



2027-28 Fresh Start Acknowledgment Student and/or Parent Borrowers

Office of Student Financial Services - One University Ave - Bourbonnais, IL 60914
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ONU ID # or SSN _____ Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

Student Name _____
Last First M.I.

Student Address _____
Street (include apartment #) City State ZIP Code

For students and/or parents who defaulted prior to March 13, 2020.

The U.S. Department of Education announced on April 6, 2022, that it would eliminate the negative effects of default for borrowers who defaulted on their federal student loans prior to the pandemic payment pause. Among other features, this initiative, called “Fresh Start,” will enable borrowers with defaulted federal student loans to regain *Title IV HEA* federal student aid eligibility, including Federal Pell Grants and campus-based aid like Federal Work-Study (provided all other eligibility requirements are met). This Fresh Start initiative will remain available to previously defaulted borrowers, as identified above, for one year after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic student loan payment pause.

The Fresh Start initiative restores Title IV aid eligibility for borrowers with loans in the following categories that defaulted prior to the start of the student loan repayment pause on March 13, 2020:

- William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program loans (Direct Loans);
- Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loans, including Federal Insured Student Loans (FISL); and
- Federal Perkins Loans (Perkins Loans) that are serviced by the Department's Debt Management and Collections System (DMCS).

Students or parents who defaulted on one or more of the above listed categories must complete this form. If both the student and parent defaulted on eligible loans prior to March 13, 2020, and both will be taking out Title IV loans, then both the student and parent must complete separate forms.

I, _____, understand that I am eligible for Title IV aid as a result of the Fresh
(Student or Parent Borrower Full Name)

Start initiative. As a Fresh Start-eligible borrower, I understand that, by accepting Title IV HEA federal student aid during the Fresh Start period, I am agreeing to have my defaulted loans transferred to a new loan servicer – the company that will manage my loan - which will result in continued Title IV, HEA federal student aid eligibility beyond the Fresh Start period. I understand that this transfer may not occur immediately and that I can contact the holder(s) of my defaulted loan(s) to request transfer sooner.

Borrower Signature (Required)

Date (Required)

(Typed signatures will NOT be accepted.)