## **Student Debt Information Session**

# Public Service Loan Forgiveness Temporary Changes





# What Is Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)?

Program created by Congress in 2007

Encourage workers to pursue a career in public service

**A Promise** 

After 10 years of public service work and on-time payments of their loans

Remainder of their debts

Will be forgiven

## **Public Service Loan Forgiveness Requirements**



# Right Type of Loan:

**Direct Loans** 

Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loans

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford/Ford Loans

Federal Direct PLUS Loans
(Direct PLUS Loans)

—for parents and graduate or professional students

Federal Direct Consolidation Loans (Direct Consolidation Loans)

# Right Type of Repayment Plan:

Income Driven
Repayment Plans

Income-Based Repayment (IBR) Pay As You Earn (New IBR) **Income Contingent Repayment** (ICR) Revised Pay as You Earn (REPAYE)

## Right Type of Employment

### Qualifying public service employers include:

Local, state and federal governments

Public schools

Public hospitals

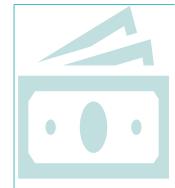
Public libraries

Public universities



Public Service Employer [30 hours]

## **Right Number of Payments**



120 qualifying payments (that's 10 years worth)



These payments do not need to be consecutive

## **Broken PSLF Promises**







**IN 2017, THE** INITIAL REJECTION **RATE WAS 99%** 

military veterans

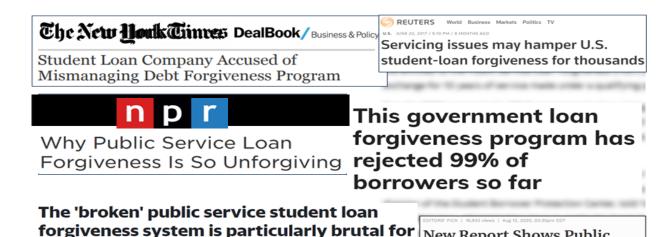
800 **APPLICATIONS OUT OF 90,000** WERE **APPROVED** 

**DENIED BECAUSE THEY HAD** THE WRONG LOAN OR **INCORRECT PAYMENT PLAN** 

**New Report Shows Public** 

Mess

Service Loan Forgiveness Is A



# Administrative & Legislative Updates

## **Moratorium on Student Loan Payments**

#### **COVID-19 Emergency Relief**

- a suspension of loan payments
- a 0% interest rate
- stopped collections on defaulted loans

#### **Relief Extensions and Expiration**

- March 20, 2020 Temporary relief from Federal Student Aid
- March 27, 2020 CARES Act extended relief through **September 30, 2020**
- August 8, 2020 Relief extended through December 31, 2020
- December 4, 2020 Relief extended through January 31, 2020
- January 20, 2021 Relief extended through September 30, 2021
- March 30, 2021 Relief extended to FFELP loans that were in default
- August 6, 2021 Relief extended through January 31, 2022
- December 22, 2021 Relief extended through May 1, 2022

## May 1, 2022 - Relief EXPIRES

Visit: StudentAid.gov/coronavirus for information on how to prepare for the restart of loan repayments.

# 2021-2022 Temporary Changes to Public Service Loan Forgiveness

#### **Immediate Relief For Some Borrowers**

- 22,000 borrowers immediately eligible for \$1.74 billion in loan forgiveness without any further action on their part, except perhaps consolidation;
- Another 27,000 borrowers who could potentially qualify for an addition \$2.82 billion in forgiveness if they simply certify additional years of employment in public service; and
- Over 550,000 borrowers who will see an increase in the number of qualifying payments, with the average borrower receiving an additional two years of credit towards forgiveness.



#DYK: So far, because of our changes to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, we've canceled more than \$2 billion in federal student loans, helping nearly 30,000 borrowers!



#### washingtonpost.com

First wave of public servants awarded student loan forgiveness through tempor... More than 30,000 borrowers are receiving an estimated \$2 billion in debt relief in this initial round, according to the Education Department.

10:50 AM · Nov 23, 2021 · Hootsuite Inc.

