



Top 10 things to do when it's time to repay your student loans

1. **Know who you owe.** If you are not sure who your loan servicer is, go to www.nslds.ed.gov. The National Student Loan Data System will show your federal student loan history. By clicking on the loan number, you will see your loan servicer contact information. If you had private or alternative student loans, you will need to contact your lender.
2. Make sure your loan servicer has **your current contact** information, such as address, email, and best phone number.
3. **Make life easier** by signing up with your loan servicer to receive electronic communication, make payments, or change payment plans.
4. **Save money** by using automatic debit. This helps you make your payments on time and you may qualify for .25% interest rate reduction.
5. There are a wide **range of repayment plans**. Select the plan that is right for you. If for some reason it doesn't work for you, you can request a different plan annually.
6. Start out on the right foot by **paying on time**. This will help you build and maintain a good credit history.
7. Consider **paying more** than the minimum payment. This will pay off your loans faster and you will also pay less interest in the long run. There is no pre-payment penalty to pay off your loans early.
8. **Seek help** from you loan servicer at the first sign of financial difficulty. Don't risk going into a delinquent or worse yet, a default status. A defaulted student loan will show up on a credit report for up to 10 years and jeopardize future credit.
9. **Deferment or forbearance** may help in the short term when you are unable to make payments, but are costly because interest will continue to add up.
10. For **more information** go to www.studentloans.gov, "Managing your Student Loans" at www.edu/creighton.edu/financialaid, or contact the Financial Aid Office if you are not sure where to start.