

Your Rights and Responsibilities as a Borrower

I have the **right** to

- written information on my loan obligations and information on my rights and responsibilities as a borrower;
- a copy of my MPN either before or at the time my loan is disbursed;
- a grace period and an explanation of what this means;
- notification, if the Department transfers my loan to another servicer without my consent;
- a disclosure statement, received before I begin to repay my loan, that includes information about interest rates, fees, the balance I owe, and a loan repayment schedule;
- deferment or forbearance of repayment for certain defined periods, if I qualify and if I request it;
- prepay my loan in whole or in part anytime without an early repayment penalty; and
- documentation when my loan is paid in full.

I am **responsible** for

- completing exit counseling before I leave school or drop below half-time enrollment;
- repaying my loan according to my repayment schedule even if I do not complete my academic program, I am dissatisfied with the education I received, or I am unable to find employment after I graduate;
- notifying my lender or loan servicer if I
 - move or change my address,
 - change my telephone number,
 - change my name,
 - change my Social Security number, or
 - change employers or my employer's address or telephone number changes;
- making monthly payments on my loan after my grace period ends, unless I have a deferment or forbearance; and
- notifying my lender or loan servicer of anything that might alter my eligibility for an existing deferment or forbearance.

(Information taken from *Direct Loan Entrance Counseling Guide*, published by the U.S. Department of Education, July 2018. <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/loan-entrance-counseling.pdf>)