



FRESH START FOR DEFAULTED BORROWERS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The U.S. Department of Education announced on April 6, 2022, that it would eliminate the negative effects of default for borrowers who defaulted on their federal student loans prior to the pandemic payment pause. Among other features, this initiative, called “Fresh Start,” will enable borrowers with defaulted federal student loans to regain Title IV HEA federal student aid eligibility. These borrowers will also have the chance to enroll in an income driven repayment plan or access other repayment options that suit their needs. This Fresh Start initiative will remain available to previously defaulted borrowers, as identified above, for one year after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic student loan payment pause. Borrowers will have at least one year to make payment arrangements before defaulting on their debts and/or being subject to further collections efforts like most other borrowers eligible for the payment pause.

School #

School Name

Student ID #

This acknowledgment form must be signed and dated by the student (or parent if applying for a Direct Parent PLUS loan) who is participating in the Fresh Start initiative.

“I, _____ understand that I am eligible for Title IV aid as a result of the Fresh Start
(Print Borrower’s Full Name)

Initiative. As a Fresh Start eligible borrower, I understand that, by accepting Title IV HEA federal student aid during the Fresh Start period, I am agreeing to have my defaulted student loans transferred to a new loan servicer – the company that will manage my loan – which will result in continued Title IV, HEA federal student aid eligibility beyond the Fresh Start period. I understand that this transfer may not occur immediately and that I can contact the holder(s) of my defaulted loan(s) to request transfer sooner.”

Student’s Signature

Date

Parent’s Signature (Direct Parent PLUS Loans Only)

Date

*This form must contain original signatures. No electronic signatures can be accepted. Please return the completed form in person at Student Central in Gordon Hall, email occinfo@sunyocc.edu or mail to: OCC Financial Aid Office, 4485 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215-4585.