#### **Limited PSLF Waiver**

- Loan type: Credit for payments on FFEL and Perkins loans if the borrower consolidates (or already has)
- Payment plan: any payment counts
- Employer and payment count still apply
- Military deferments and forbearances count
- Current employment not necessary

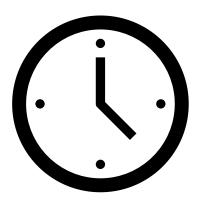


120 payments

#### **Limited PSLF Waiver**

- Not completely automatic
  - FFEL/Perkins must consolidate
  - File ECF if have not previously
- FFEL and Perkins borrowers are at greatest risk of missing out





## **DEADLINE TO ACT**

# OCTOBER 31, 2022

#### **Potential PSLF Waiver Pitfalls**

Deadline of October 31, 2022, to consolidate and/or certify employment

Only for students, not parents

Reliant on servicing industry

Simultaneous to massive servicing transfers and payments resuming

#### All public service workers with federal student loans should:

- Confirm your past or present employer is a qualified public service employer
- Confirm what type of federal student loans do you have
- Certify their employment
- Take action by October 31, 2022

## What Borrowers Need to Know . . .

- 1.Is your employer a qualified public service employer?
- 2. What loans do you have?
- 3. Have you certified your employment with the PSLF form?

#### 1. Is your employer a qualified public service employer?

- Check on the <u>www.studentaid.gov</u> PSLF Help Tool to see if any of your employers since 2007 are already qualified as public service employers. If so, then consolidate.
- If your employer is not listed, but you work for a government, 501(c)3,
   or certain other non-profit organizations, you can likely still qualify.

#### 2. What loans do you have?

- If you have anything other than a Direct Loan, you must consolidate.
- If you have a Direct Loan or already consolidated into a Direct Consolidation Loan, your loan types qualifies for PSLF.

#### 3. Have you certified your employment with the PSLF form?

- If you have a Direct Loan and certified employment since having that loan, the Department will automatically review your account for PSLF credit.
- If you have a Direct Loan and have never certified, you must submit the PSLF Form (formerly an ECF) using the <u>www.studentaid.gov</u> PSLF Help Tool.
- If you have to consolidate into a Direct Loan, you must submit the
   PSLF Form (formerly ECF) after you consolidate.

# Confirming Qualifying Employers

# Confirm your past or present employer is a qualified public service employer

- All government and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations qualify
- Some other non-profit organizations qualify
- Union employment and political organizations do not qualify
- For-profit employers do not qualify
- Check on the <u>www.studentaid.gov</u> PSLF Help Tool to see if any of your employers since 2007 are already qualified as public service employers

### Log in at https://studentaid.gov/

An official website of the United States government.

Help Center

Submit a Complaint

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**About Loan** Repayment

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Consolidate My Loans

#### **Lower My Payments**

Apply for an Income-Driven Repayment Plan

Recertify an Income-Driven Repayment Plan

Cosign Your Spouse's Income-Driven Repayment Plan Application

**Get Temporary Relief** 

#### **Qualify for Loan Forgiveness**

Public Service Loan Forgiveness

**Teacher Loan Forgiveness** 

**Closed School Discharge** 

Perkins Loan Cancellation and

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**Total and Permanent Disability** 

Discharge

Discharge Due to Death

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Borrower Defense to Repayment

