Q: Do I have to complete loan entrance counseling?

ANSWER: Before your school disburses your Federal Perkins Loan, regulations require that you complete an entrance counseling session. The counseling session helps guide you in managing your student loans, both during and after college.

Q: What is the current interest rate on my Perkins Loan?

ANSWER: The current interest rate on the Federal Perkins Loan program is 5%.

Q: How much can I borrow?

ANSWER: The maximum annual federal Perkins loan limit is:

Undergraduate \$5,500

Graduate \$8,000

The aggregate maximum loan is:

Undergraduate: Grade levels 1 & 2 \$11,000 Grade levels 3 & 4 \$27,500

Graduate \$60,000

Although the limits are set by the Department of Education regulations, the Federal Perkins Loan funding is a limit resource as funding relies on previous Wells students paying back their loans on an average of \$40 per month; therefore, students who are awarded a federal Perkins loan do not receive the maximum limit. On average the award is \$1,000.

Q: What is an MPN?

ANSWER: Your federal Perkins loan master promissory note (MPN) may allow a school to process more than one loan over a period of up to ten years. This is your promise to pay back the federal loan with interest. The original lender is authorized to certify loans under this MPN. If you attend school after Wells College, you will be required to complete a new MPN.

Q: Do I have to complete loan exit counseling?

ANSWER: An exit counseling session is required by federal law for all students who have received a federally funded student loan. If you are planning to attend graduate school, withdraw or stop attending school, you are still required to complete the exit counseling session if you borrowed in the federal student loan program(s).

Q: How do I make monthly payments?

ANSWER: Your Federal Perkins Loan is serviced by Heartland ECSI and payments will be processed by Heartland ECSI. You will be issued a statement of account shortly before your loan enters repayment. If you prefer, you may pay online at https://borrower.ecsi.net/. Heartland ECSI may be reached by phone at 1-888-549-3274. Correspondence and payments can be mailed to

P.O. Box 718 Wexford, PA 15090 Q: What is a grace period?

ANSWER: You are entitled to a grace period before repayment of your loan begins. The time limit of your grace period depends on the date your first loan was made. During any grace period, no repayment is required and no interest accrues. Currently, the grace period is nine months following your separation from the loan-granting campus. Repayment is required to begin at the end of your initial grace period, which is determined by the regulations in effect at the time the loan was granted.

Q: What if I miss a payment?

ANSWER: Delinquent accounts will result in late fees and a hold on your transcript requests. If you fail to make your monthly payments, your account will be turned over to a Collection Agency. Wells College will automatically place past due accounts for collection after 120 days has lapsed without payment. Once this occurs, your name is reported to credit agencies, affecting your credit rating and future ability to borrow. For loans placed on or after July 1, 2008, reasonable collection costs cannot exceed 30% for first collection efforts and 40% for second and subsequent collection efforts or in case of litigation.

Q: What is loan deferment?

ANSWER: It is possible to defer (or postpone) the repayment of your Perkins (NDSL) Loan if certain conditions are met. During an approved deferment period, you are not required to make scheduled payments on your loan. You are not liable for any interest that might otherwise accrue while your loan is in deferment.

Q: What is forbearance?

ANSWER: Forbearance is the temporary cessation of payments, allowing an extension of time for making payments, or accepting smaller payments than were previously scheduled. Interest will continue to accrue during the period of forbearance and you are responsible for repayment of the accrued interest charges.

Q: What cancellation benefits do I have?

Up

ANSWER: Upon meeting the qualifications as determined by Wells College or Campus Partners, you are entitled to have up to 100 percent of the original principal loan amount of this loan canceled if you perform qualifying service in the areas listed below:

Teaching Service in an Early Childhood Education Program

Early Intervention Services Speech-Language Pathologist

Law Enforcement or Corrections Officer Librarian

Nurse or Medical Technician Tribal College or University Faculty

Child or Family Service Agency Firefighters

Attorneys Employed in a Defender Organization

Other cancellation percentages apply if you perform qualifying service in the areas listed below. Qualifying service must be performed after the enrollment period covered by the loan.

