately.

My Employers

Don't Have Your Employer's Email Address on Hand?

You can complete the PSLF Help Tool without your employer's email address and come back once you have it. When you're ready, go to My Activity to add it and send an electronic signature request or choose another method to sign the form.

STATE OF MARYLAND 52-6002033
Employment Period: 04/01/2024 - Current

How do you want this employer to sign your PSLF form?

Electronic Signature Manual Signature

Enter your employer's email address below and we'll send an electronic signature request to your employer on your behalf after you complete and submit your form. Also, tell your employer to expect an email sent from DocuSign (dse_NA4@docusign.net) on behalf of the Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid. *Please note: Your employer has 60 days to respond to a request for an e-signature.*

Employer's Email Address

I don't know my employer's email address and will add it later.

[Previous](#) [Continue](#)



PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS

GET ON TRACK AND STAY ON TRACK

Get on track: Submit your PSLF Application!

New graduate? Submit the PSLF Application once you begin working for a qualifying employer and then:

- every 12 months,
- when you change jobs, and
- after you make your 120th payment.

Experienced public servants

- <10 years since you borrowed a student loan: You may receive additional credit for past payments.
- 10+ years since you borrowed: Your debt could be cancelled within a few months.

Stay on track!

- Remain working for a qualifying employer.
- Enroll in a qualifying repayment plan. All IDR plans qualify for PSLF.

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

- **Office of Federal Student Aid: studentaid.gov**
 - Verify your loan types
 - Complete the application to consolidate
 - Apply for PSLF
- **Maryland Center for Collegiate Financial Wellness: mccfw.org**
 - MDTAPS: Maryland, tell a public servant!
 - **YouTube, X (Twitter), IG, Facebook: @themccfw**

QUESTIONS



Dr. Tisa Silver Canady
Facebook: Dr. Tisa Silver Canady
Twitter & IG: @tisasilver

Connect with us on
social media
@TheMCCFW