False Certification Discharge

**Unpaid Refund Discharge** 

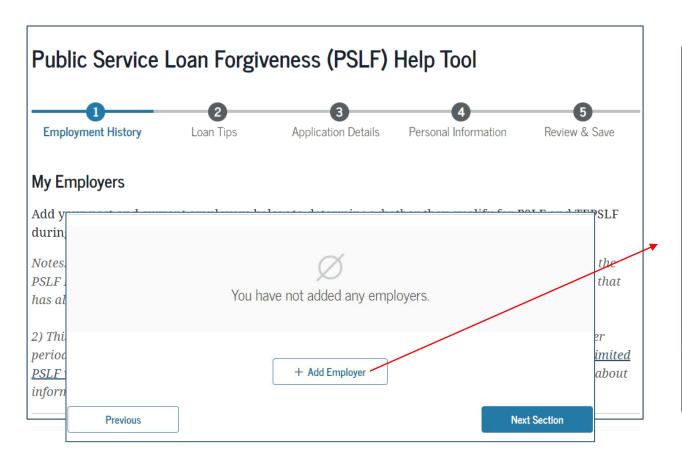
#### Delinquency and Default

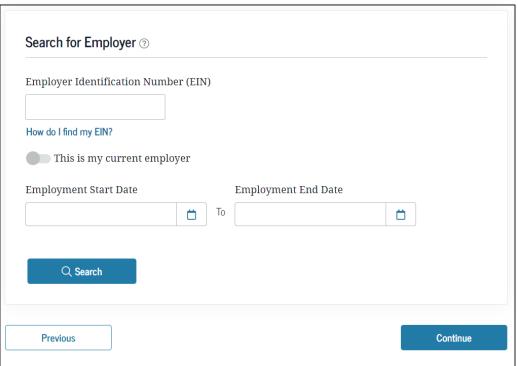
**Avoiding Default** 

Collections

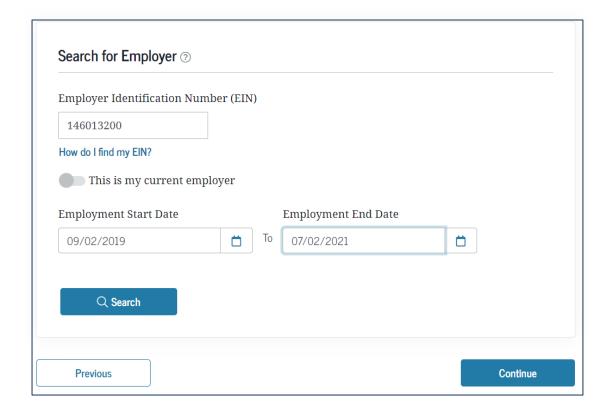
**Getting Out of Default** 

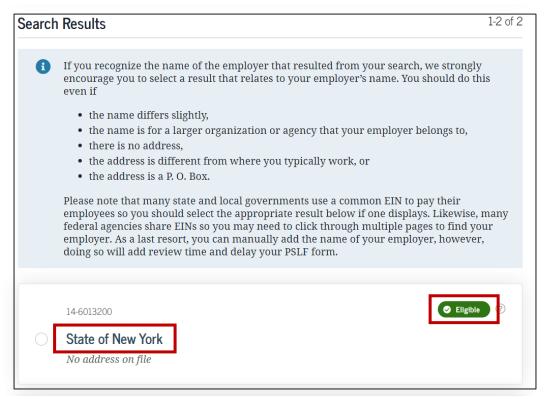
### Confirm your employer





#### Confirm your employer





# Confirming Your Student Loans Type

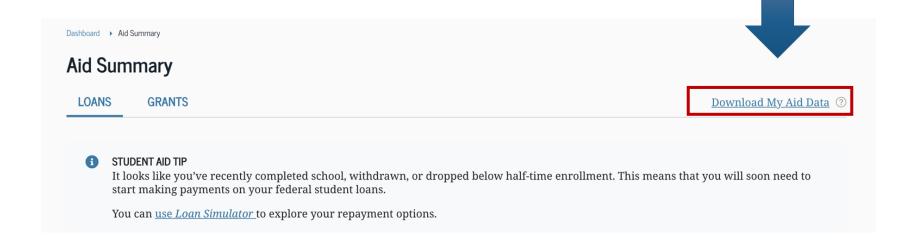
### How to tell what type of federal student loan you have

Step 1: Log into <u>studentaid.gov</u>

Step 2: Under your student aid dashboard, navigate to "View Details"

Step 3: On the top right, select "Download My Aid Data"





