EXIT COUNSELING GUIDE

For Direct Loan℠ Borrowers

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EXIT COUNSELING GUIDE

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This guide provides a general overview of information that you will need to successfully repay the Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized, and Direct PLUS Loans that you've received to help pay for your college costs. For more detailed information about any of the topics covered in this guide, see your Master Promissory Note or your copy of the ***Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement.*** *Much of the information in this booklet is a part of exit counseling, which you must complete when you leave school. You may also take exit counseling on the Web—but check with your school to see if it requires its students to attend exit counseling sessions in person. All URLs were last accessed on February 17, 2010.*

Throughout this guide, the words "we," "us," and "our" refer to the U.S. Department of Education.

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April 2010

CONTACTS FOR YOUR DIRECT LOANS

Direct Loan℠ Servicing Center:

1-800-848-0979 or
(TTY) 1-800-848-0983

U.S. Department of Education
Direct Loan Servicing Center
P.O. Box 5609
Greenville, TX 75403-5609

Call the Direct Loan Servicing Center for all of your Direct Loan needs—especially if you're having trouble repaying your loan or if you need to report a change of address or name change.

Direct Loan Servicing Online: www.dl.ed.gov

You can use this Web site to look up your account information, request a deferment, make online payments, set up automatic payments, change your billing options, etc. You will need to use your Personal Identification Number (PIN) to see your account information. Most students receive their PINs in a separate mailing after they first apply for aid. If you can't find your PIN, you can request a new one from Direct Loan Servicing Online. (Direct Loans are also reported to the National Student Loan Data System℠, which may be viewed at **www.nslds.ed.gov** and includes your financial aid history for other federal student aid programs.)

* In most cases, the loans that you received were made under a Master Promissory Note (MPN). If your school used the multiyear feature of the MPN, your loans may have been made under a single MPN. The MPN is a legally binding agreement and contains the terms and conditions of your loans. You should keep the MPN and any other loan documents in a safe place. An MPN can generally be used for multiple loans for up to 10 years, so if you return to school later, you may be able to receive additional loans without signing a new MPN.

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Money management

Money management is just as important after you leave school as when you were attending. But your income will now come from work earnings rather than from student aid, and you'll probably have some different expenses when you start your new job. The following tips will help you manage your money so that you can meet your household expenses and keep making on-time loan payments. In the process, you will be establishing a good credit rating, which is a key to your financial independence.

(1) Use the notepad on page 12 to develop a budget that includes items like rent, car payments, utility bills, food, clothing, insurance, and entertainment so you have an accurate picture of your monthly expenses (in addition to your loan payments).

It's easy to underestimate or overlook some of these expenses, so you may want to round each of your estimated costs up. If your income is less than your expenses, you'll need to find ways to cut your expenses. If you find you just can't make the loan payments, check **Direct Loan Servicing Online** or call the Direct Loan Servicing Center to see if you qualify for deferment or forbearance.

(2) As a borrower, know your student loan rights and responsibilities.

Make sure to apply for a deferment if you're going back to school or are eligible for an unemployment or economic hardship deferment. (See the discussion of deferments and forbearance in this guide.) Keep the Direct Loan Servicing Center informed of your address, phone number and other information. If you are having trouble making payments under your current repayment plan, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center to discuss your options for changing repayment plans. Keep your loan paperwork in a safe place, including your promissory note, disclosure notices and billing statements. Remember, talk to the Direct Loan Servicing Center when you have questions or concerns.

(3) Make the most of your grace period.

Each of your Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans has a 6-month grace period, and you don't have to start making payments until it ends. Your grace period is an excellent time to get your finances in order. If you are working, you can use the grace period to get a head start on repaying your loans. By making some payments during the grace period, you can reduce the interest costs for your loan. These payments don't have to be set monthly amounts—you can choose to prepay some of your loan or just to pay the interest that is charged on any of your loans that are unsubsidized.

We report student loan information to national credit agencies. If you do not want these credit agencies to release your contact information to banks or other companies, which might use it for bulk mail or telephone offers, call the credit reporting industry's "Opt-Out" number at **1-888-567-8688**.

PHOTO: ©Jupiter Images Corporation, 2008.

