

Student Loan Cancellation & the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Waiver

An EDCAP presentation in partnership with the CUNY
University Benefits Office.
September 15, 2022



Agenda

- About EDCAP
- Student Loan Cancellation
- The Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program Temporary Waiver
- The PSLF NYS Bill
- What if things go wrong?
- Resources

The Education Debt Consumer Assistance Program (EDCAP)

Helpline: 888-614-5004

Email: edcap@cssny.org

Web: edcapny.org

Who We Are & What We Do

- ▶ EDCAP is a program initiative of the Community Service Society.
- ▶ Created to help tackle the student debt crisis in New York.
- ▶ Offers free and unbiased services:
 - ▶ Advise on student loan repayment options.
 - ▶ Rehabilitate loans to help prevent wage garnishments, social security offsets, and tax intercepts.
 - ▶ **Apply for loan forgiveness, cancellation and discharge.**
 - ▶ Help consolidate loans, request deferments, and forbearances.
 - ▶ Resolve issues with loan servicers and lenders.

Federal Student Loan Cancellation

What You Should Know

Cancellation Eligibility

- ▶ The Biden Administration announced a targeted plan to cancel up to \$20,000 in student debt for many borrowers.
- ▶ Loans disbursed prior to July 1, 2022, will be eligible.
- ▶ This relief will be available to borrowers with Department of Education-held loans who meet the following requirements:
 - ▶ Individuals who earned less than \$125,000 and married couples or heads of household who earned less than \$250,000 in either 2020 or 2021 will be eligible.
 - ▶ \$20,000 in cancellation for borrowers who had at least one Pell Grant.
 - ▶ \$10,000 in cancellation for borrowers without a Pell Grant.
- ▶ Borrowers with commercially-held FFELP or Perkins loans must consolidate them into Direct loans.

Cancellation Application Process

- ▶ About 8 million borrowers will get automatic cancellation.
- ▶ An online application will be available in October.
- ▶ Borrowers will be able to attest to their 2020 or 2021 income.
- ▶ Borrowers seeking to get cancellation prior to payments resuming will need to apply by November 15th.
- ▶ Borrowers will be able to apply for cancellation up until **December 31, 2023**!

Learn more about this One-Time Student Debt Relief at studentaid.gov.

Action Steps to Benefit From Cancellation

Make sure your studentaid.gov and servicer accounts have your updated contact information.

Visit studentaid.gov for the official announcement and latest information.

To get updates and information about the cancellation application, sign up at the [Department of Education subscription page](#).

For updated FAQs, visit forgivemystudentdebt.org.

Other Relief Announced

- ▶ The Biden Administration plans to introduce a new Income-Driven-Repayment plan that would substantially lower monthly payments for borrowers, particularly those with low-moderate income. The plan may be available sometime in 2023.
- ▶ The Administration is proposing permanent changes to the PSLF program which would allow late or partial payments to count and would grant credit for periods spent in certain deferments and forbearances.
- ▶ Visit our website at <https://www.edcapny.org/self-help-by-topic/student-loan-cancellation/> for more information.

About the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF) & Temporary Waiver Opportunity

The Basics

PSLF Overview

- ▶ Created in 2007 to incentivize individuals to work in public service.
- ▶ Forgives federal student loan balances for borrowers working full-time for eligible employers after making 120 qualifying monthly payments (10 years).
- ▶ The 120 payments are cumulative and not consecutive.
- ▶ Forgiven loan balances are NOT TAXABLE!

PSLF had a 98% rejection
rate...until recently!

The Waiver: A once in a lifetime opportunity

- ▶ To address the high rejection rate and poor program implementation, the Biden Administration announced that until **October 31, 2022**, they will waive key program requirements. This is known as the **PSLF Temporary Waiver Opportunity**.
- ▶ Borrowers will receive credit toward the **120 required payments** for any months they can prove their federal student loans were “in repayment” and they were working full-time for a qualifying employer.
- ▶ What this really means is that borrowers can get credit for any payments made under **any repayment plan** and they can **consolidate FFELP/Perkins (non-Direct) loans and not lose any payment credits!**

Payments suspended under the COVID Forbearance count toward PSLF if you meet the employment requirements of the program! If you were in an in-school deferment, however, they won't count.

