PSLF

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 correct the following information.

☐ **Check this box if any of your information has changed.**

SSN _____

Date of Birth _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone - Primary _____

Telephone - Alternate _____

Email _____

For more information on PSLF, visit StudentAid.gov/publicservice. To apply online, visit StudentAid.gov/PSLF.

SECTION 2: BORROWER REQUEST, UNDERSTANDINGS, AND CERTIFICATION

I request (1) that the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) determine whether I qualify for PSLF or TESPLF, and discharge any qualifying loans that I have, and **(2)** if none of my loans qualify for PSLF or TEPSLF when I submit this form, determine how many qualifying payments I have made towards PSLF and TEPSLF.

☐ I just want to find out how many qualifying payments I have made or if my employer is a qualified employer.

☐ I believe I qualify for forgiveness under PSLF or TEPSLF right now.

☐ If I indicated that I believe I qualify for forgiveness now, I want a forbearance while my application is being processed, but understand that periods of forbearance do not count towards forgiveness.

I understand that:

1. 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.
2. To qualify for forgiveness, I must be employed full-time by a qualifying employer when I apply for and get forgiveness.
3. By submitting this form, my student loans held by the Department may be transferred to FedLoan Servicing.
4. If the Department determines that I appear to be eligible for forgiveness, the Department may contact my employer before granting forgiveness to ensure that I continue to work for the employer.
5. 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.
6. 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.

I certify that all of the information I have provided on this form and in any accompanying document 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 application, but before forgiveness is granted, I will notify the Department (see Section 7) immediately.

☐ Check this box if you cannot obtain certification from your employer because the organization is closed or because the organization has refused to certify your employment. The Department will follow up to assist you in getting documentation of your employment. **Complete Section 3, but do not complete Section 4.**

Borrower's Signature _____ **Date** _____

Borrower Name _____ **Borrower SSN** _____

SECTION 3: EMPLOYER INFORMATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE BORROWER OR EMPLOYER)

1. Employer Name:

2. Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN)

_____

3. Employer Address:

4. Employer Website (if any):

_____

5. Employment Begin Date:

_____

6. Employment End Date:

_____ **OR** ☐ Still Employed

7. Employment Status: ☐ Full-Time ☐ Part-Time

8. Hours Per Week (Average) _____

Include vacation, leave time, or any leave taken under the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993. If your employer is a 501(c)(3) or a not-for-profit organization, do not include any hours you spent on **religious instruction, worship services, or proselytizing**.

9. Is your employer a **governmental** organization?

A governmental organization is a Federal, State, local, or Tribal government organization, agency, or entity, a public child or family service agency, a Tribal college or university, or the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps.

☐ Yes - Skip to Section 4.

☐ No - Continue to Item 10.

10. Is your employer tax-exempt under Section **501(c)(3)** of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC)?

If your employer is tax-exempt under another subsection of 501(c) of the IRC, such as 501(c)(4) or 501(c)(6), check "No" to this question.

☐ Yes - Skip to Section 4.

☐ No - Continue to Item 11.

11. Is your employer a **not-for-profit** organization that is **not** tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code?

☐ Yes - Continue to Item 12.

☐ No - Your employer does not qualify.

12. Is your employer a partisan political organization or a labor union?

☐ Yes - Your employer does not qualify.

☐ No - Continue to Item 13.

13. Which of the following services does your employer provide? Check all that apply and then continue to Section 4. If you check "None of the above", do not submit this form.

☐ Emergency management

☐ Military service (See Section 6)

☐ Public safety

☐ Law enforcement

☐ Public interest legal services (See Section 6)

☐ Early childhood education (See Section 6)

☐ Public service for individuals with disabilities

☐ Public service for the elderly

☐ Public health (See Section 6)

☐ Public education

☐ Public library services

☐ School library services

☐ Other school-based services

☐ None of the above - the employer does not qualify.

SECTION 4: EMPLOYER CERTIFICATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE EMPLOYER)

By signing, **I certify (1)** that the information in Section 3 is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, **(2)** that I am an authorized official (see Section 6) of the organization named in Section 3, and **(3)** that the borrower named in Section 1 is or was an employee of the organization named in Section 3.

Note: If any of the information is crossed out or altered in Section 3, you must initial those changes.

Official's Name _____ Official's Phone _____

Official's Title _____ Official's Email _____

Authorized Official's Signature _____ **Date** _____

SECTION 5: INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FORM

When completing this form, type or print using dark ink. Enter dates as month-day-year (mm-dd-yyyy). Use only numbers. Example: March 14, 2016 = 03-14-2016. For more information about PSLF and how to use this form, visit StudentAid.gov/publicservice. **Return the completed form to the address shown in Section 7.**

SECTION 6: DEFINITIONS

QUALIFYING PAYMENT DEFINITIONS

Qualifying payments are on-time, full monthly payments made on an eligible loan after October 1, 2007 under a qualifying repayment plan while employed full-time by a qualifying employer.