(4) Pay the interest that accrues on your loans during periods when you aren't required to make loan payments.

If you pay the interest that is charged during the grace period and any periods of deferment and forbearance, it may save you a significant amount of money over the life of the loan. Start by making your interest payments a budget priority. Remember that paying a little more each month can save you many dollars later.

(5) Understand and limit credit card use.

Credit cards are one form of borrowing money, but they often carry a very high interest rate. Many credit cards give you a low interest rate for the first few months and then raise the rate after this initial period. If you decide you need a credit card, it's best to stick with one card with a low limit. Pay off your total balance each month. If that is not possible, always pay more than the minimum. If you make a payment late (even a day late!), you may have to pay a finance charge, and your interest rate may go up.

Repaying your loan

You may need some time to find the right job and perhaps move to a new place. The good news is that you won't have to start making payments on your loan right after you leave school. It is important that you understand the type of Direct Loan(s) you have received and when you must begin making payments.

▶ DIRECT SUBSIDIZED & UNSUBSIDIZED LOANS

Each of your Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans has a 6-month grace period that starts the day after you stop attending school or you drop below half-time enrollment. You don't have to make payments during this grace period.

▶ DIRECT PLUS LOANS

Graduate/professional student PLUS borrowers. If you are a graduate or professional student PLUS borrower, repayment is deferred while you're enrolled in school at least half-time, and for Direct PLUS Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2008, for an additional 6 months after you graduate or drop below half-time enrollment.

Parent PLUS Loan borrowers. Parent PLUS Loan borrowers may defer repayment of PLUS loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2008 while the student for whom the loan was borrowed is enrolled at least half-time and for an additional 6 months after that student is no longer enrolled. Parent borrowers must apply for this deferment. Contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center to apply and to learn more information about this deferment.

The Direct Loan Servicing Center will notify you of the date your first payment is due and will send billing notices to the address that it has on file. However, you must make payments on your loans even if you do not receive a bill or repayment notice.

If you are a reservist called to active duty for more than 30 days, be sure to contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center to let us know your status. The time you serve generally doesn't count against your grace period—see your copy of the *Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement.*

Repayment plans

You may choose one of the following repayment plans to repay your loan. If you don't choose a repayment plan, we will place you on the Standard Repayment Plan. You can change repayment plans at any time after you begin repaying your loan.

Standard Repayment Plan—You will make fixed monthly payments and repay your loan within 10 years from the date the loan entered repayment (not including periods of deferment or forbearance). Your payments must be at least $50 a month and will be more if that is necessary to repay the loan within the required time period.

Graduated Repayment Plan—Your payments will be lower at first and then will increase, usually every 2 years. You must repay your loan **in full within 10 years** (not including periods of deferment or forbearance). At a minimum, your payments must cover the interest that accumulates on your loan between payments.

Extended Repayment Plan—You will make fixed or graduated monthly payments and repay your loan in full over a period of time, **not to exceed 25 years** (not including periods of deferment or forbearance).

* To be eligible for the Extended Repayment Plan, you must have more than $30,000 in Direct Loan debt and you must not have had an outstanding balance on a Direct Loan on Oct. 7, 1998.

Income Contingent Repayment 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 Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans. As your income changes, your payments may change. If the loan isn't fully repaid after 25 years under this plan, the unpaid portion will be forgiven. You may have to pay income tax on any amount forgiven. Note that Direct PLUS Loans made to parent borrowers may not be repaid under this repayment plan.

Income-Based Repayment Plan (IBR)—This is a new repayment plan for Direct Loans, except parent Direct PLUS Loans or Direct Consolidation Loans that repaid parent PLUS loans. Under this plan, your required monthly payment is capped at an amount that is intended to be affordable based on your income and family size. To initially qualify for the IBR Plan, you must have a partial financial hardship. You are considered to have a partial financial hardship if the monthly amount you would be required to pay on your eligible loans under a Standard Repayment Plan with a 10-year repayment period is more than the monthly amount you would have to repay under the IBR Plan. If you repay under this plan for 25 years and meet other requirements, you may have any remaining balance of your loan(s) forgiven. For more detailed information about this plan, or to download an IBR fact sheet, go to the Direct Loan Web site at: **www.direct.ed.gov**. See the charts on pages 13–14 of this guide to get an idea of maximum monthly payment amounts for a sample range of incomes and family size.

