# Understanding and Managing Student Debt 

## CU Debt Management

# Facing the Numbers 

The U.S. is drowning in student debt
$\$ 704$ billion

Americans outstanding credit card credi \$867 billion

Total outstanding

student
loan debt

However, college is still worth the investment and today we will talk about your options for managing your debt

The crisis is already spreading beyond twenty-somethings - and will only get worse


## Student Loans

- Stafford Loans
- Subsidized Stafford Loans
- Unsubsidized Stafford Loans
- Perkins Loans
- Parent PLUS Loans
- Graduate PLUS Loans
- Private Student Loans


## Tracking Your Loans

- www.nslds.gov - a database which stores information on federal grants and loans.
- Amounts of federal loans
- Status of loans
- Loan servicer(s).
- Access NSLDS using your Federal Student Aid PIN.


## StudentLoans.gov Resources

- Fed Student Loan Counseling
- Repayment Calculator
- Income sensitive Repayment Plan Application
- Consolidation application



## StudentLoans.gov

START HERE
GO F URTHER
FEDERAL STUDENT AID ${ }^{\circ}$
StudentLoans.gov
English | Español

FOIA Privacy Security Notices Stay Connected: $f$ WhiteHouse.gov USA.gov ED.gov

University of Colorado
Boulder

## Repayment Estimator

## Loan Information



## Repayment Plans

- Know that you have options
- Change repayment plans
- Be on a shorter repayment schedule
- Find yourself in a bind? Talk to your servicer about your options


## Standard Repayment Plan

- Fixed Payments
- Made for a period of 10 years
- Potentially up to 30 years for consolidation
- Automatically defaulted into this plan
- Saves you the most money over time


## Graduated and Extended

## Repayment Plans

|  | Graduated | Extended Fixed | Extended Graduated |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Repayment Period | 10 Years | 25 years | 25 years |
| Payment Type | Payments start low, then increase every 2 years | Fixed Payments | Payments start low, then increase every 2 years |
| Conditions and Payment Guidelines | Payments must be at least equal to monthly interest due. <br> No single payment will be more than 3 times greater than any other payment. | More than \$30,000 in Direct Loans and/or more than \$30,000 in FFEL Loans. <br> New borrower as of Oct. 7, 1998. <br> Payments of $\$ 50$ or more. | More than \$30,000 in Direct Loans and/or more than \$30,000 in FFEL Loans. <br> New borrower as of Oct. 7, 1998. <br> Payments must be at least equal to monthly interest due <br> No single payment will be more than 3 times greater than any other payment. |

## Pay as you Earn Repayment Plan

- Usually has the lowest monthly payment amount
- No loans prior to Oct 1, 2007 and must have received a disbursement of a Direct Loan on or after Oct 1, 2011
- Partial financial hardship
- 10 percent of your discretionary income
- 20 years forgiveness


## Income Based Repayment

- Designed to reduce monthly payments to assist with making your student loan manageable
- Must have partial financial hardship
- Monthly based payments based on income and family size
- Made over a payment of 25 years
- 15 percent of your discretionary income


## Income Contingent Repayment

- Designed to reduce monthly payments to assist with making your student loan manageable
- Must have partial financial hardship
- Monthly based payments based on income and family size
- Made over a payment of 25 years
- 20 percent of your discretionary income


## Examples of Income-Driven Repayment Plans

Loan Balance: 30k; AGI: 30k; Unmarried Family of 1

|  | Standard | ICR | IBR | Pay As You Eamn |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly Payment (Min.) | $\$ 345.24$ | $\$ 232.60$ | $\$ 160.00$ | $\$ 106.00$ |
| Monthly Payment (Max.) | NA | $\$ 302.45$ | NA | NA |
| Term ( ( of Worths) | 120 | 181 | 300 | 240 |
| Total Interest | $\$ 11,429$ | $\$ 19,327$ | $\$ 47,869$ | $\$ 25,530$ |
| Total Paid | $\$ 41,429$ | $\$ 30,000$ | $\$ 47,869$ | $\$ 25,530$ |
| Amount Forgiven | NA | $\$ 19,327$ | $\$ 30,000$ | $\$ 30,000$ |

Loan Balance: 100k; AGI: 90k; Unmarried Family of 1

|  | Standard | ICR | IBR | Pay As You Earn |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly Payment (Min.) | $\$ 1,151.00$ | $\$ 1,228,77$ | $\$ 910.00$ | $\$ 606.00$ |
| Monthly Payment (Max.) | N/A | $\$ 1,417,05$ | N/A | NA |
| Term ( (offMorths) | 120 | 102 | 173 | 240 |
| Total Interest | $\$ 38,096$ | $\$ 32,728$ | $\$ 57,028$ | $\$ 125,340$ |
| Total Paid | $\$ 138,096$ | $\$ 132,728$ | $\$ 157,028$ | $\$ 145,530$ |
| Amount Forgiven | N/A | NA | N/A | $\$ 79,810$ |