Requirements under the original program and Temporary Waiver

Requirement	Original PSLF Program	Temporary Waiver (until October 31, 2022, unless extended)
Borrower Eligibility	Student and Parent Borrowers	Student Borrowers only
Qualifying Payment Count Start Date	October 1, 2007	October 1, 2007
Loan Type	Direct Loans Only	Non-Direct Loans (FFELP, Perkins) will qualify if consolidated into a Direct Consolidation Loan
Repayment Plan	Income-Driven-Repayment/ Standard 10-Year Fixed plan	All Repayment Plans
Employment Requirements	Work full-time for a qualifying employer	Work full-time for a qualifying employer
Payments	Must be made on-time and in-full	Credit will be based on payment status history
Number of payments required	120	120

What is considered “full-time” employment?

If you have only one job:

- ▶ The greater of: Full-time as defined by the employer or 30 hours per week.

If you have several part time jobs:

- ▶ 30 hours per week with two or more qualifying employers (more on this and possible solution for adjuncts)

Action Steps

Don't Miss the Deadline!

You have until Halloween (October 31, 2022) to do the following:

Make sure you have Direct Loans
and Consolidate any
FFELP/Perkins (Non-Direct Loans)

Complete and submit the PSLF
Employment Certification and
Application Form (“PSLF Form”)

Make sure you have
Direct Loans

Loan Programs Overview

The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program

- **These qualify for PSLF. Generally, no need to consolidate.**
- Direct Subsidized Loans-The government covers unpaid interest during certain periods.
- Direct Unsubsidized Loans-The borrower is generally responsible for interest accrued.
- Direct Plus Loans for Graduates and Professionals-only unsubsidized loans available.
- **Direct Consolidation Loans**-Allow borrower to combine loans for ease of administration & for PSLF eligibility.

Direct Plus Loans for Parents

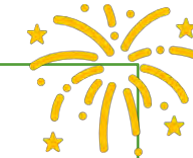
- **Do not qualify for the “Waiver”. Get help before consolidating.**
- Offered to parents of college students. Only unsubsidized loans available. Credit check required.

Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP)

- **You must consolidate to a direct loan to qualify.**
- Loans came from banks, guaranteed by the Federal Government. This loan program is no longer available.

Federal Perkins Loans

- **You must consolidate to a direct loan to qualify.**
- Federal Government subsidized loans offered to students with great financial need directly through the school. This loan program is no longer available.



Consolidate to
convert them
to “Direct
Consolidation”

Make sure you have Direct Loans

How do I know if I have non-Direct Loans and need to consolidate?

- ▶ You may call your servicer/FSA and ask, or DIY through studentaid.gov.
- ▶ DIY:
 1. Go to studentaid.gov.
 2. Log in using you FSA ID. Create one if you don't have one.
 3. Go to **"My Aid"** and scroll down to **"Loan Types"**
 4. Click on the **"drop-down"** arrow where you have a balance.
 5. If it does not have the word **"Direct"**, you need to consolidate them. Put differently, if it says FFELP or Perkins, you need to consolidate.

3 Consolidation Loans

\$24,230



Loan Types

3 Consolidation Loans	\$24,230	⌵
1 Perkins Loans	\$0	⌵
8 Subsidized Loans	\$0	⌵
7 Unsubsidized Loans	\$0	⌵
TOTAL BALANCE	\$24,230	

Loan Type	Principal	Interest	Total Balance
Direct Consolidation Unsubsidized	\$10,136	\$21	\$10,157
Direct Consolidation Subsidized	\$14,043	\$30	\$14,073
Total	\$24,179	\$51	\$24,230