You can get more information about these plans and also calculate your estimated repayments under each plan by going to **the Direct Loan Web site: www.direct.ed.gov**.

Things to consider

If you have a loan balance of $10,000 or less and a job right out of school, you may want to go with the Standard Repayment plan. If you've borrowed more than $10,000 and your starting salary is relatively low, you might want to consider the Graduated, Income-Contingent, or Income-Based Repayment plan. But remember: you are likely to pay more interest with these plans. You can use the charts on pages 13–14 of this guide to estimate the monthly and total amounts you would repay under these plans. If you have exceptional circumstances that aren't met by these repayment plans, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center—we may be able to provide you with an alternative repayment plan.

You may be tempted to go with the easiest repayment terms right out of school, and you may end up paying for that decision. Extending the repayment period or reducing payments while your loan principal is high will significantly increase your interest costs. There is no penalty if you make loan payments before they are due or pay more than the amount due each month.

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Simplify your life and save money, too!

Sign up to make your loan payments electronically and we'll knock 0.25% off your interest rate while you repay under this option! When we send your first bill, we'll tell you how to sign up for an Electronic Debit Account (EDA) and have your bank automatically make your monthly loan payments for you. You won't have to write checks, use stamps, or worry if the payment will get to us by the due date. (You can also find out about EDA at Direct Loan Servicing Online or by calling the Servicing Center at 1-800-848-0983.)

Payment of interest & capitalization

All Direct Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2006, have a fixed interest rate. The interest rate on Direct Subsidized Loans for undergraduate students is based on the first disbursement date as listed in the table below. Note that the interest rate for Direct Subsidized Loans for graduate/professional students and Unsubsidized loans for all students is fixed at 6.8% and the interest rate for a Direct PLUS Loan is 7.9%.

Interest Rates for Direct Subsidized Loans	
First Disbursement Date of Your Loan	**Interest Rate**
On or after July 1, 2006 and prior to July 1, 2008	6.8%
On or after July 1, 2008 and prior to July 1, 2009	6.0%
On or after July 1, 2009 and prior to July 1, 2010	5.6%
On or after July 1, 2010 and prior to July 1, 2011	4.5%
On or after July 1, 2011 and prior to July 1, 2012	3.4%

You may be able to deduct some or all of the interest that you pay on your Direct Loans. See IRS Publication 970 (available at www.irs.ustreas.gov).

We do not charge interest on *subsidized* loans while you are enrolled at least half-time, during your grace period and during deferment periods, and certain periods 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 unsubsidized and PLUS loans during all periods (starting on the day your loan is disbursed). Therefore, you will pay more interest on an unsubsidized or PLUS loan than on a subsidized loan.

Interest is not charged on Direct Loans first disbursed on or after Oct. 1, 2008, during periods of qualifying active duty military service (up to 60 months). For Direct Consolidation Loans, this benefit applies only to the portion that was used to pay back loans first disbursed to you on or after Oct. 1, 2008.

If you choose not to pay the interest that accrues during periods when you're not required to make loan payments, we will add the unpaid interest to the unpaid principal amount of your loan. This is called "capitalization." Capitalization increases the total amount you will have to repay because you'll have to pay interest on this higher principal balance.

To give you an example, if you get a one-year deferment on repaying $15,000 in unsubsidized loans and choose to capitalize the interest that accrues over that year, at the end of the deferment instead of paying the interest as it accrues, your monthly payments will be $11 higher and the total amount you repay over a 10-year repayment period under the Standard Repayment Plan will be $389 more (based on an interest rate of 6.8%). To get a better idea of how capitalization would affect your payments, use the interest calculator on the **Direct Loan Web site** at: **www.direct.ed.gov.**

You are not responsible for paying the interest on subsidized loans during a period of deferment. However, you are responsible for paying the interest on your *unsubsidized* and student PLUS loans during a period of deferment. You are responsible for paying the interest on all loans during a period of forbearance.