Military Cancellation

Volunteer Service Cancellation

Q: What repayment options do I have?

ANSWER: You are responsible for repaying your loans in full and according to the repayment schedule. Wells College will report the borrower's Perkins Loan balance to a national credit bureau on a monthly basis. You should inform the College at all times of an address, telephone number or name change. There is a minimum monthly payment of \$40.00 required and all loans must be paid within the normal ten year period excluding any approved hardship/ forbearance deferments. Your repayment period may be shorter than 10-years if you are required to make the minimum monthly payment, depending on your total Perkins Loan debt. In addition, the repayment period may be extended up to 10 additional years if the borrower is a "low income"

Q: Can I prepay on my loan?

ANSWER: There are no prepayment penalties on your Federal Perkins Loan. Please indicate your account number or social security number when making payments on your account without a statement or payment coupon.

Q: What are the consequences of delinquency and default?

ANSWER: If collection efforts fail, legal action may be taken against you and your defaulted loan will ultimately be sold to the Federal Government. Your federal income tax returns may be withheld and applied toward the balance of your loan debt. You may also be liable for late charges and collection costs. The School may assign a defaulted loan to the Department for collection. You will be ineligible for any further federal student financial assistance authorized under the Act until I make arrangements that are satisfactory to the School or the Department to repay my loan. You will lose my right to defer or forbear payments. The School or the Department may accelerate my defaulted loan. Acceleration means that the School or the Department demands immediate payment of the entire unpaid balance of the loan, including principal, interest, late charges, and collection costs. I will lose my right to receive cancellation benefits for service that is performed after the date the School or the Department accelerated the loan.

Q: What is the average indebtedness for Wells College students?

ANSWER: Most of our aided students are packaged with a recommended student loan amount each year. It is the policy of Wells College to package aided students with the federally graduated recommended loan amounts based on their year in college. The 2018/2019 average federal indebtedness for Wells College graduates was \$27,116.

Q: Can I consolidate my loans?

ANSWER: Loan consolidation is an authorized federal program that will enable you to combine your outstanding educational loans (Federal Perkins, Stafford, Direct and SLS) together into one new loan with a fixed interest rate. The purpose of the program is to reduce your repayment burden by providing graduated and extended repayment periods in order to lower your monthly payments. If you choose to include your Federal Perkins Loan with your Federal Loan Consolidation, you will lose the deferment, forbearance and cancellation benefits stated in the terms of the promissory note. Be sure to review these details before electing to include your Federal Perkins Loan in your consolidation loan. Once this loan has been consolidated, there is no way to regain these benefits. You will assume the deferments, forbearance and loan forgiveness options of the Federal Consolidation Loan terms.

Q: What is loan rehabilitation?

ANSWER: If you default on your Federal Perkins Loan, and that loan has not been reduced to a judgment as a result of litigation, you may rehabilitate your defaulted loan by requesting the rehabilitation and by making a voluntary, on-time, monthly payment, as determined by the School, each month for nine consecutive months. If you successfully rehabilitate your defaulted loan, you will again be subject to the terms and conditions and qualify for any remaining benefits and privileges of the promissory note and the default will be removed from your credit history. You may rehabilitate a defaulted Federal Perkins Loan only once. After your loan is rehabilitated, collection costs on the loan may not exceed 24 percent of the unpaid principal and accrued interest as of the date following the application of the ninth consecutive payment. If you default on your rehabilitated loan, the cap on collection costs is removed.



ANSWER: If you dispute the terms of your Perkins Loan in writing and Wells College is unable to resolve the dispute, you may seek the assistance of the Department of Education's Student Loan Ombudsman. The Student Loan Ombudsman will review and attempt to informally resolve your dispute and may be reached at:

US Dept of Education

FSA Ombudsman

Fourth Floor

830 First Street, NE

Washington, DC 20202-5144

1-877-557-2575

fax (202)275-0549

www.ombudsman.ed.gov

References:

https://mappingyourfuture.org/downloads/perkinsmpn.pdf

https://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/default/get-out