



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

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM 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, a majority of South Sudanese professionals and graduates in the Diaspora are unable to return 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 initiative to create the Student Loan Forgiveness Program (SLFP). This program is intended to ease the student loan obligations for skilled professionals and graduates of South Sudanese in the Diaspora and incentivize them to return home to help with nation building. The SLFP in the United States is being launched as a pilot program. It is pending expansion to other countries where South Sudanese Diaspora resides.

Below 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 to the development and nation building of the country. Under the Student Loan Forgiveness Program, an eligible student loan borrower, with one or more eligible loans, is required to sign a Service Agreement upon employment with a public service or nongovernmental organization in South Sudan. The Service Agreement specifies employment duration and the amount of the 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 elsewhere. 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 qualify for the program.

WHAT TYPE OF PUBLIC SERVICE OR NON-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS PROGRAM?

The applicant must be employed full time by one of 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-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 rights organization.

CONDITION OF LOAN REPAYMENTS

- The loan must be the unpaid portion; no reimbursement for a 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, graduated and/or post-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:** 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/Post-Graduate Degree.
- The applicant must be willing to volunteer, work in remote areas, and commit to a defined period of time.
- The applicant must be employed full-time in any capacity in South Sudan.
- Subject to available funding, student loan repayment benefits will be paid after the applicant completes the work duration as stated in the Service 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.

WHAT TYPES OF EDUCATIONAL LOANS ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER THE STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM?

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.

WHAT TYPES OF EDUCATION LOANS ARE INELIGIBLE UNDER THE SLFP?

- 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.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. Do I have to provide the supporting document for my degree to qualify for the Program?

Yes, the Office of Student Loan requires all supporting documents with the application.

2. What is the deadline date?

Applications are available on our website for the award year 2011-2012. The application and all supporting documents must be postmarked, and must be submitted all at once to ensure it is processed correctly. Refer to application for supporting documents and deadlines.

3. How are priority programs determined?

Refer to the student eligibility information and instructions sheets.

4. How does the process work?

If you qualify, you will be notified by mail/e-mail months before your departure to South Sudan. You must return the offer indicating your acceptance by letter, sign contract along with, other supporting documents. After we receive your acceptance letter, we will contact your lenders and verify the documents you submitted. We will then contact you and discuss terms and conditions and your departure date. It will take approximately 4-6 weeks for verification.

5. **How does the program pay my loan?**

After your departure date is set, a check will be issued directly to your lender(s). The lender will then credit the student loan account for the amount due for that period.

6. **Can I fax my application to the Office of Student Loan Forgiveness Programs?**

No. For confidentiality purposes, the Office of the Student Loan prefers that all applicants email or mail their documents.

7. **What other supporting documents do I need to supply?**

All student loan(s) the applicant has are to be included in the lender verification. Loans for undergraduate and graduate course work are to be included.

8. **Does the loan forgiveness program find me job and/or pay my ticket to South Sudan?**

No. All employment related matters are the sole responsibility of the applicant. However, in the near future, employment referrals to careers in South Sudan may be made available to eligible applicants.

9. **How do I reach the Student Forgiveness loan program?**

For further inquiries, please contact the Office of Student Loan Forgiveness Program at:

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

1233 20th Street, NW. Suite 602

Washington, D.C. 20036

Phone: 202-293-7940

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

E-mail: SLFP@GossMission.org

Website: www.GossMission.org



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

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM Award Year 2011 – 2012

Welcome to the Student Loan Forgiveness Program. To begin the application process for the loan repayment program by the Office of the Student Loan Forgiveness Program under the oversight of the Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in Washington DC, USA, all applicants must follow the instructions as indicated.

PRIVACY

Your privacy is very important to the Office of the Student Loan Forgiveness Program. Thus, all information provided by applicants shall be handled with extreme confidentiality. You will be asked to provide the Office of the Student Loan Forgiveness Program with information including your Social Security Number, Date of Birth, Name of Lending Institution, Contacts and Full Address of the Lending Institution, among other required information.

Student Loan Forgiveness Program qualifications:

- I am a South Sudan citizen or national
- I currently work or is willing to work in South Sudan, or its agencies in South Sudan
- I hold a Bachelor, Masters or Ph.D.
- I have unpaid loans for school tuitions, segregated from all other debt (that is not consolidated with non-educational loans).

2011 – 2012 STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS APPLICATION

Please read and answers all the questions truthfully. You must be working or willing to work in South Sudan in order to contribute to the development of the Republic of South Sudan. Please allow 4-6 weeks for the office to process your application.

IMPORTANT: With this application please attach or mail COVER LETTER, RESUME, COPIES OF YOUR DEGREE AND LOAN INFORMATION from your lending institutions.

Legal Name: _____
First, Middle, Last Name

Preferred Name: _____ Social Security No: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Male/Female Phone Number: _____
(Circle One)

Email Address: _____

Name of Lending Institution: _____

Lender Phone Number: _____

Loan Account Number: _____

Full Address of Lending Institution: _____

Was the Loan Sold? *If you are not sure, check with your lender.* If yes, give the Secondary/Current Loan Holder's Name and Full Address:

Original Date of Loan: _____ Original Amount of the Loan: _____

If you are unsure, please visit WWW.NSLDS.ED.GOV to view and print your loan information online:

Current Balance (Principal and Interest):

Purpose of the loan as indicated on the loan application:

Type of Federal Loan or Others: _____

Loan in Default? Yes/ No _____

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Citizenship Status: _____ South Sudan Citizen: Yes/No

Place of Birth: _____

City/Town: _____ State/Province: _____ Country: _____

Languages: _____

Preferred Region (State) to work in (In order of preference, Number #1 being your first choice):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Emergency Contact:

1. Full Name: _____

Address _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

2. Full Name: _____

Address _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Any Medical Condition (s):

EDUCATION

Colleges and Universities: List all colleges you have attended.

Institution Name: location (City, State/Province, Zip Code, Country Phone) Major and Degree:

1. College/University Name: _____

Address _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Degree(s): _____

Date(s) Attended: _____

2. College/University Name: _____

Address _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Degree(s): _____

Date(s) Attended: _____

3. College/University Name: _____

Address _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Degree(s): _____

Date(s) Attended: _____

WORK EXPERIENCE

1. Company Name: _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Title(s) and Position(s) Held: _____

Employment Date(s): _____

Duties Performed: _____

2. Company Name: _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Title(s) and Position(s) Held: _____

Employment Date(s): _____

Duties Performed: _____

3. Company Name: _____

City/Province: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Title(s) and Position(s) Held: _____

Employment Date(s): _____

Duties Performed: _____

Professional Reference(s):

1. First & Last Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

2. First & Last Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

3. First & Last Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

REQUIRED SIGNATURE

I certify that all information submitted in the Student loan forgiveness program process including the application, loan information, resume, and other supporting documents are factually true and honestly presented to the Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan Office of Student loan Forgiveness Program.

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the application instructions and read all the documents. I understand that all offers of the program are optional and voluntarily apply to the program.

Print Full Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____