

# Federal Student Loan Terms Have Changed—What You Need to Know

**The federal government has made changes to student loans, which could impact Philadelphia borrowers.** COVID-19 protections have ended and your credit could now be impacted. You could also lose your Income Tax refund and benefits like social security or disability. Read below for more information on how to secure your financial health.

## IF YOU HAVE FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN DEBT:

**Know your servicer, balance, status, and options.**

- Step 1:** Log into [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to check your current loan balance, who your loan servicer is and if your loans are in default.
- Step 2:** Log into your loan services account to view your payment schedule, see if you have past due notices, and set up or update your payment method.
- Step 3:** Look into repayment plan options. You may qualify for a plan based on your income, which can lower your monthly amount to keep your loans in good standing.
- Step 4:** Have a past due balance? Call your servicer now. Ask about retroactive administrative forbearance or other options to stop collections before they start.

## IF YOU'RE ENROLLED IN SAVE PLAN OR PARENT PLUS LOANS:

**Starting Aug 1, 2025** interest resumed for borrowers in the SAVE plan. You don't need to make payments while in forbearance, but interest will accrue and the balance of the loans will increase. You can stay in SAVE for now or switch to a new plan. SAVE forbearance will likely end in the future. Review your options to determine the best plan to move to.

**Starting July 1, 2026** Parent Plus loans will no longer be eligible for ICR and IBR. If you have an existing Parent Plus loan that is not already in an income-based repayment plan, action must be taken to consolidate into a IBR or ICR before July 1, 2026. After July 1, 2026 all Parent Plus loans (new or existing and not in a ICR) will only qualify for the Standard Repayment Plan.

## IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE:

**Visit the links below or scan the QR code to learn more.**

- Ed Cap**, based in New York, offers information for student loan borrowers:  
<https://www.edcapny.org/>
- CLS** offers services to student loan borrowers:  
<https://clsphila.org/services/student-loans/>
- Clarifi** offers free financial counseling:  
<https://www.clarifi.org/what-we-do/financial-empowerment/counseling/>

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