Make sure you have Direct Loans

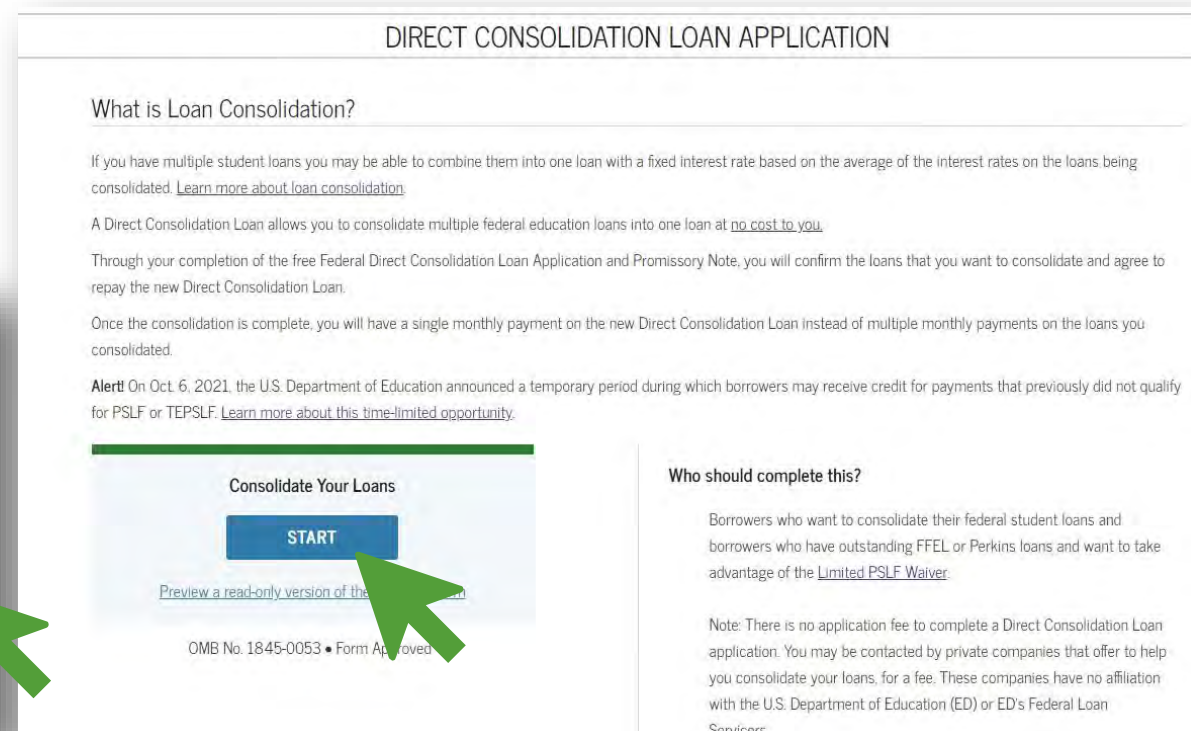
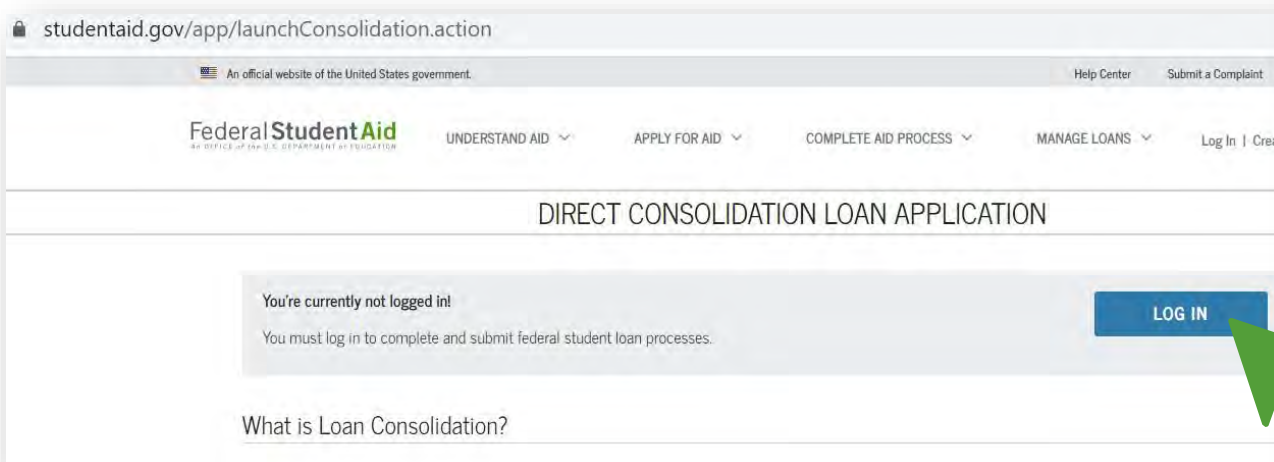
I have FFELP or Perkins (or other non-Direct), how do I consolidate?