An **on-time payment** is a payment made no more than 15 days after the due date for the payment.

Eligible loans are loans made under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program that are not in default.

Qualifying repayment plans for PSLF include the Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) plan, the Pay As You Earn (PAYE) plan, the Income-Based Repayment (IBR) plan, the Income-Contingent Repayment (ICR) plan, the Standard Repayment plan with a maximum 10-year repayment period, and any other Direct Loan repayment plan if payments are at least equal to the monthly payment amount that would be required under the Standard Repayment plan with a 10-year repayment period.

Qualifying repayment pans for TEPSLF include the qualifying repayment plans for PSLF, as well as the Graduated Repayment Plan, Extended Repayment Plan, Standard Repayment Plan for Direct Consolidation Loans, and Graduated Repayment Plan for Direct Consolidation Loans.

QUALIFYING EMPLOYMENT DEFINITIONS

A **Qualifying employer** includes the government, a not-for-profit organization that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a private not-for-profit organization that provides certain public services. Serving in an AmeriCorps or Peace Corps position is also qualifying employment.

Government includes a Federal, State, local or Tribal government organization, agency or entity; a public child or family service agency; or a Tribal college or university.

A **private not-for-profit organization** is an organization that is not organized for profit, is not a labor union, is not a partisan political organization, and provides at least one of the following public services: **(1)** emergency management, **(2)** military service, **(3)** public safety, **(4)** law enforcement, **(5)** public interest legal services, **(6)** early childhood education, **(7)** public service for individuals with disabilities and the elderly, **(8)** public health, **(9)** public education, **(10)** public library services, **(11)** school library services, or **(12)** other school-based services.

AmeriCorps position means a position approved by the Corporation for National and Community Service under Section 123 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12573).

QUALIFYING EMPLOYMENT DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)

Peace Corps position means a full-time assignment under the Peace Corps Act as provided for under 22 U.S.C. 2504.

An employee means an individual who is hired and paid by the qualifying employer.

Full-time means working for one or more qualifying employers for the greater of: **(1)** an annual average of at least 30 hours per week or, for a contractual or employment period of at least 8 months, an average of 30 hours per week; or **(2)** unless the qualifying employment is with two or more employers, the number of hours the employer considers full time.

An **authorized official** is an official of a qualifying employer who has access to the borrower's employment or service records and is authorized by the employer to certify the employment status of the organization's employees or former employees, or the service of AmeriCorps or Peace Corps volunteers.

Early childhood education includes licensed or regulated child care, Head Start, and State funded pre-kindergarten.

Law enforcement means crime prevention, control or reduction of crime, or the enforcement of criminal law.

Military service means service on behalf of the U. S. Armed Forces or the National Guard.

Public interest legal services refers to legal services that are funded in whole or in part by a local, State, Federal, or Tribal government.

Public health includes nurses, nurse practitioners, nurses in a clinical setting, and full-time professionals engaged in health care practitioner occupations, health support occupations, and counselors, social Workers, and other community and social service specialists as such terms are defined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

OTHER DEFINITIONS

A **forbearance** is a period during which you are allowed to postpone making payments temporarily, allowed an extension of time for making payments, or temporarily allowed to make smaller payments than scheduled.

SECTION 7: WHERE TO SEND THE COMPLETED FORM

Return the completed form and any documentation to:

Mail to: U.S. Department of Education, FedLoan Servicing, P.O. Box 69184, Harrisburg, PA 17106-9184.

Fax to: 717-720-1628.

Upload to: **MyFedLoan.org/FileUpload**, if FedLoan Servicing is already your servicer.

If you need help completing this form, call:

Domestic: 855-265-4038.
International: 717-720-1985.
TTY: dial 711, then enter 800-699-2908.

Website: **MyFedLoan.org**.

SECTION 8: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PSLF AND TEPSLF

You may receive loan forgiveness only after you have made 120 qualifying payments on eligible loans while working full-time in qualifying employment. There are certain additional eligibility requirements for TEPSLF.

PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY

To receive PSLF, you must make 120 on-time, full, scheduled, separate monthly payments on your Direct Loans under a qualifying repayment plan after October 1, 2007.

On-time payments are those that are received by your servicer no later than 15 days after the scheduled payment due date.

Full payments are payments on your Direct Loan in an amount that equals or exceeds the amount you are required to pay each month. If you make multiple, partial payments in a month and the total of those partial payments equals the required full monthly payment amount, those payments will count as one qualifying payment provided all of the partial payments were made within 15 days of the due date.

Scheduled payments are those that are made while you are in repayment. They do not include payments made while your loans are in an in-school or grace status, or in a deferment or forbearance period.

