

LL.M. & Graduate Law - Student Loan Options Chart

Updated 2/16/26

	Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	Federal Direct Graduate Plus Loan	Private Student Loan
Annual Loan Limit	\$20,500	Up to cost of attendance minus financial aid	Most up to cost of attendance minus financial aid
Aggregate Loan Limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$138,500 (Legacy Borrower; combined undergraduate, graduate, and professional) \$100,000 (New Borrower; graduate level only) 	None	<p>Determined by lender.</p> <p>Many lenders have no limit; some may have a limit of \$100,000 to \$250,000.</p>
Eligibility Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be U.S. citizen/national or eligible non-citizen Must be enrolled at least half-time (5 credit hours) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be a Legacy Borrower Must be U.S. citizen/national or eligible non-citizen Must be enrolled at least half-time (5 credit hours) Must be credit-worthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The borrower or co-signer must be a U.S. citizen/national or eligible non-citizen May require at least half-time enrollment (5 credit hours) Must meet lender's credit criteria
Interest Rate	<p>7.94% Fixed (until June 30, 2026)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest accrues while in school and through grace period, deferment, and forbearance. Interest is capitalized at repayment and continues to accrue on total loan balance 	<p>8.94% Fixed (until June 30, 2026)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest accrues while in school and grace period, deferment, and forbearance Interest is capitalized at repayment and continues to accrue on total loan balance 	<p>Determined by lender.</p> <p>Fixed or Variable based on consumer index plus a margin which can be affected by borrower credit history and other factors.</p> <p>Example: private lender uses the 30-day average Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) and their interest rates range from 30-day SOFR + 0.64% to 30-day SOFR + 9.66%. On 2/5/26 the 30-day average SOFR index was 3.65% which means the interest rate can be as low as 4.2% or as high as 13.31%.</p>
Loan Fees	1.06% Federal Origination Fee (until September 30, 2026)	4.23% Federal Origination Fee (until September 30, 2026)	Between 0%-6% fees.
Deferment/Forbearance	<p>Deferment Options: In-school (full-time/half-time), Graduate Fellowship, Rehabilitation Training, Military Service, Active-Duty Student. Economic Hardship and Unemployment deferments are only available to borrowers who received loans before July 1, 2027.</p> <p>Forbearance Options: Discretionary temporary forbearance for hardship or illness. Mandatory/Administrative forbearance granted under special circumstances.</p>	<p>Deferment Options: In-school (full-time/half-time), Graduate Fellowship, Rehabilitation Training, Military Service, Active-Duty Student. Economic Hardship and Unemployment deferments are only available to borrowers who received loans before July 1, 2027</p> <p>Forbearance Options: Discretionary temporary forbearance for hardship or illness. Mandatory/Administrative forbearance granted under special circumstances.</p>	<p>Determined by lender</p> <p>Most lenders defer payments while in school</p> <p>Some lenders offer deferment or forbearance options for In-school status, post graduate internship, clerkship, fellowship, or residency. Must contact lender directly for more information.</p>
Grace Period	6 Months	No grace period, but can defer payment for 6 months after you cease to be enrolled half-time.	Determined by lender.
Repayment Period/ Consolidation/ Public Service Loan Forgiveness	<p>Borrowers with NO new loans after July 1, 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard (10 years); Graduated; Extended Tiered Standard (10-25 years) – available after July 1, 2026 Income-Driven Repayment Plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income Contingent Repayment (ICR); Pay as You Earn (PAYE) - only available through July 1, 2028 Income Based Repayment (IBR) Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) – available after July 1, 2026 <p>Borrowers with new loans after July 1, 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tiered Standard (10-25 years) Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) <p>Loans are eligible to be consolidated into the Department of Education's Federal Loan Consolidation Program; Standard and Income Driven Plans are eligible repayment plans for Public Service Loan Forgiveness</p>	<p>Borrowers with NO new loans after July 1, 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard (10 years); Graduated; Extended Tiered Standard (10-25 years) – available after July 1, 2026 Income-Driven Repayment Plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income Contingent Repayment (ICR); Pay as You Earn (PAYE) - only available through July 1, 2028 Income Based Repayment (IBR) Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) – available after July 1, 2026 <p>Borrowers with new loans after July 1, 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tiered Standard (10-25 years) Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) <p>Loans are eligible to be consolidated into the Department of Education's Federal Loan Consolidation Program; Standard and Income Driven Plans are eligible repayment plans for Public Service Loan Forgiveness</p>	<p>Determined by lender</p> <p>Usually 5-25 years</p> <p>Private loan consolidation or Student Loan Refinance only (Federal student loans included in a private loan consolidation/student loan refinance will lose their federal loan repayment options and benefits).</p> <p>CANNOT be consolidated into the Department of Education's Federal Loan Consolidation Program.</p> <p>Not eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness</p>

The information on this chart represents extracts from various application materials and is not intended to be a substitute for the actual information contained in the application materials and promissory notes. The 2026-2027 updates are based on our understanding of the OB3 proposed rules and are subject to change.