#### How to tell what type of federal student loan you have



```
Loan Attending School Name: SCHOOL CODE FOR CONSOLIDATION LOANS
. . .
Loan Contact Type: Current Guaranty Agency
Loan Contact Name: AMERICAN STUDENT ASSISTANCE
Loan Contact Street Address 1:P0 BOX 16129
Loan Contact Street Address 2:
Loan Contact City:ST. PAUL
Loan Contact State Code:MN
Loan Contact Zip Code:55401
Loan Contact Phone Number:833-896-1626
Loan Contact Phone Extension:
Loan Contact Email Address:asaservicing@ecmc.org
Loan Contact Web Site Address:http://ecmc.org
Loan Contact Type:Current Servicer
Loan Contact Name: AMERICAN EDUCATION SERVICES
Loan Contact Street Address 1:P0 BOX 2461
Loan Contact Street Address 2:
Loan Contact City: HARRISBURG
Loan Contact State Code:PA
Loan Contact Zip Code: 171052461
Loan Contact Phone Number: 800-233-0557
Loan Contact Phone Extension:
Loan Contact Email Address: WEBMASTER@PHEAA.ORG
Loan Contact Web Site Address:
Loan Contact Type: Current Lender
Loan Contact Name: US BANK ELT BHEA
Loan Contact Street Address 1:425 WALNUT ST.
Loan Contact Street Address 2:
```

Loan Type: FFEL CONSOLIDATED

Loan Award ID:

```
Loan Type:FFEL STAFFORD SUBSIDIZED
Loan Award ID:
Loan Attending School Name:
```

Loan Contact Type:Current ED Servicer Loan Contact Name: DEPT OF ED/FEDLOAN SERVICING (PHEAA) Loan Contact Street Address 1:P0 BOX 530210 Loan Contact Street Address 2: Loan Contact City:ATLANTA Loan Contact State Code:GA Loan Contact Zip Code:303530210 Loan Contact Phone Number:800-699-2908 Loan Contact Phone Extension: Loan Contact Email Address:accountinfo@myfedloan.org Loan Contact Web Site Address:http://myfedloan.org Loan Contact Type:Current Servicer Loan Contact Name: DEPT OF ED/FEDLOAN SERVICING(PHEAA) Loan Contact Street Address 1:P.O. BOX 69184 Loan Contact Street Address 2: Loan Contact City: HARRISBURG Loan Contact State Code:PA Loan Contact Zip Code: 171069184 Loan Contact Phone Number: 800-699-2908 Loan Contact Phone Extension: Loan Contact Email Address:accountinfo@myfedloan.org Loan Contact Web Site Address: http://www.myfedloan.org Loan Contact Type:Current Lender Loan Contact Name: U.S. DEPT OF ED/2008-2009 LPCP Loan Contact Street Address 1:830 FIRST ST., NE Loan Contact Street Address 2:

# Consolidating Your Student Loans

#### Confirm what type of federal student loans do you have

- Direct Loans, Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL), Perkins Loan
- If you have anything other than a Direct Loan, you must consolidate
- If you have a Direct Loan or already consolidated into a Direct Consolidation Loan, your loan types already qualify for PSLF

Take Action by October 31, 2022: If you have non-Direct Loan federal loans, you must consolidate them into a Direct Loan!

### Log in at https://studentaid.gov/

An official website of the United States government.

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False Certification Discharge

**Unpaid Refund Discharge** 

#### Delinquency and Default

**Avoiding Default** 

Collections

**Getting Out of Default** 

#### DIRECT CONSOLIDATION LOAN APPLICATION

#### You're currently not logged in!

You must log in to complete and submit federal student loan processes.

LOG IN

#### What is Loan Consolidation?

If you have multiple student loans you may be able to combine them into one loan with a fixed interest rate based on the average of the interest rates on the loans being consolidated. Learn more about loan consolidation.

A Direct Consolidation Loan allows you to consolidate multiple federal education loans into one loan at no cost to you.

Through your completion of the free Federal Direct Consolidation Loan Application and Promissory Note, you will confirm the loans that you want to consolidate and agree to repay the new Direct Consolidation Loan.

Once the consolidation is complete, you will have a single monthly payment on the new Direct Consolidation Loan instead of multiple monthly payments on the loans you consolidated.

Alerti On Oct. 6, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education announced a temporary period during which borrowers may receive credit for payments that previously did not qualify for PSLF or TEPSLF. Learn more about this time-limited opportunity.

Consolidate Your Loans

**LOG IN TO START** 

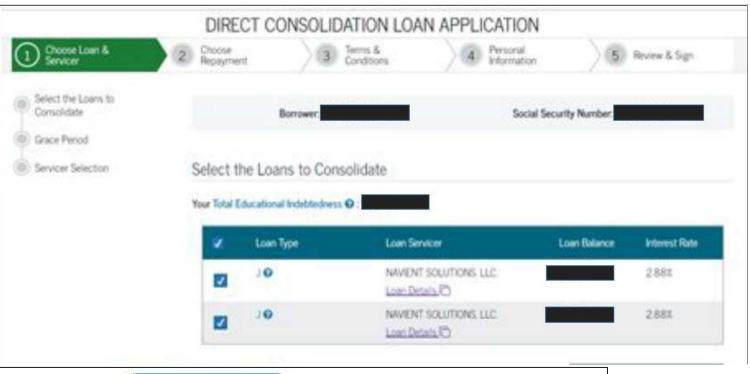
#### Who should complete this?

Borrowers who want to consolidate their federal student loans and borrowers who have outstanding FFEL or Perkins loans and want to take

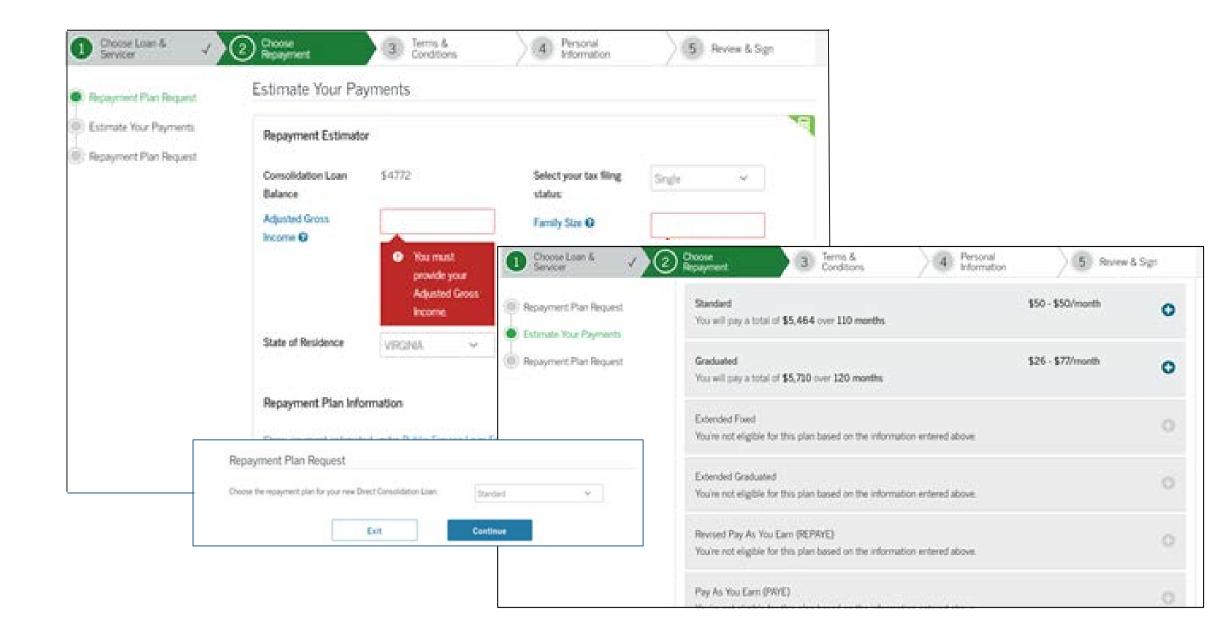
the first that the contract which

Select the loans to consolidate

 View the amount and interest rate for your new Direct Consolidation Loan







## Certifying Eligible Employers

## Take Action by October 31, 2022

- If you have to consolidate into a Direct Loan, you must submit an ECF after you consolidate
- All borrowers should certify their employment

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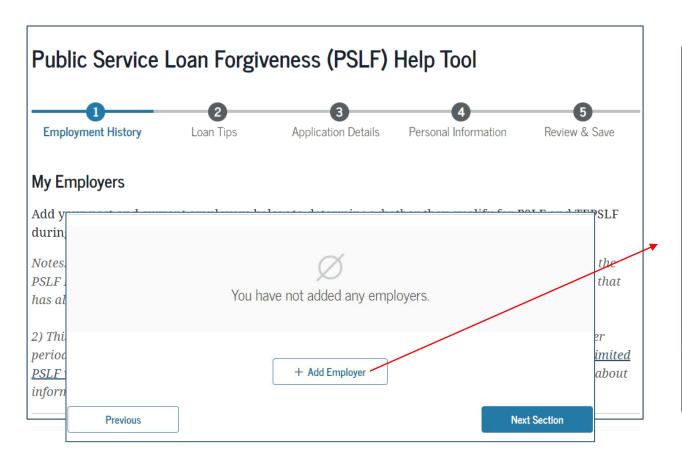
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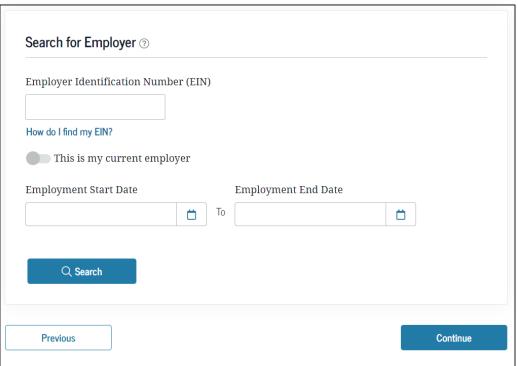
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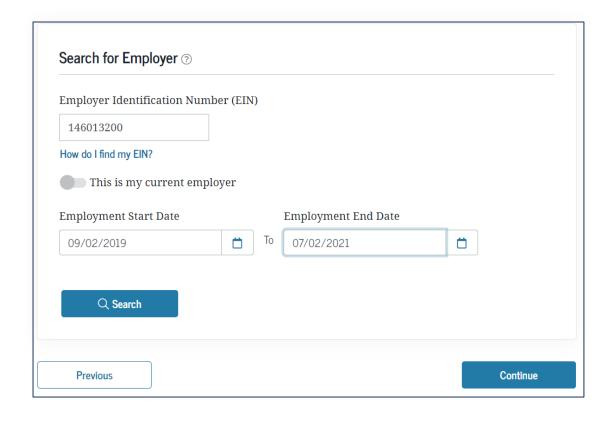
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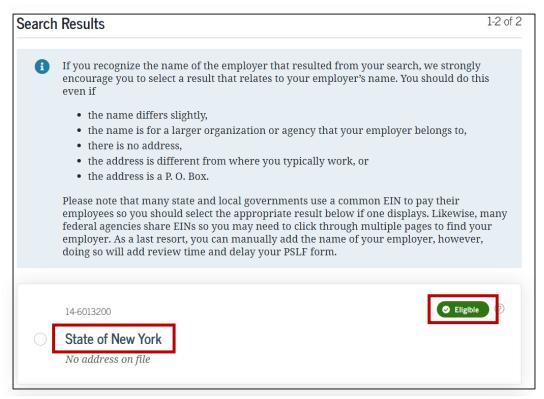
## Confirm your employer



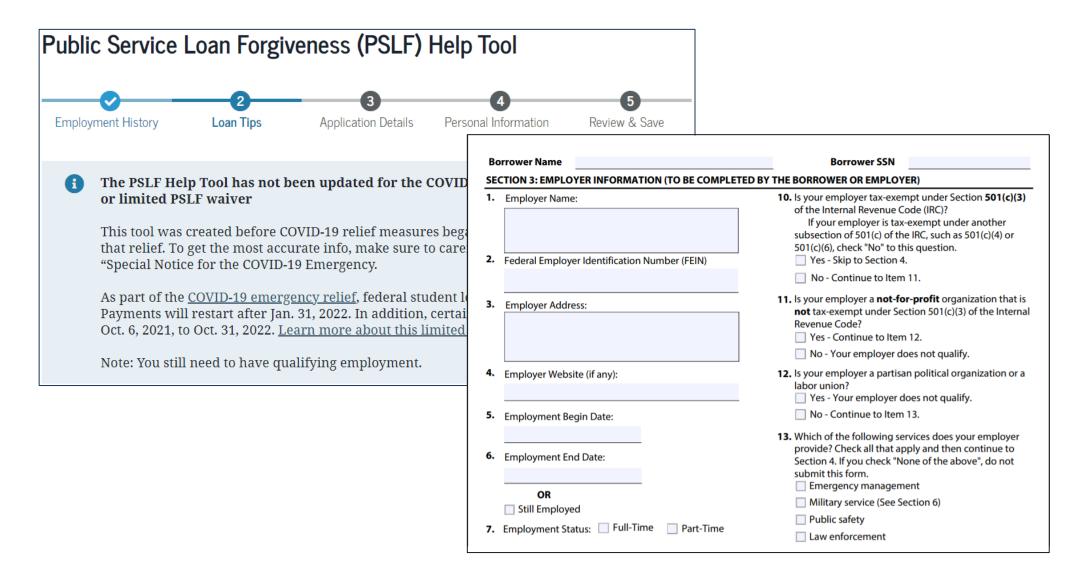


### Confirm your employer





### Generating an Employer Certification Form



## **Submitting an Employer Certification Form**



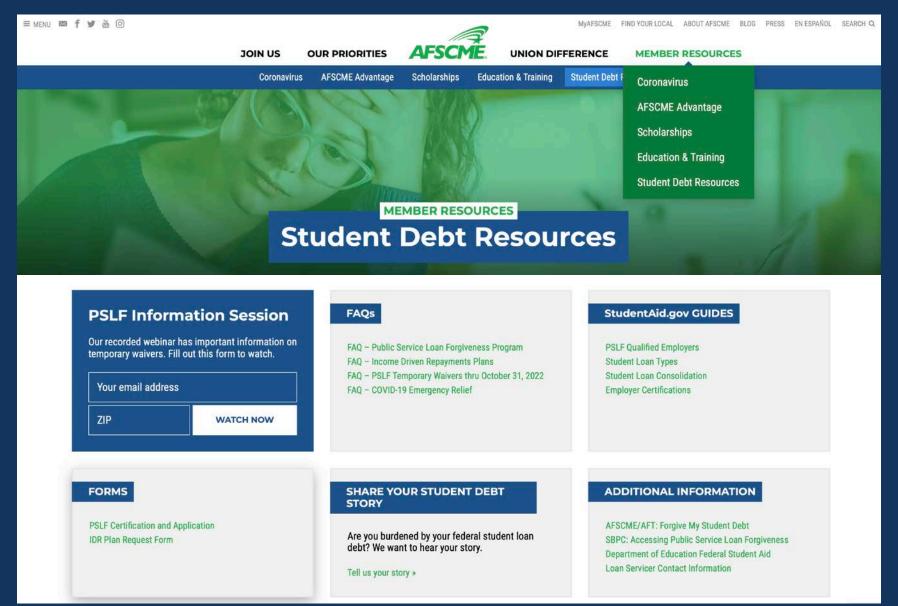
## **Important Takeaways**

#### **Important Takeaways**

- Credit will be given for months during which any loan type was in repayment
- Deadline of October 31, 2022, to consolidate and/or submit PSLF Form
   (ECF)
- Confirm your employer
- Confirm your loan types
- Consolidate if necessary
- Submit a PSLF Form
- File a complaint if you experience any issues

## **Questions & Answers**

# Resources for AFSCME Members www.AFSCME.org



# Resources for AFSCME Members https://protectborrowers.org/our-projects/pslf/



WHO WE ARE

WHAT WE DO

PRESS

BLOG

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7

#### in

#### **Guide to Navigating PSLF**

The videos below can provide you with updates on changes to the PSLF program and instructions for applying for PSLF.





**Overview of PSLF and Program Changes** 

Confirming Your Employer Qualifies for PSLF







Identifying Your Student Loans for PSLF Consolidating Your Loans for PSLF Certifying Your Employment for PSLF

# Resources for AFSCME Members www.studentloans.gov

