

# **GET READY FOR STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS**

#### Step 1 - Know your loan servicer

Visit your account dashboard by logging into <u>StudentAid.gov/login</u> using your FSA ID, go to the "My Aid" section, and select "View loan servicer details" or call the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

#### **Step 2 - Update your contact information**

Login to your loan servicer's website or mobile app to ensure all of your contact information is current.

## **Step 3 - Review and select payment plans**

Use the Loan Simulator tool at <a href="https://studentaid.gov/loan-simulator/">https://studentaid.gov/loan-simulator/</a> to select the most suitable repayment plan for your financial circumstances. You can select repayment plans that base your monthly payment on your income or plans that give you a fixed monthly payment. It's highly recommended that you track your income and expenses, and then build and follow a budget using free online budget tools.

### Step 4 - Enroll in autopay, review your payment amount and payment date

Contact your loan servicer to restart auto-debit or sign up for auto-debit for the first time to have your payments drawn directly from the bank account of your choice. Direct Loan borrowers enrolled in auto-debit receive a 0.25% interest rate deduction on their loans.

# Step 5 - Read and organize your loan communications

Check your email and postal mail for student loan payment updates - including monthly payment amounts and due dates - from your loan servicer and the U.S. Department of Education office of Federal Student Aid. Read and respond to any requests for information in a timely manner and save any important documentation.

#### **Step 6 - Know your resources**

Reach out to your loan servicer if you are having difficulty with your loan payments. They will share income-driven repayment options and advise if you qualify for deferment or forbearance.

- Student Loan Repayment Toolkit -<a href="https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/resumption-loan\_repayment\_toolkit.pdf">https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/resumption\_loan\_repayment\_toolkit.pdf</a>
- Step-by-Step: How to Prepare for Successful Student Loan Repayment (video) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDIBmaueFRQ
- Step-by-Step: How to Pick the Right Repayment Plan https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Pick Repayment Plan Infographic.pdf
- Tips & Tricks for Preparing to Resume Repayment (video) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2jILZcLJUQ
- Tips to Avoid Student Loan Scams (video) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xes3FEKyNhg
- Helpful Resources to Prepare for Student Loan Repayment -<a href="https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Resources">https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Resources</a> For Repaymen Infographic.pdf
- Apply/Recertify/Change Income-Driven Repayment Plan Requests https://studentaid.gov/idr/
- Use the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Tool https://studentaid.gov/pslf/
- Understand Loan Delinquency and Default <a href="https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/default">https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/default</a>