If you were an AmeriCorps or Peace Corps volunteer, you may receive credit for making qualifying payments if you make a lump sum payment by using all or part of a Segal Education Award or Peace Corps transition payment.

You may also receive credit for qualifying payments if a lump sum payment is made on your behalf through a student loan repayment program administered by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD).

If you make a lump sum payment by using an AmeriCorps Segal Education Award or a Peace Corps transition payment, or if a lump sum payment is made on your behalf through a DOD student loan repayment program, the Department will give you credit for qualifying payments equal to the lesser of **(1)** the number of payments resulting after dividing the amount of the lump sum payment by the monthly payment amount you would have made under one of the qualifying repayment plans listed below; or **(2)** 12 payments.

PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

If you make an eligible lump sum payment using a Peace Corps transition payment, you must do so within 6 months of the Employment End Date, as reported in Section 3.

You may only use an AmeriCorps Segal Education Award or Peace Corps transition payment one time to receive credit for more than one qualifying payment towards PSLF. However, lump sum payments made on your behalf under a DOD student loan repayment program may be counted as up to 12 qualifying payments for each year that a lump sum payment is made.

Your payments must be made under a qualifying repayment plan. Qualifying repayment plans for PSLF include the REPAYE plan, the PAYE plan, the IBR plan, the ICR plan, the 10-Year Standard Repayment plan, or any other Direct Loan repayment plan, but only payments that are at least equal to the monthly payment amount that would be required under the10-Year Standard Repayment plan. Qualifying repayment plans for TEPSLF include the qualifying repayment plans for PSLF, as well as Graduated, Extended, Standard Repayment Plan for Direct Consolidation Loans and Graduated Repayment Plan for Direct Consolidation Loans.

Though repayment plans other than the REPAYE, PAYE, IBR, and ICR plans are qualifying repayment plans for PSLF, you must enter REPAYE, PAYE, IBR, or ICR to have a remaining balance to forgive after becoming eligible for PSLF. Otherwise, your loans will be fully repaid within 10 years. To apply for these plans, visit StudentAid.gov/IDR.

IMPORTANT: The Standard Repayment Plan for Direct Consolidation Loans made on or after July 1, 2006 has repayment periods that range from 10 to 30 years. Monthly payments you make under this plan are qualifying payments for PSLF only if the repayment period is 10 years, which would be the case only if the total amount of the consolidation loan and your other eligible student loans is less than $7,500. This repayment plan is always a qualifying repayment plan for TEPSLF.

LOAN ELIGIBILITY

Only Direct Loan Program loans that are not in default are eligible for PSLF. Loans you received under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, the Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program, or any other student loan program are not eligible for PSLF.

If you have FFEL Program or Perkins Loan Program loans, you may consolidate them into a Direct Consolidation Loan to take advantage of PSLF. However, payments made on those loans before you consolidated them do not count as qualifying PSLF payments. In addition, if you made qualifying payments on a Direct Loan and then consolidate it into a Direct Consolidation Loan, you must start over making qualifying payments on the new Direct Consolidation Loan.

If you are planning to consolidate your FFEL Program or Perkins Loan Program loans into a Direct Consolidation Loan to take advantage of PSLF and do not have any Direct Loans, do not submit this form until you have consolidated your loans and have subsequently made 120 qualifying payments. The online application for Direct Consolidation Loans contains a section that allows you to indicate that you are consolidating your loans for PSLF. If you plan to consolidate Perkins Loan Program loans, first understand that Perkins Loan Program loans may be cancelled for certain types of public service. If you consolidate a Perkins Loan Program loan, you will no longer be eligible for Perkins cancellation. The online application is available at StudentAid.gov/consolidation. If you don't know whether you have Direct Loans, go to StudentAid.gov/dashboard.

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for PSLF, you must be an employee of a qualifying employer. An employee is someone who is hired and paid by the employer, and who receives an IRS Form W-2 from the employer. You may physically perform your work at a qualifying or non-qualifying organization, as long as you are an employee of a qualifying employer. If you are working at the location of or with an organization under contract with your employer, the organization that hired and pays you must be a qualifying employer, not the organization where you perform your work.

A qualifying organization is a government organization, a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), or a private not-for-profit organization that provides certain public services. Service in an AmeriCorps or Peace Corps position is also qualifying employment.

A private not-for-profit organization that is not a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRC may be a qualifying organization if it provides certain specified public services.

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

These services include **(1)** emergency management, military service, public safety, or law enforcement services, **(2)** public health services, **(3)** public education or public library services, **(4)** school library and other school-based services, **(5)** public interest legal services, **(6)** early childhood education, **(7)** public service for individuals with disabilities and the elderly. The organization must not be a business organized for profit, a labor union, or a partisan political organization.

Employment as a member of the U.S. Congress is not qualifying employment.

You must be employed full-time by your employer.

