

# **POST-DISCHARGE MONITORING: TOTAL AND** PERMANENT DISABILITY

# William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program / Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program / Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) **Program / TEACH Grant Program**

WARNING: Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form or on any accompanying document is subject to penalties that may include fines, imprisonment, or both, under the U.S. Criminal Code and 20 U.S.C. 1097.

# **SECTION 1: DISCHARGE RECIPIENT INFORMATION**

Please enter or correct the following information.

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SSN	 		
Name			
Address			
City	 State	Zip Code	
Telephone - Primary			
Telephone - Alternate			
Email (Optional)			

# SECTION 2: DOCUMENTATION OF EARNED INCOME

Carefully read the entire form. Type or print in dark ink. Sign and date the form in Section 3. Include your name and Social Security Number on any documentation that you submit with this form. Submit this form to the address in Section 6.

Your obligation to repay a discharged loan or complete a discharged TEACH Grant service obligation will be reinstated if you receive annual earnings from employment above the poverty guideline for a family size of two, regardless of your actual family size, for any of the three years following the date that your loans and/or service obligations were discharged. The poverty guidelines are issued annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and are available at: aspe.hhs.gov/poverty. For 2016, the poverty guidelines for a family size of two are:

	Family Size	48 States & DC	Alaska	Hawaii	If you do not live in one of the 50 states or DC, we		
	2	\$16,020	\$20,020	\$18,430	will use the poverty guideline for the 48 states.		
Di	d vou have in	come earned from	employment betw	and ?			

Did you have income earned from *employment* between

Yes - You must provide documentation of all income you receive from employment or self-employment. See below.

No - By signing this form, you are certifying that you had no earned income from employment during the period identified above. Continue to Section 3.

# Acceptable Documentation of Earned Income

- You must provide one piece of supporting documentation for each source of income earned from employment. For example, documentation includes a federal or state income tax return, a W-2, a federal income tax return transcript, an earnings statement from the Social Security Administration, an earnings statement from a state or local agency, or a pay stub from any employment.
- Unless the frequency is clearly indicated on the documentation that you provide, write on your documentation how often you receive the income, for example, "twice per month" or "every other week".
- If you are submitting documentation of income that you receive on a calendar-year basis, but a portion of the income in the documentation is outside of the period for which you are providing documentation, write on your documentation the amount of the income that you received during the period identified above.
- Copies of original documentation are acceptable.
- If **no documentation** of your earned income is available, submit a signed statement explaining the amount and source of your earned income.

Do not provide documentation of unearned income, such as income from interest or dividends. Do not report untaxed income, such as Supplemental Security Income, child support, or federal or state public assistance.

#### Recipient SSN

# SECTION 3: RECIPIENT'S UNDERSTANDINGS AND CERTIFICATION

I understand that I may be required to repay my discharged loans and/or complete my discharged TEACH Grant service obligation if, during the three-year post-discharge monitoring period, which begins on the date that I receive a discharge:

- 1. I receive annual earnings from employment that exceed the poverty guideline amount for a family of two in my state, regardless of my actual family size;
- 2. I receive a new loan under the Direct Loan or Perkins Loan Program or a new TEACH Grant;
- 3. I receive a disbursement of a Direct Loan, Perkins Loan, or TEACH Grant that was initially disbursed prior to my discharge date and I fail to ensure that the disbursement is returned to the loan holder or (for a TEACH Grant) to the U.S. Department of Education within 120 days of the disbursement date; or
- 4. The Social Security Administration determines that I am no longer disabled or changes my continuing disability review period to a period that is shorter than 5-7 years or more, after I had been previously determined to be disabled by the Social Security Administration and was receiving SSDI or SSI benefits with a continuing disability review period of 5-7 years or more.

I certify that all of the information I have provided on this form and in any accompanying documentation is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Recipient's or Representative's SignatureDateRepresentative Name (if applicable)

**NOTE**: You may designate someone to represent you in matters related to your application. If you wish to designate a representative, you must complete the Applicant Representative Designation: Total and Permanent Disability form.