DIY:

1. Go to <https://studentaid.gov/app/launchConsolidation.action>. You can also go to studentaid.gov and search for “Direct Loan Consolidation” to get to the application.
2. Log In with your FSA ID.
3. Click “START” and go through the application process.

Tips:

- ▶ Select “Do not delay processing”.
- ▶ Select MOHELA as your servicer.
- ▶ Select an Income Driven Repayment Plan: One of these—PAYE, REPAYE, IBR, or ICR.



Let's recap Step 1: Make sure you have direct loans

- ▶ Determine your “Loan Types.”
- ▶ If you have non-Direct loans, like FFELP or Perkins, consolidate them.
- ▶ You can do all this at studentaid.gov.
- ▶ If you feel lost or defeated, don't worry. Contact us!

Complete and submit the PSLF Form

What is the PSLF Form?

Page 1: Borrower information.

- It's a two-page form that verifies you've met the employment requirements for PSLF. It's used to update qualifying payments and to get forgiveness.
- If you need to consolidate, submit the form(s) after you've filed the consolidation application online. **You don't have to wait for the consolidation to be completed. These forms must be submitted by 10/31/2022.**

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

Request (1) that the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) determine whether I qualify for PSLF or TEPSLF, 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:

- 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.
- To qualify for forgiveness, I must be employed full-time by a qualifying employer when I apply for and get forgiveness.
- By submitting this form, my student loans held by the Department may be transferred to MOHELA.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 _____

Page 1 of 6

Page 2: Employer information.

Borrower Name _____ Borrower SSN _____

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

- Employer Name: _____
 Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) _____
- Employer Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
- Employer Website (if any): _____
- Employment Begin Date: _____
- Employment End Date: _____
 OR
 Still Employed
- Employment Status: Full-Time Part-Time
- Hours Per Week (Average) _____
 Include vacation, leave time, or any leave taken under the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993.
- 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. Federal service includes military service.
 Yes - Skip to Section 4.
 No - Continue to Item 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.
- 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.
- Is your employer a partisan political organization or a labor union?
 Yes - Your employer does not qualify.
 No - Continue to Item 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 _____

Page 2 of 6

Complete and submit the
PSLF Form

Where can I get the form?

- ▶ You can get it at studentaid.gov through the Help Tool or in a PDF format.
- ▶ **PSLF Help Tool:** <https://studentaid.gov/pslf/>
 - ▶ We recommend using the Help Tool whenever possible.
 - ▶ You will need your FSA ID, the Employer Identification Number and your exact employment dates.
 - ▶ **Note:** It will generate the form, but it won't send it anywhere. You must still download it, have your employer sign it and submit it to the servicer.
- ▶ **PSLF Paper (PDF) Form:** <https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/public-service-application-for-forgiveness.pdf>
 - ▶ If you can't use the Help Tool, can't find your employer's EIN or can't remember your employment dates, use the paper form.

Complete and submit the
PSLF Form

Tips for CUNY employees

- ▶ Employees can consult their W-2 or HR Department to confirm the EIN.
 - ▶ EIN 13-6400434 is registered to the City of New York. This is for individuals employed by the City and working at community colleges.
 - ▶ EIN 13-3893536 is registered to the City University of New York State. This is for individuals employed by NYS and working at four-year institutions.

Complete and submit the
PSLF Form

Tips for CUNY employees (cont'd)

- ▶ For every period of qualifying employment (or teaching contract) you've had since October 1, 2007, obtain the following:
 - ▶ EIN (look at your W-2)
 - ▶ Employment (or contract) Dates(must be full dates, month/day/year).
 - ▶ Employment status (Full-time/Part-Time). If part-time, determine the following:
 - ▶ Number of in class credits/teaching hours
 - ▶ Other paid number of hours

Complete and submit the
PSLF Form

Do I need one form for each qualifying employer?