Generally, you must meet your employer's definition of full-time. However, for PSLF purposes, that definition must be at least an annual average of 30 hours per week. For purposes of the full-time requirement, your qualifying employment at a 501(c)(3) organization or a not-for-profit organization does not include time spent participating in religious instruction, worship services, or any form of proselytizing.

If you are a teacher or in another position under contract for at least eight out of 12 months, you meet the full-time standard if you work an average of at least 30 hours per week during the contractual period and receive credit by your employer for a full year's worth of employment.

If you are employed in more than one qualifying part-time job simultaneously, you may meet the full-time employment requirement if you work a combined average of at least 30 hours per week with your employers.

Vacation or leave time provided by the employer or leave taken for a condition that is a qualifying reason for leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29, U.S.C. 2612(a)(1) and (3) is equivalent to hours worked in qualifying employment.

TEPSLF ELIGBILITY

To qualify for TEPSLF, you must be ineligible for PSLF **only** because some or all of your payments were not made under a qualifying repayment plan for PSLF and if the payment that you made 12 months prior to applying for TEPSLF and the last payment made before applying for TEPSLF were at least as much as you would have paid under the REPAYE, PAYE, IBR, or ICR plans.

If you meet these requirements, you will be evaluated for TEPSLF eligibility under the expanded list of qualifying repayment plans for TEPSLF.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

You are not permitted to apply the same period of service to receive PSLF and the Teacher Loan Forgiveness or Civil Legal Assistance Attorney Student Loan Repayment programs.

SECTION 8: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PSLF (CONTINUED)

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

You have the option to postpone making payments on your Direct Loans if you are submitting this form and you believe that you qualify for forgiveness right now. However, when evaluating whether to choose forbearance, it is important to understand that periods of forbearance do not count towards PSLF or TEPSLF. If you decline forbearance, any payments made after your 120th qualifying payment will be refunded to you or applied to any other outstanding loans held by the Department.

SECTION 9: IMPORTANT NOTICES

Privacy Act Notice. The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) requires that the following notice be provided to you:

The authorities for collecting the requested information from and about you are §421 et seq., §451 et seq., or §461 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq., or 20 U.S.C. 1087aa et seq.) and the authorities for collecting and using your Social Security Number (SSN) are §§428B(f) and 484(a)(4) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1078-2(f) and 1091(a)(4)) and 31 U.S.C. 7701(b). Participating in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program, Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, or Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program and giving us your SSN are voluntary, but you must provide the requested information, including your SSN, to participate.

The principal purposes for collecting the information on this form, including your SSN, are to verify your identity, to determine your eligibility to receive a loan or a benefit on a loan (such as a deferment, forbearance, discharge, or forgiveness) under the Direct Loan, FFEL, or Federal Perkins Loan Programs, to permit the servicing of your loans, and, if it becomes necessary, to locate you and to collect and report on your loans if your loans become delinquent or default. We also use your SSN as an account identifier and to permit you to access your account information electronically.

The information in your file may be disclosed, on a case-by-case basis or under a computer matching program, to third parties as authorized under routine uses in the appropriate systems of records notices. The routine uses of this information include, but are not limited to, its disclosure to federal, state, or local agencies, to private parties such as relatives, present and former employers, business and personal associates, to consumer reporting agencies, to financial and educational institutions, and to guaranty agencies in order to verify your identity, to determine your eligibility to receive a loan or a benefit on a loan, to permit the servicing or collection of your loans, to enforce the terms of the loans, to investigate possible fraud and to verify compliance with federal student financial aid program regulations, or to locate you if you become delinquent in your loan payments or if you default. To provide default rate calculations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to state agencies. To provide financial aid history information, disclosures may be made to educational institutions.

To assist program administrators with tracking refunds and cancellations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal or state agencies. To provide a standardized method for educational institutions to efficiently submit student enrollment statuses, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies or to financial and educational institutions. To counsel you in repayment efforts, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal, state, or local agencies.

In the event of litigation, we may send records to the Department of Justice, a court, adjudicative body, counsel, party, or witness if the disclosure is relevant and necessary to the litigation. If this information, either alone or with other information, indicates a potential violation of law, we may send it to the appropriate authority for action. We may send information to members of Congress if you ask them to help you with federal student aid questions. In circumstances involving employment complaints, grievances, or disciplinary actions, we may disclose relevant records to adjudicate or investigate the issues. If provided for by a collective bargaining agreement, we may disclose records to a labor organization recognized under 5 U.S.C. Chapter 71. Disclosures may be made to our contractors for the purpose of performing any programmatic function that requires disclosure of records. Before making any such disclosure, we will require the contractor to maintain Privacy Act safeguards. Disclosures may also be made to qualified researchers under Privacy Act safeguards.

Paperwork Reduction Notice. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1845-0110. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with 34 CFR 685.219. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, please contact your loan holder directly (see Section 7).