#### **SECTION 4: DEFINITIONS**

A **discharge** due to a total and permanent disability cancels your obligation (and, if applicable, an endorser's obligation) to repay the remaining balance on your discharged loans or to satisfy your discharged TEACH Grant service obligation.

The **post-discharge monitoring period** begins on the date the U.S. Department of Education grants a discharge of your loan or TEACH Grant service obligation and lasts for three years. If you fail to meet certain conditions at any time during or at the end of the post-discharge monitoring period, the U.S. Department of Education will reinstate your obligation to repay your loan or complete your TEACH Grant service obligation. See Section 5 for more information.

The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program includes Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, Direct PLUS Loans, and Direct Consolidation Loans. The Federal Perkins (Perkins) Loan Program includes Federal Perkins Loans, National Direct Student Loans (NDSL), and National Defense Student Loans (Defense Loan).

The **Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program** requires individuals to complete a teaching service obligation as a condition for receiving a TEACH Grant.

A **representative** is a member of your family, your attorney, a law firm or legal aid society, or another individual or organization authorized to act on your behalf in connection with your total and permanent disability discharge application.

# SECTION 5: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE POST-DISCHARGE MONITORING PERIOD

# Post-discharge monitoring period

If you were granted a discharge, we will monitor your status during the 3-year post-discharge monitoring period that begins on the date the discharge is granted. We will reinstate your obligation to repay your loan(s) and/or to complete your TEACH Grant service if, at any time during the post-discharge monitoring period, you:

- Receive annual earnings from employment that exceed the poverty guideline amount for a family of two in your state, regardless of your actual family size;
- Receive a new loan under the Direct Loan Program or Perkins Loan Program, or a new TEACH Grant;
- Receive a disbursement of a Direct Loan, Perkins Loan, or TEACH Grant that was initially disbursed prior to your discharge date and fail to ensure that the disbursement is returned to the loan holder or (for a TEACH Grant) to us within 120 days of the disbursement date; or
- If your discharge was based on Social Security Administration (SSA) documentation, you receive a notice from the SSA indicating that you are no longer disabled or that your continuing disability review will no longer be 5 to 7 years or more from the date of your last SSA disability determination.

During the 3-year post-discharge monitoring period, we will monitor the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) to determine whether you have received a new loan under the Direct Loan Program or the Perkins Loan Program or a TEACH Grant, or whether you have failed to ensure that a loan or TEACH Grant disbursement was returned to the loan holder or (for a TEACH Grant) to us within 120 days of the disbursement date.

During the 3-year post-discharge monitoring period, you (or your representative) must:

- Promptly notify us if your annual earnings from employment exceed the poverty guideline amount for a family of two in your state, regardless of your actual family size;
- Promptly notify us of any changes in your address or telephone number;
- Provide us with documentation of your annual earnings from employment, on a form that we will provide; and
- If your discharge was based on SSA documentation, promptly notify us if the SSA determines that you are no longer disabled or changes your continuing disability review period to a period that is shorter than 5 to 7 years.

# *Reinstatement of obligation to repay a loan or complete a TEACH Grant service obligation*

If you do not meet the requirements outlined above at any time during or at the end of the post-discharge monitoring period, we will reinstate your obligation to repay your loans and/or to complete your TEACH Grant service.

If your loan is reinstated, you will be responsible for repaying your loans to us in accordance with the terms of your promissory note(s). Your loans will be returned to the status that would have existed if we had not received your total and permanent disability discharge application. However, you will not be required to pay interest on your loans for the period from the date of the discharge until the date your repayment obligation was reinstated. We will be your loan holder.

If your TEACH Grant service obligation is reinstated, you will again be subject to the requirements of your TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve. If you do not meet the terms of that agreement and the TEACH Grant funds you received are converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, you must repay that loan in full, and interest will be charged from the date(s) that the TEACH Grant funds were disbursed.

