

Section 3: Definitions/Eligibility Criteria for Education Related Deferment Request

Definitions

- A **deferment** is a period during which I am entitled to postpone repayment of the principal balance of my loan(s). Interest does not accrue during an eligible deferment on Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loans (Direct Subsidized Loans) or Federal Direct Subsidized Consolidation Loans (Direct Subsidized Consolidation Loans). I am responsible for the interest that accrues during this period on all other Direct Loan Program loans.
- **Capitalization** is a process whereby ED adds unpaid interest to the principal balance of a loan(s).

Eligibility Criteria

To qualify for this deferment, at the time my Direct Loan Program loan was made, I must have had an outstanding balance on an FFEL Program loan (formerly known as a GSL) which was made prior to July 1, 1993.

I may **defer** (postpone) repayment of my loan(s) while:

- I am engaged in an **INTERNSHIP/RESIDENCY** program. Maximum eligibility is two years.
 - In an Institution of Higher Education, Hospital or Health Care Facility. To qualify:
 - (1) My internship/residency program must: (a) be a supervised training program, (b) lead to a degree or certificate, and (c) require that I hold at least a Bachelor's Degree before acceptance into the program.
 - (2) I must be accepted into the internship/residency program.
 - In any other Institution or Organization. To qualify:
 - (1) My internship/residency program must: (a) be a supervised training program, (b) be required before I may be certified for professional practice or service, and (c) require that I hold at least a Bachelor's Degree before acceptance into the program.
 - (2) I must: (a) be accepted into the internship/residency program; and (b) provide ED with a separate statement from my state licensing agency which certifies my internship/residency, or portion thereof, is required before I may be certified for professional practice or service.
- I am teaching in a designated **TEACHER SHORTAGE AREA**. Maximum eligibility is three years. Must re-apply each school year. Direct PLUS Loan borrowers are not eligible.

To qualify, I must teach full-time in a public or nonprofit private elementary or secondary school in a geographic region, grade level, academic, instructional, subject matter, or discipline classified shortage area as defined by ED. (I will contact my Chief School Administrator or Chief State School Officer for a list of my state's shortage areas.)
- The dependent student for whom I borrowed a Direct PLUS Loan is enrolled at least **HALF-TIME** and has received a Direct Loan Program or FFEL Program loan for that period of enrollment.

- The dependent student for whom I borrowed a Direct PLUS Loan is engaged in a full-time course of study in a **GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP** program. To qualify:
 - (1) The graduate fellowship program must: (a) provide sufficient financial support to allow for full-time study for a period of at least six months, (b) require, before the awarding of financial support, a written statement from each applicant which explains the applicant's objectives, (c) require a graduate fellow to submit periodic reports, projects, or other evidence of the graduate fellow's progress, and (d) in the case of a course of study at a foreign university, accept the course of study for completion of the fellowship program.
 - (2) The dependent student for whom I borrowed the Direct PLUS Loan must: (a) hold at least a Bachelor's Degree conferred by an institution of higher education, and (b) have been accepted or recommended by an institution of higher education for acceptance into the graduate fellowship program on a full-time basis.
- The dependent student for whom I borrowed a Direct PLUS Loan is engaged in a full-time **REHABILITATION TRAINING** program. To qualify:
 - (1) The training program must: (a) be licensed, approved, certified, or recognized as providing rehabilitation training to disabled individuals by the Department of Veterans Affairs or a state agency responsible for vocational rehabilitation, drug abuse treatment, mental health services or alcohol abuse treatment programs, (b) provide services under a written, individualized plan that specifies the date services are expected to end, and (c) be structured in a way that requires a substantial commitment by the student to his/her rehabilitation. ("Substantial commitment" means a commitment of time and effort that would normally prevent a person from being employed 30 or more hours per week in a position expected to last at least three months.)
 - (2) The dependent student for whom I borrowed the Direct PLUS Loan must be either receiving, or scheduled to receive, these rehabilitation services.

Authorized Certifying Officials

- Authorized Graduate Fellowship Program Official (*PLUS Borrower with Dependent Student Graduate Fellowship Deferment*)
- Internship/Residency Program Official (*For all Internships and Residencies*)
- State Licensing Official (*For all Internships required to begin professional practice or service*)
- Rehabilitation Training Program Official (*PLUS Borrower with Dependent Student Rehabilitation Training Program Deferment*)
- Chief School Administrator (*Targeted Teacher Deferment*)*
- Authorized School Official (*PLUS Borrower with Dependent Student At Least Half-Time Deferment*)

**Additional certification may be required for Targeted Teacher deferments if the Chief State School Officer has not provided an annual list of approved shortage areas to School Administrators.*

Important Notices

Privacy Act Notice

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C.552a) requires that the following notice be provided to you. The authority for collecting the information requested on this form is §451 *et seq.* of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. Your disclosure of this information is voluntary. However, if you do not provide this information, you cannot be considered for a deferment. The information on this form will be used to determine your eligibility for a deferment of repayment of your Direct Loan Program loan(s). The information you provide may be disclosed to federal and state agencies, private parties such as relatives, present and former employers and creditors, and contractors of the Department of Education for purposes of administration of the student financial assistance program, for enforcement purposes, for litigation where such disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the records were collected, for use by federal, state, local, or foreign agencies in connection with employment matters or the issuance of a license, grant, or other benefit, for use in any employee grievance or discipline proceeding in which the Federal Government is a party, for use in connection with audits or other investigations, for research purposes, for purposes of determining whether particular records are required to be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act, and to a Member of Congress in response to an inquiry from the congressional office made at your written request.

Return this form and any required documentation to the Direct Loan Servicing Center. If you need to confirm the Direct Loan Servicing Center's address or require assistance with completing this form, call 1 (888) 447-4460.

Paperwork Reduction Notice

The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.2 hours (12 minutes) per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651. **If you have any comments or concerns regarding the status of *your individual submission* of this form, write directly to the Direct Loan Servicing Center. If you need to confirm the Direct Loan Servicing Center's address, call 1 (888) 447-4460.**