Avoiding delinquency & default

If you think you might have a problem making the scheduled payments on your loans, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center immediately to discuss other repayment plan options and whether you are eligible for a deferment or a forbearance.

You are delinquent if your monthly payment is not received by the due date. If you fail to make a payment, we'll send you a reminder that your payment is late. If your account remains delinquent, we'll send you warning notices reminding you of your obligation to repay your loans and the consequences of default. Late fees may be added, and your delinquency will be reported to one or more national credit agencies.

Default occurs when you become 270 days delinquent in making payments on your loans. If you default:

- The entire unpaid amount of your loan becomes due and payable.
- We will report your default to national credit agencies.
- We may sue you, take all or part of your federal tax refund or other federal payments, or garnish your wages so that your employer is required to send us part of your salary to pay off your loan.
- You'll have to pay collection fees and costs, plus court costs and attorney fees.
- You'll lose eligibility for other federal student aid and most other federal benefit programs.
- You'll no longer be eligible for loan deferments (such as deferments while you're in school, unemployed, or experiencing economic hardship).

Deferment & forbearance (postponing payments)

In some cases, you can get a **deferment** that allows you to temporarily stop making payments on your loan. You may receive a deferment while you are:

- Enrolled at least half-time at a school that's eligible to participate in the Department's FSA programs, or studying full-time in a graduate fellowship program, or an approved disability rehabilitation program.
- Unemployed or meet our rules for economic hardship.*

You may also be eligible for a deferment based on qualifying active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard. Refer to the Master Promissory Note for your loan or contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center for more information about specific qualifications for deferment based on military service.

* Deferment limited to a total of 3 years.

In most cases, you need to submit a deferment request to the Direct Loan Servicing Center along with documentation of your eligibility for the deferment. Visit Direct Loan Servicing Online for more deferment information and forms, or call the Servicing Center for assistance. If you've gone back to school and the Direct Loan Servicing Center receives enrollment information that shows you're enrolled at least half-time, the Servicing Center will automatically put your loans into deferment and notify you. (You have the option of cancelling the deferment and continuing to make payments on your loan.)

You may be eligible to receive additional deferments if you received a federal student loan before July 1, 1993. Check your copy of the *Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement* for details on these older deferments.

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

If you can't make your scheduled loan payments, but don't qualify for a deferment, we may be able to 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. Some common reasons for getting a forbearance are illness, financial hardship or serving in a medical or dental internship or residency. (See your copy of the *Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement* for more examples. You can get more information and forbearance forms from Direct Loan Servicing Online or by calling the Direct Loan Servicing Center.)

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 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 Direct Subsidized, Unsubsidized, and PLUS Loans during any period of forbearance.

You may have received an "up-front interest rebate"—the notice we send you will tell you if you received it. To keep the rebate, you must make all of your first 12 monthly payments on time when your loan enters repayment. If you lose the rebate, we will add the rebate amount back to your loan balance.

Conditions for cancelling all or part of your loan

If you are a new borrower* and are a **full-time teacher in a low-income elementary or secondary school** for 5 consecutive years, you may be able to have as much as $17,500 of your subsidized or unsubsidized loans cancelled. See our *Stafford Loan Forgiveness Program for Teachers* brochure online at: **www.studentaid.ed.gov** or contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center (**1-800-848-0979**) for more information.

If you make 120 payments on your Direct Loans after Oct. 1, 2007 while employed in certain public service jobs, the remaining balance that you owe may be forgiven. Only payments made under certain repayment plans may be counted toward the required 120 payments. You must not be in default on the loans that are forgiven. Parent PLUS borrowers also may qualify. You can read more about the Public Loan Forgiveness Program on Student Aid on the Web at: **www.studentaid.ed.gov**.

In certain cases, you may be able to have all or a part of your loan cancelled because:

- Your school closed before you completed your program.
- Your school forged your signature on your promissory note or falsely certified that you were eligible to get the loan.
- Your loan was falsely certified because of identity theft (additional requirements apply).
- You withdrew from school but the school didn't pay a refund that it owed under its written policy or our regulations. Check with the school to see how refund policies apply to federal aid at the school.

In general, you must repay your loan even if you don't graduate, can't find work in your field of study or are dissatisfied with the education program.

