

**Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in USA
Office of the Student Loan Forgiveness Program**

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday; 9:00 am – 5: 00 pm

Student Loan Repayment Eligibility Requirements

Award Year 2011 – 2012

Program Overview

South Sudan urgently needs skilled personnel for its post-conflict reconstruction and development following its independence on 9 July, 2011. However, majority of South Sudanese professionals and graduates in the Diaspora are unable returned home to fill in the human capacity gaps because of repayment obligations for education loans. For this reason, the government of the Republic of South Sudan takes the initiatives by responding by creating the South Student Loan Forgiveness Program. This is done to east the student loan financial obligation for skilled, professional and graduates of South Sudanese in Diaspora in order for them to return home to help with the nation building. Thus, The South Sudan Student Loan Forgiveness Program in the United States is launch as a pilot program. The SLFP program is pending expansion to other Diaspora

Here is the description of the Student Loan Forgiveness Program. It includes general program information, eligibility requirements, types of qualifying loans and application procedures.

WHAT IS THE STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM?

The Student Loan Forgiveness Program is an initiative by the government of South Sudan to encourage and obtain skilled South Sudanese professionals and graduates in the Diaspora in order to contribute developments and nation building of South Sudan. Under the Student Loan Forgiveness Program, an eligible student loan borrower, with one or more eligible loans, is required to sign a services agreement when found an employment with public services or nongovernmental organizations in South Sudan. The services agreement specifies employment duration with the amount of loan to be forgiven. At the end of the employment, an applicant is free to choose to continue his/her service with the current agency or decide to seek employment somewhere else. Loan repayment conditions are limited to the amount of loans that are not yet repaid by the applicant. There is no reimbursement to an already paid loan. Additionally, funds under this program will be available to only eligible applicants who qualified in the program.

Type of public service or nonprofit institutions considered under this program

The applicant must be employed full time by the following institutions:

- A public service organization – The term “public service organization” in this case entails a federal, state, local agency, or entities such as public schools, colleges, universities and research institutions, etc
- non-profit organization or a private organization that is not a for-profit
- Public service for orphans, widows, disables or individuals with disabilities;
- Public and Private Health institutions
- Public and private vocational institutions
- Military service;
- Public safety or law enforcement;
- Civil and human right organization

Condition of loan repayments

- The loan must be the unpaid portion; no reimbursement for paid loan;
- The loan borrowed must have been solely for the purpose of financing education;
- The loan must have been for specialized vocational training, diploma/associate degree, undergraduate and/or graduate studies;
- The loan must have been borrowed from a credible lending institution, not individuals;
- All pertinent information and contacts must be accurately provided. **NOTE** that all information will be thoroughly checked and authenticated in order to ascertain the truthfulness of the information provided.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must be a South Sudanese, willing to go and work in South Sudan.

- The applicant must have received a specialized vocational training, a diploma, an associate’s degree, and/or undergraduate or graduate degree.
- Willing to volunteer, work in remote areas, and commit to a defined period of time.
- An eligible applicant must be employed full-time on any capacity in South Sudan.
- Subject to available funding, student loan repayment benefits will be paid after the applicant complete the duration as stated in the services agreement.
- An eligible applicant must have an eligible loan to receive loan repayment benefits under the Student Loan Forgiveness Program.
- An eligible applicant must complete the Loan Forgiveness Program application and sign a Service Agreement with the Office of the Student Loan Forgiveness Program.

Type of educational loan eligible under the SLFP

The qualifying student loans eligible for repayment under the Student Loan Forgiveness Program are:

- Federal Stafford Loans
- Federal Perkins Loans (Perkins Loan)
- Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL) (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, and Graduate PLUS)

- Federal Family Education Consolidation Loan that did not repay a parent PLUS loan
- William D. Ford Federal Direct Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized, and Graduate PLUS)
- William D. Ford Federal Direct Consolidation Loan that did not repay a parent PLUS loan
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- ***What are the non-qualifying loans ineligible for repayment under the Student Loan Forgiveness Program?***
- Loan obtained from family members, or from private institutions for personal use
- Loans made prior to or after the applicant's education
- Loans obtained for personal use such as home loans
- Loans that have been paid in full
- Credit Cards or Personal Lines of Credit