Standard Re-Payment

This is the standard default option.

- Results in the least amount of accrued interest
- Up to 120 equal payments
- Up to 10 year term
- Usually a $50.00 monthly minimum, but that may change depending on how much you've borrowed
Graduated Re-Payment

With graduated re-payment, you can lower your payments for a certain period of time. It is important to keep in mind that although the payments will be smaller now, they will be higher later because the re-payment term will stay the same.

- Lower payments now, higher payments later
- Re-payment term stays 10 years
Extended Re-payment

Extended re-payment is offered to those with over $30,000 in student loan debt. It increases the re-payment period to 25 years.

- Increases your total interest because of the extended time frame
- Lowers your monthly payment
- Only available to new borrowers on or after October 7th, 1998
Income Based Re-Payment

With the income based re-payment option, you are able to customize your payment plan to fit your personal situation. Your monthly payment will be based on income and family size. You must display financial hardship to qualify, determined by examining the monthly payments of all federal loans compared against your income.

- You must certify your hardship each year, meaning that the monthly re-payment amount could change if your situation has changed
- You are still responsible for interest that builds up
- After 25 years of re-payment and 300 eligible payments, and outstanding balance will be forgiven.
- Only available for federal loans
- 15% of discretionary income
Pay as You Earn

The pay as you earn option is similar to the income based repayment option, but instead, payments are capped at 10% of your discretionary income.

- You must be a new borrower as of October 1st, 2007, and have a disbursement on or after October 1st, 2011
- Balance is forgiven after 20 years or 240 payments.
- Must certify hardship each year
- Only available for Stafford, Grad PLUS, and consolidation loans
Income Contingent Re-Payment (ICR)

Monthly payments will be determined based on adjusted gross income, family size, and total amount of your direct loans.

- Remaining balance is forgiven after 25 years
- Payments based on 20% of discretionary income
- Only for Direct Loan borrowers
Income-Sensitive Repayment

This is an option for Federal Family Education (FFELP) programs only. This option allows borrowers to decide what percentage of their income their loan payment will be. It is available for up to 5 years, and you must re-apply for it every year.

- Increases the amount of interest paid
- 4-25% of monthly income for up to 5 years, then the rest must be paid within 10 years
- Must re-apply every year
- Total repayment term is up to 15 years