Your loan may be discharged if you are determined to be **totally and permanently disabled** and you meet certain requirements during a 3-year conditional discharge period. To apply for this discharge, you must provide a physician's statement that you became totally and permanently disabled after the loan was made. See your copy of the *Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement* for more information on the procedures and conditions for this discharge.

Your loan may be cancelled if it is discharged in **bankruptcy**. This is not an automatic process —you must prove to the bankruptcy court that repaying the loan would cause undue hardship.

The last provision is cancellation for **death**. To cancel the loan, a family member or other representative must provide an original or a copy of the original or a certified copy of the death certificate to the Direct Loan Servicing Center.

Go to **Direct Loan Servicing Online** at **www.dl.ed.gov** or call the Servicing Center for more information or to get a cancellation form. You can also find more information in your copy of the *Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities Statement*.

* You are considered a new borrower if you did not have an outstanding balance on a Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) or Direct Loan on Oct. 1, 1998, or on the date you obtained an FFEL or Direct Loan after Oct. 1, 1998. For information about the FFEL Program go to Student Aid on the Web at: **www.studentaid.ed.gov**.

Loan consolidation

There may be advantages to consolidating (combining) your federal student loans into one loan, starting with the convenience of making a single monthly payment. Consolidation generally extends the repayment period, resulting in a lower 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. You can use the chart on page 14 of this guide to estimate the monthly and total amounts you would repay if you consolidate your loans. Contact the Direct Loan Consolidation Center for more information about loan consolidation at **1-800-557-7392, TTY** for the hearing-impaired at **1-800-557-7395**. The Direct Loan Consolidation Web site also has an online calculator that you can use to find out how much you'll pay each month if you consolidate.

Go to: www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov

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The FSA Ombudsman works with federal student loan borrowers to resolve loan disputes or problems from an impartial, independent viewpoint. If you have a problem with a federal student loan, you should contact the holder of the loan (for Direct Loans, contact the Direct Loan Servicing Center) and try to resolve the problem. If you can't resolve the problem with the loan holder, contact the FSA Ombudsman at **1-877-557-2575** or **www.ombudsman.ed.gov**.

NOTEPAD

Student Loans

Total amount borrowed:

Expected start of repayment:

Contact Information

Direct Loan Servicing Center
P.O. Box 5609
Greenville, TX 75403-5609
1-800-848-0979 or
(TTY) 1-800-848-0983
Web site: www.dl.ed.gov

Job Resources

Occupational Outlook Handbook—average current salaries in different career fields
www.bls.gov/oco

America's Job Bank—listings for current jobs
www.ajb.org

Reminders

- You will receive a sample **monthly repayment schedule** based on the total amount that you borrowed from the Direct Loan Program. (This will be either given to you as a part of exit counseling or mailed to you.) Of course, you can get an estimate of your loan payments at any time by using the repayment calculator on the **Direct Loan Web site** at: **www.direct.ed.gov**.

- Your school will need to get contact information when you leave school: your expected permanent address (where you plan to live after you leave school); the address of your next of kin; and the name and address of your expected employer (if you have a job lined up).

Monthly budget

Estimated monthly loan payment:

Rent or mortgage payment:

Utilities:
(gas, electric, phone, cable)

Transportation:
(car payments, gas)

Groceries:

Entertainment/ dining out:

Average allowance for non-monthly expenses:
(car & health insurance, clothing, vacation, car & home repairs and other unpredictable expenses)

Total expenses:

ESTIMATED MONTHLY SALARY:

- You are required to notify the **Direct Loan Servicing Center** if you change your name, address, telephone number, or employer (or if your employer's address or telephone number changes), or if you have any change in status that would affect your loan (for instance, you no longer meet the eligibility requirements for a deferment). This is essential—one of the most common reasons a loan goes into default is because the borrower fails to report these kinds of changes.

