

THE REPAYMENT OF YOUR NURSING LOAN

This guide outlines your rights and responsibilities in repaying your loan. This is vital information to understand to prevent default on your loan.

The type of Nursing Loan you borrowed is dependent on the Nursing Loan regulations in effect at the time you borrowed the funds.

EXIT COUNSELING

Federal regulations require you to complete exit counseling on your loans prior to your departure from MU, become non degree seeking, or if your enrollment at MU drops to less than half-time. A hold is placed on transcript requests and your diploma until your exit counseling is satisfactorily completed.

GRACE PERIOD

The period of time between graduation (or ceasing to be enrolled at least half time as a degree seeking student) and the beginning of loan repayment. Nursing Loans have a 9-month grace period. You are not required to make payments during the grace period. Any payments made during the grace period before interest accrues will be applied toward principal.

INTEREST RATE

The interest rate on Nursing Loans is 5% per year. Interest is computed monthly on the unpaid principal balance. Any extra payments you make toward principal will reduce the amount of interest you will pay over the life of the loan. Interest begins to accrue at the end of the grace period, but BEFORE the first payment is due.

LENGTH OF REPAYMENT

Borrowers who separated (graduated, withdrew, became non-degree seeking, or dropped to less than half time enrollment) from MU must repay their loans at a minimum payment of \$40.00/month or at a payment amount which will repay the loan in 10 years, whichever is higher.

REPAYMENT

The first payment due, your minimum payment amount, and term of the loan is on your truth-in-lending form provided to you during exit counseling.

The total amount of interest indicated on the truth-in-lending statement assumes payments are received on the 1st day of every month as outlined on the truth-in-lending form. The actual amount of interest paid will depend on the date payments are received.

Payments are applied to any interest and/or fees outstanding, then towards principal. You may prepay at anytime without penalty. If you want to pay ahead, you must include a note specifying this along with your payment.

THE BILLING PROCESS

Once your loan enters repayment you will be sent a billing statement each month. Bills are computed around the 12th of the month and are due on the 1st, approximately 2 weeks later.

A payment is required each month. Payments received are first applied to the amount billed. Any extra payments will be applied to principal and not to future payments unless sent to 14 Jesse Hall with a note specifying how to apply.

Failure to submit your payments on time may result in late charges being assessed to each loan. Any payments returned to us as unpaid will be assessed a \$20.00 service charge. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING YOUR LOAN PAYMENT EACH MONTH EVEN IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A BILL.**

CREDIT BUREAU REPORTING

All student loans are reported to a national credit bureau monthly. If you are current on your loan payments you will establish a good credit history. If your loan becomes past due, the delinquency is reported to a credit bureau. Past due reportings will affect your ability to take out other loans, such as a mortgage or car loan. Some employers and landlords use credit ratings in their decisions to employ and rent.

DEFERMENT/CANCELLATION

A deferment is an authorized period of time during which payments are not required and interest does not accrue. Any payments made during this period will be applied to principal.

A listing of deferments available on Nursing Loans is on the reverse of this brochure. To qualify for deferment your loan must be in current status. You must notify our office to request deferment. Forms and other documentation may be required. Once our office receives all the necessary information and documents, your loan is put in "pre-deferment." During pre-deferment, billing is delayed. Near the end of the pre-deferment, period you must submit a deferment form. The deferment form must be completed and certified by the appropriate official. The certified deferment form must be received in our office in a timely manner to finalize your deferment. Certified deferment forms for student status must be completed each semester.

If you discontinue the activity for which your loan was deferred, you must notify us immediately. Your loan will only qualify for deferment for the period that you engaged in the activity. All other periods of deferment will be removed from your loan. Late notification could result in your loan becoming delinquent.

Failure to submit deferment forms in a timely manner may result in negative credit bureau reporting. If the certified deferment form is not received in our office in a timely manner, the "pre-deferment" is removed from your account and you will be billed for all the previous months that had been "pre-deferred." Your account would immediately be considered past due. Because we report all loan accounts to the credit bureau monthly, your account would be reported to the credit bureau as extremely past due.

Under certain conditions you may have a portion of your loan canceled based on the criteria below specific to the particular type of loan you owe. However, the cancellations based on serving in a nursing shortage area are not in effect at this time. Should funding become available from the Department of Health and Human Services we will enact the cancellations and notify all possibly qualified borrowers.

If you have a disability and need this publication in an alternate format, please contact us. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your needs.

GUIDE TO PREVENTING DEFAULT

The key to preventing default is COMMUNICATION!!

Payments - It is your responsibility to repay your loan in accordance with the truth-in-lending statement. Payments are due on the 1st day of each month.

Credit Reporting – All loans, whether current or past due, are **reported** to a national credit bureau each month beginning with the date of disbursement.

Your Contact Information - It is your responsibility to immediately inform the MU Student Loan Repayment Center of any change in name, address, telephone number, or social security number. This may be done online at www.ecsi.net or by noting changes on your billing statement, calling our office, or sending notification in writing to our office (name & SSN changes require written documentation). **Changing your address with one office of the University does not assure that all offices will receive this information.**

Payment Difficulties -Contact us if you cannot make a payment. Our trained loan advisors will work with you to make payment arrangements.

Default - Should you miss two payments, your loan will be considered in default. Your loan can be "accelerated" and sent to a collection agency. "Accelerated" means your loan becomes due in full. When a loan is accelerated, deferment and cancellation privileges are lost. You will have to pay the collection agency's commission on your loan, which can be very high. You can be taken to court and may have to pay all attorney fees and court costs.

Transcripts - MU will not release a transcript for any borrower who is past due on loan payments, has incomplete exit counseling paperwork and/or is in default on an account with MU.

Deferment/Cancellation- Failure to follow procedures explained in your promissory note and this brochure may result in denial of deferment and/or cancellation privileges

DEFERMENTS*

10 Yr. Limit – Full or half time course of study at a collegiate school of nursing leading to a baccalaureate degree in nursing or equivalent, or a graduate degree in nursing, or otherwise pursues advanced professional training in nursing or training to be a nurse anesthetist.

3 Yr. Limit – Peace Corps Volunteer; Active duty in uniformed service of the United States

CANCELLATIONS*

Death of the borrower - certified copy of the death certificate is required for cancellation. 100% cancellation.

Total and permanent disability - borrower is unable to work and earn money because of an impairment that is expected to continue indefinitely or result in death. Physician certification and documentation is required. 100% cancellation.

Partial cancellation for yearly service in Nursing shortage area designated by the DHHS.
Funding is not available at this time. You will be contacted should you qualify upon available funding.

** The above descriptions are a brief summary of cancellations available. More restrictions may apply.

The University of Missouri has contracted with ECSI to service its student loans. If you have questions about your loan, please contact the below:

University of Missouri-Columbia/ECSI
181 Montour Run Road
Coraopolis, PA 15108
Phone: 1-888-549-3274

Access your account online at: www.ecsi.net

If you have problems contacting ECSI, you may also contact us directly at:

MU Student Loan Repayment Center
14 Jesse Hall
Columbia, MO 65211-1020
Phone: 573-882-6654
Email: muloans@missouri.edu



NURSING LOAN

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