- ▶ Yes! To get credit, you must complete one form for each qualifying employer you've had since October 2007.
- ▶ There is currently no central PSLF form processing system for CUNY.
 - ▶ **Employees must get each job/campus to complete the form.**
- ▶ You can verify your employer qualifies by using the [PSLF Employer Search Tool](#).
- ▶ Tips:
 - ▶ Only wet/hand drawn signatures are allowed. Electronic signatures are NOT allowed.
 - ▶ An authorized individual who has access to your employment records will be able to complete the form, usually someone in HR.
 - ▶ Make sure section 4 of page two is signed, dated, and all the contact information is filled in and **legible**.
 - ▶ If the organization closed or you have tried to get a signature, but have not been able to, you can check off the box at the bottom of page one to indicate that you can't get the form. Then complete section 3 on page 2 but leave section 4 blank.

Complete and submit the
PSLF Form

Where do I submit the PSLF form?

- ▶ MOHELA is the new servicer managing the PSLF program.
- ▶ If your loans are with MOHELA, upload the completed form(s) to your [MOHELA account online](#).
- ▶ If your loans are **not** at MOHELA, you will have to mail and/or fax the documents as follows:
 - ▶ **By mail:** To U.S. Department of Education, MOHELA, 633 Spirit Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63005-1243
 - ▶ **By fax:** 866-222-7060
 - ▶ For help completing the form call: 1-855-265-4038
- ▶ If your loans are with FedLoan, you can still upload these forms to your [MyFedLoan](#) account until they are transferred to MOHELA. But we recommend you mail and fax the forms to MOHELA as well.

Tips:

- ▶ If your loans are not at MOHELA, we recommend mailing AND faxing the form(s).
- ▶ Get proof of mailing (Certified Mail) and keep fax receipts. Look for an acknowledgement of receipt letter from MOHELA and save it. Allow about three weeks after submission to get it.

Complete and submit the PSLF Form

What happens after you submit the form?

It depends...

- ▶ If your loans are with MOHELA, the form will be processed, and you will get a letter letting you know if you have qualifying payments and how many.
- ▶ If your loans are NOT with MOHELA, they will be transferred there first and then you will get a PSLF determination letter.

fedloan SERVICING | U.S. Department of Education
Information about your federal student loan

April 6, 2019

#BWRBCFT
#B465 6686 0104 0615#

Account Number: [REDACTED]

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT AN ADJUSTMENT TO YOUR ACCOUNT

WHY WE ARE CONTACTING YOU

This serves to notify you of an update to your account regarding your progress in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program.

As a result of a review of your account records, an adjustment was made to the number of qualifying payments in our system. The adjustment resulted in an overall increase to the number of qualifying payments we have credited to your loan(s).

Please review the enclosed information for details regarding your qualifying payment count. The following information is provided for each loan:

- The total number of qualifying payments you made during all periods of qualifying employment approved to date,
- The estimated number of payments that are still required, and
- The date you are or were expected to be eligible to apply for forgiveness.

We appreciate the opportunity to service your student loans. If you have any questions or concerns relating to your account, please contact us at 855-265-4038, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern time.

Good to Know: Keeping track of PSLF is easy.

- Sign in to Account Access at [MyFedLoan.org](https://myfedloan.org)
- Check your monthly bill
- Get answers to your PSLF questions at [MyFedLoan.org/PSLF](https://myfedloan.org/PSLF)

NOTE: If you make a monthly payment for more than the amount you are required to pay, you can receive credit for only one payment per month, no matter how much you pay. You can't qualify for PSLF faster by making larger payments. However, if you want to pay more than your required monthly payment amount, you should contact us and request to have paid ahead status permanently removed from your account. This will ensure that you receive the maximum credit toward forgiveness for your payments. In addition, no partial forgiveness is available for making fewer than 120 qualifying payments.

Any loan affected by an adjustment is listed below:

Loan Sequence	Disbursement Date	Loan Program	Qualifying Payments (Total)	Qualifying Payments (Remaining)	Estimated Eligibility Date
0001	08/17/2007	DLSTFD	36	84	02/27/2024
0002	01/12/2008	DLSTFD	36	84	02/27/2024
0003	08/17/2008	DLSTFD	36	84	02/27/2024
0004	01/10/2009	DLSTFD	36	84	02/27/2024
0005	08/16/2009	DLSTFD	36	84	02/27/2024
0006	01/09/2010	DLSTFD	36	84	02/27/2024
0007	08/17/2007	DLUNST	36	84	02/27/2024
0008	01/12/2008	DLUNST	36	84	02/27/2024
0009	08/17/2008	DLUNST	36	84	02/27/2024
0010	01/06/2011	DLSCNS	49	71	01/27/2023
0011	01/06/2011	DLUCNS	49	71	01/27/2023
0012	11/01/2011	DLUCNS	49	71	01/27/2023

Complete and submit the PSLF Form

How can I track my PSLF progress?