Estimated Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loan Repayment Amounts, by Type of Repayment Plan and Debt Amounts

Estimated Monthly Payments Under the Standard, Extended (fixed and graduated), and Graduated Repayment Plans[a]

Debt When Loan Enters Repayment	Standard		Extended[b] Fixed		Extended[b] Graduated		Graduated	
	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month[c]	Total
$5,000	$58	$6,904	Not Available		Not Available		$40	$7,275
10,000	115	13,809	Not Available		Not Available		79	14,550
25,000	288	34,524	Not Available		Not Available		198	36,375
50,000	575	69,048	347	104,109	284	112,678	396	72,749
100,000	1,151	138,096	694	208,217	568	225,344	792	145,498

Estimated Monthly Payments Under the Income Contingent and Income-Based Repayment Plans[a]

Debt When Loan Enters Repayment	Income Contingent[d] Income = $25,000				Income-Based[d] Income = $25,000			
	Single		Married/HOH[e]		Single		Married/HOH[e]	
	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total
$5,000	$37	$8,347	$36	$11,088	N/A	N/A	$39	$8,005
10,000	75	16,699	71	22,158	$110	$13,672	39	16,081
25,000	186	41,748	178	55,440	110	45,014	39	60,754
50,000	247	93,322	189	122,083	110	109,623	39	92,704
100,000	247	187,553	189	170,153	110	118,058	39	97,020

[a]Payments were calculated using a fixed interest rate of 6.8% for Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2006.

[b]To be eligible for the Extended Repayment Plan (fixed or graduated), you must have more than $30,000 in Direct Loan debt and you must not have had an outstanding balance on a Direct Loan on Oct. 7, 1998.

[c]This is your beginning payment, which may increase during your 10-year repayment term.

[d]Assumes a 5% annual income growth (Census Bureau).

[e]HOH is Head of Household. Assumes a family size of two.

For more customized estimates, use the online repayment calculator at: www.direct.ed.gov.

Estimated Direct PLUS Loan Repayment Amounts, by Type of Repayment Plan and Debt Amounts

Estimated Monthly Payments Under the Standard, Graduated, and Extended Repayment Plans[a]						
Debt When Loan Enters Repayment	Standard		Graduated		Extended[b]	
	Per Month	Total	Per Month[c]	Total	Per Month	Total
$5,000	$60	$7,248	$42	$7,694	Not Available	
10,000	121	14,496	84	15,388	Not Available	
25,000	302	36,240	211	38,472	Not Available	
50,000	604	72,480	422	76,942	383	114,781
100,000	1,208	144,960	844	153,882	765	229,561
130,000	1,570	188,448	1,097	200,047	995	298,429
150,000	1,812	217,440	1,266	230,824	1,148	344,342

[a]The estimated payments were calculated using the maximum interest rate for Direct PLUS Loan borrowers, 7.9%.

[b]To be eligible for the Extended Repayment Plan, you must have more than $30,000 in Direct Loan debt and you must not have had an outstanding balance on a Direct Loan on Oct. 7, 1998. This example shows fixed monthly payments.

[c]This is your beginning payment, which may increase.

Estimated Direct Consolidation Loan Repayment Amounts, by Type of Repayment Plan and Debt Amounts

Estimated Monthly Payments Under the Standard, Extended (fixed & graduated) and Graduated Repayment Plans[a]								
Debt When Loan Enters Repayment	Standard		Extended Fixed[b]		Extended Graduated[b]		Graduated	
	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total
$5,000	$61	$7,359	Not Available		Not Available		$38	$7,978
10,000	97	17,461	Not Available		Not Available		69	19,165
25,000	213	51,123	Not Available		Not Available		172	55,491
50,000	394	118,264	394	118,264	344	126,834	344	126,834
100,000	751	270,452	788	236,528	688	253,660	688	286,305

Debt When Loan Enters Repayment	Income-Contingent Income = $25,000				Income-Based Income = $25,000			
	Single		Married/HOH[c]		Single		Married/HOH[c]	
	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total	Per Month	Total
$5,000	$40	$9,414	$38	$12,294	$40	$9,414	$38	$12,294
10,000	80	18,828	77	24,587	80	18,828	77	24,587
25,000	201	47,069	189	61,588	201	47,069	189	61,588
50,000	247	106,630	189	137,766	247	106,630	189	137,766
100,000	247	187,553	189	170,153	247	187,553	189	170,153

[a]Payments are calculated using the maximum interest rate for consolidation loans, 8.25%.

[b]Assumes a 5% annual income growth (Census Bureau).