Loan Balance: 60k; AGI: 60k; Married Family of 3

|  | Standard | ICR | IBR | Pay As You Eam |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly Payment (Min.). | $\$ 690.48$ | $\$ 610.65$ | $\$ 384.00$ | $\$ 256.00$ |
| Monthly Payment (Max.) | N/A | $\$ 753,27$ | N/A | N/A |
| Term (\# of llonths) | 120 | 127 | 300 | 240 |
| Total Interest | $\$ 22,858$ | $\$ 25,391$ | $\$ 80,755$ | $\$ 61,410$ |
| Total Paid | $\$ 82,858$ | $\$ 85,391$ | $\$ 155,144$ | $\$ 61,410$ |
| Amount Forgiven | I/A | N/A | $\$ 25,611$ | $\$ 60,000$ |

Loan Balance: 250k; AGI: 90k; Married Family of 3

|  | Standard | ICR | IBR | Pay As You Eam |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly Payment MMin.) | $\$ 2,877.00$ | $\$ 1,174,50$ | $\$ 759,00$ | $\$ 506.00$ |
| Monthly Payment Max.) | N/A | $\$ 3,535,27$ | N/ | N/A |
| Term (\# of llonthss) | 120 | 256 | 300 | 240 |
| Total Interest | $\$ 95,241$ | $\$ 283,096$ | $\$ 227,644$ | $\$ 121,410$ |
| Total Paid | $\$ 345,241$ | $\$ 541,056$ | $\$ 227,644$ | $\$ 121,410$ |
| Amount Forgiven | N/A | N/ | $\$ 250,000$ | $\$ 250,000$ |

## Consolidation

Advantages:

- One lender and one monthly payment
- Possibly a reduced payment
- Increased length of repayment
- Still change repayment plans
- Prepay loans
- Still have the same repayment plan options

Disadvantages:

- Average interest rate
- Lose grace period
- You may lose repayment incentives
- You will lose cancellation and interest subsidy benefits on any Federal Perkins Loans
- Any outstanding interest on the loans you consolidate will be capitalized when you consolidate.
- More interest as you may have 30 year repayment schedule
- Borrower benefit programs may vary among different lenders


## Public Service Loan Forgiveness

Borrowers may qualify for forgiveness of the remaining balance of their Direct Loans after they have made 120 qualifying payments on those loans while employed full time by certain public service employers

## Public Service Loan Forgiveness

- Direct loans only not FFEL
- You can consolidate however only payments you made on the new Direct Consolidation Loan will count
- IBR, PAYE and ICR are qualifying repayment options
- Complete, with your employer's certification, the Employment Certification form or annually or whenever you change jobs


## Did you know?

- You can save .25\% interest on your federal loans if you sign up for automated payments
- You can deduct up to $\$ 2500$ of your paid interest from your taxes
- There is no prepayment penalty

SCENARIO \#1* > Standard Repayment Plan: YOU OWE \$50. YOU PAY \$200.


## Did you know?

## The power of additional payments on a typical loan



## Prioritizing

- Know what you owe and make a plan!
- Prioritize debts - Some debts work for you and some work against you
- Consumer debt vs. low interest rate mortgage
- Know your interest rates
- Set specific financial goals
- Pay off student loans in 5 years by making an extra $\$ 50$ payment


## Budgeting

- Framework for spending and expenses
- Use a method that works for you
- Excel spreadsheet
- www.mint.com
- Identify ways to cut


## Do your

 habitssupport your goals? expenses or increase income

- Visit http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/ for help


## Obtaining Your Credit Report

## You can receive a free credit report each year from each of the three bureaus or order reports from www.annualcreditreport.com

## Equifax

www.equifax.com

## Experian

www.experian.com

```
Trans Union
www.tuc.com
```

$>\quad$ FICO also has a free estimator that is accurate within 40 points: www.whatsmyscore.org/estimator

## Strategies to Save Money

## We know you have heard these tips before, but have you applied them?

Housing

- Set your thermostat lower
- Go Green (turn lights off, shorter showers)
Entertainment
- Eat out less
- Look for free CU activities

Transportation

- Cut parking permits
- Utilize public transportation
- Keep tires inflated

Food

- Shop around
- Buy in bulk
- Buy generic
- Stick to a list
- Avoid the vending machine


## Miscellaneous

- Shop around for insurance
- Ask for credit card interest rate reduction
(2)

$\square$

