

Student Loans

On March 13, 2020, the president announced that interest would be waived on all federally held student loans. The following loans are covered by the announcement.

All loans owned by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) will have interest waived. That includes Direct Loans, as well as Federal Perkins Loans and Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loans held by ED.

Please note that some FFEL Program loans are owned by commercial lenders, and some Perkins Loans are held by the institution you attended. These loans are not eligible for this benefit at this time.

Contact your loan servicer online or by phone to determine if your loans are eligible. Your servicer is the entity to which you make your monthly payment. If you do not know who your servicer is or how to contact them, visit [StudentAid.gov/login](https://studentaid.gov/login) or call us at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243 for assistance.

The ED administrator will automatically adjust your account so that interest doesn't accrue. The account adjustment will be effective March 13, 2020. During this period of no interest, if you continue to make payments, the full amount will be applied to principal. However, if your loan had already accrued interest prior to President Trump's March 13 announcement, your payments will first be used to pay off that outstanding interest.

Additionally, individuals with ED student loads, can request an "administrative forbearance" with their federal student loan servicers, The forbearance will allow those with loans to temporarily suspend payments.

To take advantage of the benefit, borrowers have to directly contact their lender either online or by phone. Trump said that his administration has given "strict instructions" to servicers on how to put this policy into place.

If you have a federal student loan, you can suspend payments for at least the next 60 days, though the president signaled that the time frame may be expanded if the outbreak continues. According to the Education Department, the two-month time frame began on March 13. Further Secretary of Education DeVos has ordered an automatic suspension of payments for anyone who is more than 31 days delinquent as of March 13.