- ▶ You should be able to track your progress through your eligibility determination letters and online. MOHELA now has a tracker available on their website.
- ▶ Eligible payments become “Qualifying” when your PSLF Certification Forms are filed and approved.
- ▶ You want to get to 120 “Qualifying” payments to get your remaining balance forgiven.

The screenshot displays the MOHELA PSLF tracker interface. At the top, there are tabs for "Payment Counts", "Eligible Payments", and "Ineligible Payments". Below the tabs, there is a link to "Show Limited PSLF Waiver overview". The main content area is divided into two panels, one for each loan type.

10 DIRECT SUB CONSOLIDATION LOAN
\$14,043.33 Remaining / Disbursed on 01/06/2011

Payment Summary Close X

	PSLF	TEPSLF
Eligible Payments	145	145
Qualifying	108	108
Need Employment Certification	37	37
Ineligible Payments	27	27

How are eligible and qualifying different? ?

11 DIRECT UNSUB CONSOLIDATION LN
\$10,135.54 Remaining / Disbursed on 01/06/2011

Payment Summary Close X

	PSLF	TEPSLF
Eligible Payments	145	145
Qualifying	108	108
Need Employment Certification	37	37
Ineligible Payments	27	27

How are eligible and qualifying different? ?

Complete and submit the PSLF Form

How do I know my loans have been forgiven?

- ▶ You will get a letter from the servicer.
- ▶ Your Federal Student Aid account will reflect the zero balance!

fedloan SERVISING | U.S. Department of Education
Information about your federal student loan

June 22, 2022

#BWBB0FT
#B465 6686 0106 22L3#

PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS UPDATE!

Account Number: xxxxx xx34

Congratulations! On Oct. 6, 2021, the Department of Education announced a change to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program rules for a limited time that allows you to get credit for payments you've made on loans that wouldn't normally qualify for PSLF. As a result of this limited PSLF waiver ([StudentAid.gov/pslfwaiver](https://studentaid.gov/pslfwaiver)), we conducted another review of your *Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) & Temporary Expanded PSLF (TEPSLF) Certification & Application (PSLF Form)* and payment history. We have determined that you have successfully made the required 120 monthly payments in order to have all or a portion of your loans listed below forgiven.

Loans Details

Loan Sequence	Loan Program	Disbursement Date	Amount Forgiven (Principal and Interest)	Outstanding Balance
0012	DLUCNS	11/01/2011	17,398.77	\$0.00

You have satisfied your obligation and no additional payments are required on these loans.

Will I have to pay income tax on the forgiveness amount? No. According to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), student loan amounts forgiven under PSLF or TEPSLF are not considered income for tax purposes. Please contact the IRS or a tax advisor for more information.

MY AID [VIEW DETAILS >](#)

Your loan balance is \$0.

Loan information as of
[View loan servicer details](#)

Let's recap Step 2: Complete and submit the PSLF Form(s)



Generate the Form

Generate the form using the PSLF Help Tool or the online PDF form.



Sign

Have each qualifying employer you've had since October 2007 complete + sign the form (page two).



Submit

Submit your completed form(s) to MOHELA.



Keep receipt

Make sure you get a receipt confirmation letter. Save it!



Wait

Wait for the form to be processed—it is taking months.



Review Determination

Review your eligibility determination letter when you get it.



Dispute any issues

Dispute any payment counting errors. Get help if needed!