If your obligation to repay your loans or complete your TEACH Grant service obligation is reinstated, we will notify you of the reinstatement. This notification will include:

- The reason or reasons for the reinstatement;
- For loans, an explanation that the first payment due date on the loan following the reinstatement will be no earlier than 60 days following the date of the notification of reinstatement; and
- Information on how you may contact us if you have questions about the reinstatement, or if you believe that your obligation to repay a loan or complete TEACH Grant service was reinstated based on incorrect information.

# SECTION 6: WHERE TO SEND THE COMPLETED FORM

Return the completed form and any documentation to: U.S. Department of Education - TPD Servicing P.O. Box 87130

Lincoln, NE 68501-7130 Fax to: 303-696-5250 Email to: <u>disabilityinformation@nelnet.com</u>

#### **SECTION 7: IMPORTANT NOTICES**

**Privacy Act Notice.** The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) requires that the following notice be provided to you:

The authorities for collecting the requested information from and about you are §421 et seq., §451 et seq., §461, or §420L of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq., 20 U.S.C. 1087aa et seq., or 20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.) and the authorities for collecting and using your Social Security Number (SSN) are §§428B(f) and 484(a)(4) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1078-2(f) and 1091(a)(4)) and 31 U.S.C. 7701(b). Participating in the Direct Loan,FFEL, Perkins Loan, or TEACH Grant program and giving us your SSN are voluntary, but you must provide the requested information, including your SSN, to participate.

The principal purposes for collecting the information on this form, including your SSN, are to verify your identity, to determine your eligibility to receive a loan or a benefit on a loan (such as a deferment, forbearance, discharge, or forgiveness) under the Direct Loan, FFEL, Federal Perkins Loan or TEACH Grant Programs, to permit the servicing of your loans, and, if it becomes necessary, to locate you and to collect and report on your loans if your loans become delinquent or default. We also use your SSN as an account identifier and to permit you to access your account information electronically.

The information in your file may be disclosed, on a caseby-case basis or under a computer matching program, to third parties as authorized under routine uses in the appropriate systems of records notices. The routine uses of this information include, but are not limited to, its disclosure to federal, state, or local agencies, to private parties such as relatives, present and former employers, business and personal associates, to consumer reporting agencies, to financial and educational institutions, and to guaranty agencies in order to verify your identity, to determine your eligibility to receive a loan or a benefit on a loan, to permit the servicing or collection of your loans, to enforce the terms of the loans, to investigate possible fraud and to verify compliance with federal student financial aid program regulations, or to locate you if you become delinguent in your loan payments or if you default. To provide default rate calculations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to state agencies. To provide financial aid history information, disclosures may be made to educational institutions.

If you need help completing this form, contact us: Phone: 1-888-303-7818 (TTY: dial 711, then phone no.) Email: <u>disabilityinformation@nelnet.com</u> Website: <u>www.disabilitydischarge.com</u>

To assist program administrators with tracking refunds and cancellations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal or state agencies. To provide a standardized method for educational institutions to efficiently submit student enrollment statuses, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies or to financial and educational institutions. To counsel you in repayment efforts, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal, state, or local agencies.

In the event of litigation, we may send records to the Department of Justice, a court, adjudicative body, counsel, party, or witness if the disclosure is relevant and necessary to the litigation. If this information, either alone or with other information, indicates a potential violation of law, we may send it to the appropriate authority for action. We may send information to members of Congress if you ask them to help you with federal student aid questions. In circumstances involving employment complaints, grievances, or disciplinary actions, we may disclose relevant records to adjudicate or investigate the issues. If provided for by a collective bargaining agreement, we may disclose records to a labor organization recognized under 5 U.S.C. Chapter 71. Disclosures may be made to our contractors for the purpose of performing any programmatic function that requires disclosure of records. Before making any such disclosure, we will require the contractor to maintain Privacy Act safeguards. Disclosures may also be made to gualified researchers under Privacy Act safeguards.

Paperwork Reduction Notice. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1845-0065. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with 34 CFR 674.61(b) or (c), 34 CFR 682.402(c)(2) or (c)(9), 34 CFR 685.213(b) or (c), and 34 CFR 686.42(b). If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, please contact the U.S. Department of Education directly (see Section 6).