



# General Forbearance Request

## William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program / Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program / Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program

OMB No. 1845-0018  
Form Approved  
Exp. Date: 12/31/2027

**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.

You never need to pay for help with your federal student loans. Your loan servicer will help you for FREE. [Contact your servicer](#) if you have questions about this form or need any information regarding your federal student loans.

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### Section 1: Borrower Information

Please enter or correct the following information.

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

Social Security Number (SSN): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone - Primary: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone - Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Borrower's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Borrower's SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 2: Forbearance Request

Carefully read the entire form before completing it. Answer all questions in Section 2. Your loan holder has sole discretion in whether to grant your general forbearance request, and, if granted, for what period your forbearance will be applied. As an alternative to this forbearance, you may qualify for a deferment (which has an interest benefit for some loan types) or for a repayment plan that determines your monthly payment amount based on your income. Visit [StudentAid.gov/IDR](https://studentaid.gov/IDR) for more information on repayment plans based on income.

1. I am requesting a forbearance because I am experiencing a temporary hardship related to one of the following situations (check one):

- ☐ Financial difficulties
- ☐ Change in employment
- ☐ Medical expenses
- ☐ Other (explain the situation below)

2. If approved for a forbearance, I would like to:

- ☐ Temporarily stop making payments.
- ☐ Temporarily make smaller payments of \_\_\_\_\_ per month.

3. I would like my forbearance to begin with the monthly payment that is due in the month and year below:

(mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

4. If approved for forbearance, I would like my forbearance to end in the month and year below, and begin making payments the following month:

(mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Borrower's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Borrower's SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Section 3: Borrower/Endorser Understandings, Certifications, and Authorization

**I understand that:**

- I am not required to make payments of loan principal or interest during my forbearance, but interest will continue to be charged on all my loans.
- Interest may capitalize on my FFEL Program loans that are not held by the Department during or at the expiration of my forbearance, but interest never capitalizes on Perkins Loans.
- My loan holder may grant me an additional forbearance while processing my form or to cover any period of delinquency that exists when I submit my form.
- My loan holder has sole discretion in whether to grant my general forbearance request and for what dates it will be granted.
- For Perkins Loans, there is a cumulative limit on general forbearance of 3 years. For Direct Loans and FFEL Program loans, my loan holder may set a limit on general forbearance.
- My forbearance will end on the earlier of the end date that I requested, 12 months from the date my forbearance begins, or when I exhaust any limit that my loan holder has on forbearance.
- I can request another forbearance after my forbearance ends if I am still experiencing financial hardship.
- Any payment I make during forbearance will not count towards forgiveness under income-driven repayment plans or Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

**I certify that:**

- The information I have provided on this form is true and correct.
- I will provide additional documentation to my loan holder, if requested, to support my general forbearance request.
- I will repay my loans according to the terms of my promissory note, even if my request is not granted.

**I authorize** the entity to which I submit this request and its agents to contact me regarding my request or my loans at any cellular telephone number that I provide now or in the future using automated telephone dialing equipment or artificial prerecorded voice or text messages.

**Borrower's or Endorser's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date (mm/dd/yyyy):** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section 4: Instructions For Completing the Form

Type or print using dark ink. Enter dates as month-day-year (mm/dd/yyyy) or (mm/yyyy) as appropriate. Example: March 14, 2024 = 03/14/2024. Include your name and account number on any documentation that you may be requested to submit with this form. If you want to apply for a forbearance on loans that are held by different loan holders, you must submit a separate forbearance request to each loan holder. **Return the completed form and any requested documentation to the address shown in Section 6.**

If you are an endorser, you may request forbearance only when you are required to repay the loan because the borrower is not making payments. If you have a loan that was made jointly to you and your spouse (as co-makers), both of you must individually meet the requirements for a forbearance and each of you must submit a separate forbearance request.

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## Section 5: Definitions

The **William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program** includes Federal Direct Stafford/Ford (Direct Subsidized) Loans, Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford/Ford (Direct Unsubsidized) Loans, Federal Direct PLUS (Direct PLUS) Loans, and Federal Direct Consolidation (Direct Consolidation) Loans.

The **Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program** includes Federal Stafford Loans, Federal PLUS Loans, Federal Consolidation Loans, and Federal Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS).

The **Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program** includes Federal Perkins Loans, National Direct Student Loans (NDSL), and National Defense Student Loans (Defense Loans).

**Capitalization** is the addition of unpaid interest to the principal balance of a Direct Loan Program or FFEL Program loan (interest never capitalizes on Perkins Loans). Capitalization causes more interest to accrue over the life of your loan and may cause your monthly payment amount to increase. The Capitalization Chart below provides an example of the monthly payments and the total amount repaid for a \$30,000 unsubsidized FFEL Program loan granted a forbearance. The example loan has a 6% interest rate and the example forbearance lasts for 12 months and begins when the loan entered repayment. The example compares the effects of paying the interest as it accrues or allowing it to be capitalized.

A **co-maker** is one of the two individuals who are joint borrowers on a Direct or Federal Consolidation Loan or a Federal PLUS Loan. Both co-makers are equally responsible for repaying the full amount of the loan.

