

# Six Things You Should Know About Federal Student Loan Repayment

1.

## Know What You Owe

<https://studentloans.gov>

- **STUDENTLOANS.GOV**
  - displays debt, servicer, and has a personalized repayment estimator
- **NSLDS.ED.GOV**
  - displays total federal debt & servicer info

Log onto the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) and/or StudentLoans.gov & write down the name of your servicer (s) here:

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2.

## Repayment Plans

- 10 year (Standard)
- 25 year (Extended)
- Up to 30 years (Consolidation Loan)
- Use the Repayment Estimator on StudentLoans.gov to compare plans

Under these plans, you pay a fixed amount each month. The shorter the repayment period, the less interest will be paid.

3.

## Income Driven Repayment Plans

- **PAYE** - Pay As You Earn (for new borrowers since 10/1/07)
- **IBR** - Income Based Repayment (if not a new borrower)
- **IBR** for new borrowers (on or after 7/1/14)
- Payments adjust annually, based on discretionary income

Discretionary Income (DI) is calculated based on household income & size.

**PAYE:** 10% of DI, repay for 20 yrs. (max)

**IBR:** 15% of DI, repay for 25 yrs. (max)

**New IBR:** 10% of DI, repay for 20 yrs. (max)

4.

## Deferment/Forbearance

- Temporarily postpones or lowers monthly loan payments
- Deferment example: In-School, active duty military
- Forbearance example: Loan Debt Burden

Ex. if your monthly loan payment is 20% or more of your total monthly gross income, you may qualify for forbearance.

5.

## Consolidation

<https://studentloans.gov>

- If you have multiple servicers
- If you have both FFEL debt and Direct Loans
- If you want to extend repayment up to 30 years

### Are your monthly payments manageable?

Consolidating could lower the monthly payment (but increases the grand total paid).

### Do you have multiple servicers & payments?

A consolidation loan results in a single servicer and a single monthly payment

6.

## Public Service Loan Forgiveness

- Make 120 qualifying payments
- On qualifying loans (Federal Direct Loans)
- While working in eligible jobs (non-profit, for example)

Make 10 years of qualifying payments (under IBR, PAYE, or Standard Plan) while working full-time (avg. 30 hours/week) in qualifying job (non-profit, govt., public interest law,

Questions? Contact Syracuse University College of Law, Office of Financial Aid, at 315-443-1962 or [financialaid@law.syr.edu](mailto:financialaid@law.syr.edu)