




A clearer path to repayment

Loan Simulator is here to help borrowers figure out the best strategy to manage federal student loans.

Loan Simulator is a tool that can help borrowers manage and pay off their federal student loans. The tool features three modules that can help borrowers find the best repayment strategy, figure out how to manage loans when they're struggling to make payments, or plan a repayment strategy if they borrow more. Loan Simulator is not just for borrowers with loans; the tool also can be used by customers who are planning to get federal loans in the future.

 <p>I Want to Find the Best Repayment Strategy</p> <p>We will recommend a repayment plan based on your needs and goals and help you explore options like making extra payments or consolidating your loans.</p> <p>Log In and Start</p> <p>Or Start From Scratch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See how you can lower your payment.• See how you can pay off your loans faster.• Decide whether to consolidate.	 <p>I'm Struggling With My Payments</p> <p>Decide whether you want to temporarily stop payments or lower your monthly payment instead.</p> <p>Log In and Start</p> <p>Or Start From Scratch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider a new repayment plan instead of suspending payments.• Find out about the impacts of suspending payments.• Learn how to avoid loan default.	 <p>I Want to Simulate Borrowing More Money</p> <p>Find out what happens when you borrow more money to pay for education expenses, returning to school, or finishing your studies later than expected.</p> <p>Log In and Start</p> <p>Or Start From Scratch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore impacts when you borrow more.• Find out about federal loan limits.• See how choice of school affects how much you may need to borrow.
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Find the best repayment strategy

The “I Want to Find the Best Repayment Strategy” module of Loan Simulator allows borrowers to determine what repayment plan best fits their needs and goals. When customers are logged in, their federal loan data is automatically populated in the tool, so that they can be sure that their debt information is accurate. The tool also asks questions about income, marital status, and family composition to determine monthly payment estimates that are based on a borrower's specific circumstances.

A unique feature of Loan Simulator is the ability to select a repayment goal. Borrowers can choose to pay down as quickly as possible, minimize interest paid, pay off by a certain date, or make the lowest monthly payment, among other goals. These goals are accounted for in Loan Simulator’s repayment plan recommendation.







In addition to receiving a recommended plan, borrowers can also compare plans to

determine which one best fits their needs, or receive multiple recommendations if they have several different types of loans, such as Federal Direct Loans and Federal Perkins Loans. Once a borrower chooses a repayment strategy, Loan Simulator guides the borrower through next steps, including any necessary applications, such as those for loan consolidation or enrollment in an income-driven repayment plan.

Get help when struggling with payments

The “I’m Struggling With My Payments” module of Loan Simulator provides guidance to borrowers who are having trouble making or keeping up with loan payments. The tool guides borrowers through a series of questions that can help them understand if they should consider temporarily pausing payments or enrolling in a different repayment plan. The tool also screens borrowers for the most common types of deferments and forbearances. In addition to providing options, borrowers also receive information on how a paused payment or different repayment plan impacts their repayment strategy, including an explanation of interest accrual and capitalization.

What is your primary repayment goal?
(Select one tile.)

 Pay Off My Loans As Fast As Possible	 Have a Low Monthly Payment	 Pay the Lowest Total Amount Over Time
 Choose My Monthly Payment	 Pay Off by a Certain Date	 I Don't Have a Specific Goal

OPTION 1

Apply for an Income-Driven Repayment Plan Simulate and Apply

An income-driven repayment plan sets your monthly student loan payment at an amount that is intended to be affordable based on your income and family size.

TEMPORARILY STOPS PAYMENTS	INTEREST SUBSIDY BENEFITS	COUNTS TOWARD LOAN FORGIVENESS	LONG-TERM SOLUTION
✗	✓	✓	✓

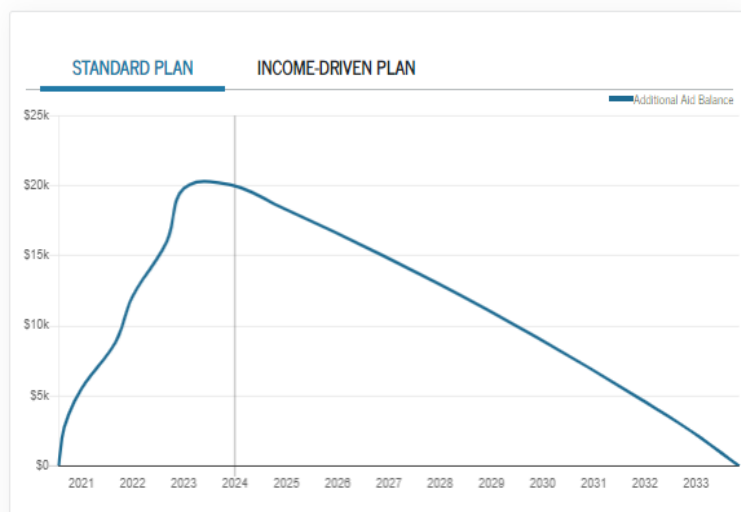
Simulate borrowing more

The “I Want to Simulate Borrowing More Money” module of Loan Simulator provides borrowers with the ability to determine the impact of borrowing more federal loans on their repayment strategy. The module allows borrowers to pull in information from their school and program from the [College Scorecard](#) to estimate college costs and future earnings so that FSA can provide a reasonable estimate of what their new monthly payments could look like. The module also provides borrowers with an estimate of how much more they can borrow based on the aid they have received in the past and their prospective program and credential level.

Your Results

Based on the information you provided, we estimate you may be eligible to borrow up to **\$19,500** in federal loans and pay approximately **\$4,924** in interest for your program.

We estimate you will pay about **\$208** per month over **10 years** on a **standard plan**.



How accurate is Loan Simulator?

All tools like Loan Simulator use a set of assumptions in order to provide reasonable estimates with minimal inputs – that way, it’s easier for borrowers to get actionable information! Of course, that requires customers to input accurate and thorough information as well. While Loan Simulator can’t predict future payments with 100 percent certainty, we do believe that this tool provides actionable and up-to-date information on how to manage federal loan repayment.

One important caveat is that Loan Simulator currently is not able to account for interest rate fluctuations, including the 0% interest period provided by Congress and the President in response to the COVID-19 national emergency. As a result, repayment plans displayed in Loan Simulator may provide estimates that are lower than they will be once the 0% interest rate ends. Borrowers can manually input their loan and [interest rate information](#) to get more accurate results.