[c]HOH is Head of Household. Assumes a family size of two.

STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION

I have attended exit counseling for Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized, and Direct PLUS Loan borrowers. I understand that I must repay my loan according to the terms of my promissory note.

Student Information Section (Please print clearly.)

Name (last, first, middle initial) | Social Security Number | Date of Birth

Expected Permanent Address (street, city, state, zip code)

Home Area Code/Telephone Number | Driver's License (state and number)

Write N/A if you do not know the information requested for your expected employer.

Expected Employer (after leaving school) | Expected Employer's Area Code/Telephone Number

Expected Employer's Address (street, city, state, zip code)

You must list your next of kin with a U.S. address different from yours, who will know your whereabouts for at least 3 years.

1.
Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Area Code/Telephone Number

References: You must list 2 persons with different U.S. addresses, who will know your whereabouts for at least 3 years.

1.
Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Area Code/Telephone Number

Student's Signature

2.
Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Area Code/Telephone Number

Date

This page can be used to update your contact information at the Direct Loan Servicing Center. Your school is required to update this information with the Servicing Center after you've completed exit counseling. You are also required to notify the Servicing Center of any changes to this information after you leave school.

U.S. Department of Education • Direct Loan Servicing Center • P.O. Box 5609 • Greenville, TX 75403-5609
800-848-0979 • www.dl.ed.gov

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES SUMMARY CHECKLIST—EXIT COUNSELING

I understand that I have a right to the following (check all boxes that apply):

- ❑ Written information on my loan obligations and information on my rights and responsibilities as a borrower
- ❑ A grace period and an explanation of what this means
- ❑ A disclosure statement, received before I begin to repay my loan, that includes information about interest rates, fees, the balance I owe, and the number of payments
- ❑ Deferment of repayment or forbearance for certain defined periods, if I qualify and if I request deferment or forbearance
- ❑ Prepayment of my loan in whole or in part anytime without an early-repayment penalty
- ❑ A copy of my MPN either before or at the time my loan is disbursed
- ❑ Documentation that my loan is paid in full

I understand I am responsible for:

- ❑ Completing exit counseling before I leave school or drop below half-time enrollment
- ❑ Repaying my loan even if I do not complete my academic program, I am dissatisfied with the education I received, or I am unable to find employment after I graduate
- ❑ Notifying the Direct Loan Servicing Center if I:
  - Move/change my address;
  - Change my telephone number;
  - Change my name; or
  - Change employers or my employer's address or telephone number changes.
- ❑ Making monthly payments on my loan after my grace period ends, unless I have a deferment or a forbearance
- ❑ Notifying the Direct Loan Servicing Center of anything that might alter my eligibility for an existing deferment or forbearance

I have received exit counseling materials for Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized, and Direct PLUS Loan borrowers. I have read and I understand my rights and responsibilities as a borrower. I understand that I have a loan from the federal government that must be repaid.

Student's Name (Please Print)	Student's Social Security Number
Student's Signature	Date

Your school may ask you to complete and sign this checklist to document that you completed exit counseling.

NOTES

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

For general information about student aid and applying for student aid:

Federal Student Aid Information Center
1-800-4-FED-AID
1-800-433-3243
(TTY 1-800-730-8913)

Student Aid on the Web:
www.studentaid.ed.gov

Visit the Web site or call for general information about student aid. From the Web site, you can access a variety of student aid publications in English and Spanish, including **Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid**, *a comprehensive overview of the financial aid process.*

For information about everything related to Direct Loan Repayment:

Borrower Services at the Direct Loan Servicing Center
1-800-848-0979
(TTY 1-800-848-0983)

Direct Loan Servicing Online:
www.dl.ed.gov

For information about Direct Loans:

Direct Loan Web site:
www.direct.ed.gov

Track your outstanding federal student loans:

National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Web site:
www.NSLDS.ed.gov

Note: NSLDS only tracks federal student loans; you will need to track any private education loans you may have using your own records.

For everything you need to know about Direct Consolidation Loans, including an online application:

Direct Loan Consolidation Center
1-800-557-7392
(TTY 1-800-557-7395)

Direct Loan Consolidation Web site:
www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov