

Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program Eligibility Checklist

To be eligible to participate in the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program, you must meet certain requirements. Use this checklist as a guide to determine your eligibility. If you answer “yes” to all of the eligibility requirements listed below, you may qualify for teacher loan forgiveness.

- Yes No Your first loan was received after Oct. 1, 1998, and you had no outstanding balance on a FFELP or Direct Loan on or before Oct. 1, 1998.
- Yes No You have been employed for at least five consecutive, complete school years as a full-time teacher in an elementary or secondary school or educational service agency designated as low-income. Employment can be with a combination of qualifying schools.
- Yes No At least one of your five years of qualifying teaching service is after the 1997-1998 academic year.
- Yes No You received the Stafford loan for which you are requesting forgiveness before the end of your fifth year of qualifying teaching service.
- Yes No You are not in default on the loans for which you are requesting teacher loan forgiveness. If you are in default, you must have made satisfactory repayment arrangements with your loan holder.
- Yes No You have not received a benefit for the same teaching service through Subtitle D of Title I of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (AmeriCorps).

You may not receive more than the maximum teacher loan forgiveness amount you qualify for:

\$5,000 Teacher Loan Forgiveness Eligibility Qualifications

You are eligible if you have five consecutive, complete years of qualifying service that began **before** Oct. 30, 2004 and you were either:

- A full-time elementary school teacher at an eligible school who demonstrated knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics and other areas of the school’s curriculum.
- A full-time secondary school teacher at an eligible school in a subject area relevant to your academic major.
- A highly qualified full-time teacher at an eligible school as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
- A full-time educational service agency teacher at an eligible location.
- Highly qualified full-time elementary or secondary school teacher.

\$12,500 Teacher Loan Forgiveness Eligibility Qualifications

If you have five consecutive, complete years of teaching service that began **before** Oct. 30, 2004, and have already received the \$5,000 teacher loan forgiveness maximum, you may be eligible for up to \$12,500 (\$17,500 minus the \$5,000 received) if you have completed the period of service as a highly qualified full-time mathematics or science teacher in a qualifying secondary school or as a highly qualified special education teacher as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

\$17,500 Teacher Loan Forgiveness Eligibility Qualifications

If you have five consecutive, complete years of qualifying service that began **after** Oct. 30, 2004, and you were either:

- A highly qualified full-time mathematics or science teacher in a secondary school as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
- A highly qualified special education teacher whose primary responsibility was to provide special education to children with disabilities as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

You can find additional information as well as frequently asked questions regarding the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program on the Ready Set Repay website at http://www.ReadySetRepay.org/repaying/discharge_forgiveness.html. If you have questions, contact Jaime Shelton at 405.234.4281 or jshelton@ocap.org.