About the NYS PSLF Bill

What It Does & How Adjunct Professors Can Benefit

Helping adjunct professors meet the PSLF employment requirement

- ▶ PSLF requires a borrower to work full-time or an average of 30 hours per week, whichever is greater.
- ▶ For adjunct professors, this is a challenge because they don't get proper credit for the time they spend on related activities, like office hours.
- ▶ To address this issue NYS passed what is referred to as the PSLF Bill—sponsored by Assemblymember Epstein ([A9523B](#)) and Senator Thomas ([S8389C](#)) which may be signed by the Governor today—September 15th!

Helping adjunct professors meet the PSLF employment requirement (cont'd)

Here's what the NYS PLSF Bill will do once signed:

- ▶ Requires employers to credit adjuncts with 3.35 hours of employment for each hour spent **teaching**
- ▶ An employee will be deemed “full-time” for PSLF purposes if:
 - ▶ they work an average of 30 hours per week, or
 - ▶ at least an average of thirty hours per week throughout a contractual or employment period of at least eight months in a twelve-month period
- ▶ Require employers to provide the PSLF form annually and upon employment separation

Note: The 30 hours full-time determination is only for purposes of the PSLF employment certification. It does not result in any other benefit changes.

NYS PSLF Bill Q&A

Q: When does the bill go into effect?

A: The adjunct multiplier and full-time rules take effect immediately. The requirement to affirmatively issue completed forms to employees does not take effect immediately.

Q: What about non-teaching hours, how are they treated?

A: You would count those as regular hours worked. You can only apply the multiplier to **“lecture or classroom time.”**

Q: What happens if despite the multiplier, I don't average 30 hours per week?

A: That time period will not count toward the 120 required qualifying months. You can still submit the PSLF form when in doubt.

NYS PSLF Bill Q&A

Q: If my hours have varied from semester to semester over the years, should I fill out one form for each semester, or one form with the overall average?

A: For any time period or contract you've averaged 30 hours per week complete one form and mark the "full-time" status box on the form.

Q: If I teach at two CUNY colleges, do I get a certification form from each college?

A: Yes. CUNY does not currently have a central PSLF form processing system.

Q: What if I had less than 30 hours at CUNY (due to pandemic low enrollment), can I combine it with another eligible job?

A: Yes! You would submit separate forms reflecting "part-time" status for each qualifying employer. If combined, they average at least 30 hours per week, it will qualify for PSLF. Note that the PSLF multiplier will only apply to NYS employers.

NYS PSLF Bill Q&A

Q: I have teaching adjunct hours as well as non-teaching adjunct hours and college assistant hours all at one institution. Should I fill out a separate form for each or combine them?

A. You can add your hours for the same employer. You would only apply the multiplier for your teaching hours.

Q: The PSLF form goes to HR before we send it to MOHELA, and this must be done by 10/31/22?

A. Correct. Submission instructions are on section 7 of the form.

What if Things Go Wrong?

Get Help!

Filing and Escalating Complaints

- ▶ You can submit a complaint to your servicer and in NYS to the Department of Financial Services: dfs.ny.gov/complaint.
- ▶ If you don't get a response or get a response you disagree with, you can escalate by filing a complaint to DOE's Ombudsman Group through their [Online Feedback Center](#) by calling **877-557-2575**.
- ▶ Contact us! We may be able to help.

Resources

Quick Links To Key Resources

Additional Information

- ▶ Student Loan Cancellation
 - ▶ Visit studentaid.gov for the official announcement and [latest information](#).
 - ▶ For updated FAQs, visit forgivemystudentdebt.org.
 - ▶ To get updates and information about the cancellation application, sign up sign up at the [Department of Education subscription page](#).
- ▶ Public Service Loan Forgiveness and Temporary Waiver
 - ▶ [Information](#) about PSLF and Waiver.
 - ▶ [PSLF Help Tool](#) to generate the required Employer Certification and Application Form.
 - ▶ PSLF Employer Certification and Application Form ([in PDF](#))
 - ▶ Loan consolidation online [application](#).

