One-Time Federal Student Loan Debt Relief Plan FAQs

What is the one-time federal student loan debt relief plan?

On August 24th, 2022, the Department of Education announced a student loan debt relief plan that will provide one-time federal student loan cancellation to low- and middle-income families.

Who is eligible for loan debt relief?

Federal loan borrowers are eligible for loan cancellation if their individual adjusted gross income is less than $125,000, or a $250,000 adjusted gross income for a married household.

How much loan debt will be cancelled?

- Up to $20,000 of federal student loan debt will be cancelled for borrowers who received the Pell Grant.
- Up to $10,000 of federal student loan debt will be cancelled for borrowers who did not receive the Pell Grant.

How do I know if I received a Pell Grant?

Borrowers can log in to StudentAid.gov to see if they received a Pell Grant. Pell Grants amounts, if any, are displayed on the account dashboard and on the “My Aid” pages.

What loans are eligible for relief?

The following types of federal student loans with an outstanding balance as of June 30, 2022, are eligible for relief:

Federal Direct Loan Program loans including:

- Subsidized loans
- Unsubsidized loans
- Parent PLUS loans
- Graduate PLUS loans
- Direct Loan Consolidation loans, as long as all of the underlying loans that were consolidated were first disbursed on or before June 30, 2022

Additionally, the following loan types that are serviced by the Department of Education are also included in the plan:

- Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loans held by the Department of Education
- Federal Perkins Loan Program loans held by the Department of Education

How can I tell what kinds of loans I have?
You can identify your loan types by:

1. Logging on to StudentAid.gov
2. Selecting “My Aid” in the dropdown menu under your name.
3. In the “Loan Breakdown” section, you'll see a list of each loan you received. You'll also see loans you paid off or consolidated into a new loan. If you expand “View Loans” and select the “View Loan Details” arrow next to a loan, you'll see the more detailed name for that loan.
   a. Direct Loans begin with the word “Direct.” Federal Family Education Loan Program loans begin with “FFEL.” Perkins Loans include the word “Perkins” in the name. If the name of your servicer starts with “Dept. of Ed” or “Default Management Collection System,” your FFEL or Perkins loan is federally managed (i.e., held by the Department of Education). The “My Aid” section will also show you the servicer(s) for your loans.

**Are Caltech Loans eligible for relief under this plan?**

No. This loan relief program applies only to certain federal loans.

**Do I need to apply for loan relief?**

Most borrowers will have to apply for relief, but the Department of Education will automatically cancel some loans.

Borrowers who qualify for automatic loan cancellation will be notified via email. You can also sign up for notification via text at StudentAid.gov. Borrowers who receive automatic loan cancellation will not have to take any action.

All other borrowers will need to apply in order to be considered for loan cancellation.

**How do I apply for loan relief?**

By early October 2022, the loan relief application will be online. You can sign up for an alert from the Department of Education that will let you know when the application goes live. This can be done at Department of Education subscription page. Check the first box, which is called "NEW!! Federal Student Loan Borrower Updates."

**What is the deadline to apply for the debt relief program?**

You will have until Dec. 31, 2023, to submit your loan relief application.

**Where can I find more information about the debt relief program?**

Detailed information about the program can be found at https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief-announcement/one-time-cancellation