A **deferment** is a period during which you are entitled to postpone repayment of your loans. Interest is not charged to you during a deferment on your subsidized loans. Interest is always charged to you during a deferment on your unsubsidized loans. Unpaid interest that accrues during a deferment on an unsubsidized Direct Loan or on an unsubsidized FFEL Program loan that is held by the Department is capitalized at the end of the deferment period. Unpaid interest that accrues during a deferment on a FFEL Program loan that is not held by the Department is capitalized at the end of the forbearance but may be capitalized as frequently as quarterly on loans disbursed prior to 7/1/2000.

On loans made under the Perkins Loan Program, all deferments are followed by a post-deferment grace period of 6 months, during which time you are not required to make payments.

An **endorser** is an individual who agrees to repay a Direct PLUS Loan or Federal PLUS Loan if the borrower does not repay the loan.

A **forbearance** is a period during which you are permitted to postpone making payments temporarily, allowed an extension of time for making payments, or temporarily allowed to make smaller payments than scheduled. Interest is charged during a forbearance on both subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Unpaid interest that accrues during a forbearance on a Direct Loan or on a FFEL Program loan that is held by the Department is not capitalized. Unpaid interest that accrues during a forbearance on a FFEL Program loan that is not held by the Department may be capitalized at the end of the forbearance but may be capitalized as frequently as quarterly on loans disbursed prior to 7/1/2000.

The **holder** of your Direct Loans is the Department. The holder of your FFEL Program loans may be a lender, guaranty agency, secondary market, or the Department. The holder of your Perkins Loans is an institution of higher education or the Department. Your loan holder may use a servicer to handle billing and other communications related to your loans. References to “your loan holder” on this form mean either your loan holder or your servicer.

A **subsidized loan** is a Direct Subsidized Loan, a Direct Subsidized Consolidation Loan, a Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan, portions of some Federal Consolidation Loans, Federal Perkins Loans, NDSL, and Defense Loans.

An **unsubsidized loan** is a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, a Direct Unsubsidized Consolidation Loan, a Direct PLUS Loan, a Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, a Federal PLUS Loan, a Federal SLS, and portions of some Federal Consolidation Loans.

## Capitalization Chart

(Note: this chart only applies to FFEL Program loans that are not held by the Department)

Treatment of Interest with Forbearance	Loan Amount	Capitalized Interest	Outstanding Principal	Monthly Payment	Number of Payments	Total Repaid
Interest is paid	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$333	120	\$41,767
Interest is capitalized at the end	\$30,000	\$1,800	\$31,800	\$353	120	\$42,365

## Section 6: Where to Send the Completed Application

Return the completed form and any documentation to: (If no address is shown, return to your loan holder.)

## Section 7: Help With Completing the Application

If you need help completing this form, call: (If no phone number is shown, call your loan holder.)

## Section 8: Important Notices

### Privacy Act Statement.

**Authority:** 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.

**Purpose:** The principal purposes for collecting the information on the General Forbearance Request 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 FFEL and/or Direct Loan Programs, to permit the servicing of your loans, to enforce the conditions or terms

of a title IV, HEA obligation, to originate, disburse, service, collect, assign, adjust, transfer, refer, furnish credit information for, and discharge a title IV, HEA obligation, to verify whether a title IV, HEA obligation qualifies for discharge, to determine credit balances to be refunded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) to the individual or loan holder, 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.

**Disclosures:** The information provided on the General Forbearance Request form will only be disclosed outside of the U.S. Department of Education (Department) with prior written consent or as otherwise allowed by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (Privacy Act) (5 U.S.C. 552a). One of the exceptions to the Privacy Act's prior written consent requirement that allows for disclosure, without consent, is for "routine uses" that the Department publishes in our System of Records Notices (SORNs). The Department may disclose, without consent, the information provided on a Graduate Fellowship Deferment form, on a case-by-case basis or under a computer matching program, to third parties pursuant to the routine uses identified in the "Common Services for Borrowers (CSB) System" (18-11-16) SORN. This notice is available on the Department's "Privacy Act System of Record Notice Issuances (SORN)" webpage located at <https://www2.ed.gov/notices/ed-pia.html>.

These routine uses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- To verify the identity of the individual who records indicate has applied for or received title IV, HEA program funds, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, educational and financial institutions, and their authorized representatives; to Federal, State, Tribal, or local agencies, and their authorized representatives; to private parties, such as relatives, business and personal associates, and present and former employers; to creditors; to consumer reporting agencies; to adjudicative bodies; and to the individual whom the records identify as the party obligated to repay the title IV, HEA obligation;
- To determine program eligibility and benefits, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, educational and financial institutions, and their authorized representatives; to Federal, State, or local agencies, and their authorized representatives; to private parties, such as relatives, business and personal associates, and present and former employers; to creditors; to consumer reporting agencies; and to adjudicative bodies;
- To provide customers with information to help them make informed decisions on repayment options, including deferment, forbearance, and recurring auto debit, based on their unique situations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, educational and financial institutions, and their authorized representatives; and to Federal, State, or local agencies, and their authorized representatives.

For additional routine uses, view the "Common Services for Borrowers (CSB) System" (18-11-16) SORN. This notice is available on the Department's "Privacy Act System of Record Notice Issuances (SORN)" webpage located at <https://www2.ed.gov/notices/ed-pia.html>.

**Consequences of Failure to Provide Information:** Participating in the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program or the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and providing the Department your SSN and requested information is mandatory to participate.

**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 1845-0018. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 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 674.33, 682.211, and 685.205.

**If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, contact your loan holder directly.**