Additional Information, (cont'd)

▶ Repayment Plans

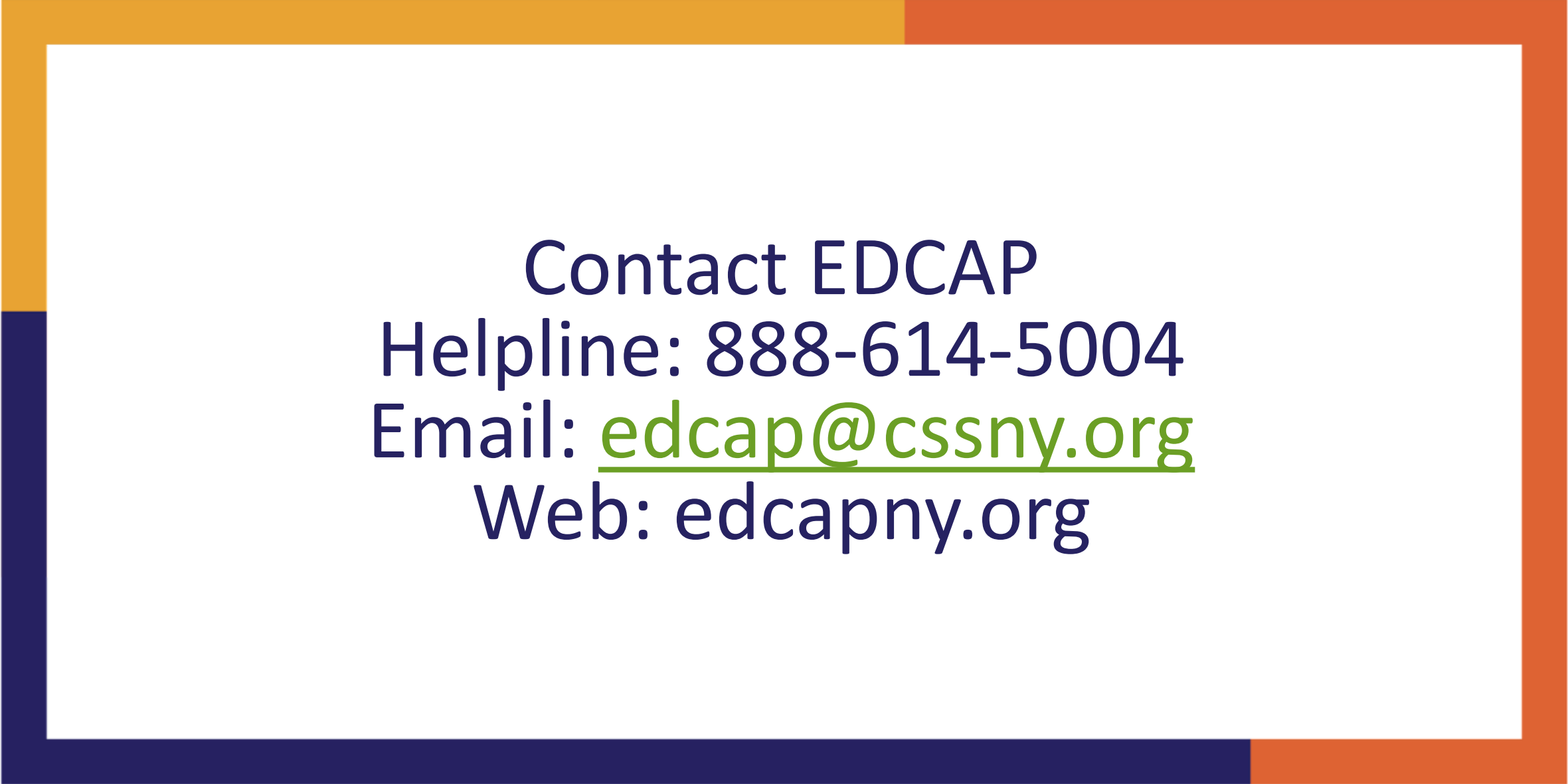
- ▶ [Loan Simulator](#) to determine your repayment plan options.
- ▶ [Income Driven Repayment](#) plan options.
- ▶ Income Driven Repayment plan [online application](#) to enroll in an income driven repayment plan.
- ▶ If you want to enroll in a standard plan, you will need to call your student loan servicer.

▶ Student Loan Servicers—Who Is Your Servicer?

- ▶ Information about [federal student loan servicers](#), including contact information.

▶ For defaulted borrowers

- ▶ If eligible, [apply](#) for loan cancellation when the application becomes available.
- ▶ Learn about the [Fresh Start](#) initiative.



Contact EDCAP
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Web: edcapny.org