

## Alternative Student Loan FAQ's

### **Why should I consider applying for an Alternative Student Loan?**

Alternative Student Loans are intended to be used to fill the gap between your resources, awarded Financial Aid, and your Annual Cost of Attendance. If all these sources are not sufficient to finance your education, an alternative loan may be a good option for you.

### **How much am I eligible to borrow?**

The maximum you can borrow is your cost of attendance, minus all sources of Financial Aid received. However, we recommend borrowing as little as you need. If you have any questions determining your eligibility, the Financial Aid Office can assist you.

### **Do any U.S. banks offer loans to international students?**

Very few U.S. banks offer private loans to international students, and as far as we know the ones that do, require a creditworthy cosigner who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. The lenders on this list have been used by some of our international students over the past couple of years. You may be able to find more options online at: [www.edupass.org/finaid/](http://www.edupass.org/finaid/).

### **Where can I find up-to-date interest rate information?**

The following Web site offers current interest rate information:  
[www.bankrate.com/cbsmw/ratehm.asp](http://www.bankrate.com/cbsmw/ratehm.asp). You can also check directly with the lender.

### **How can I determine which loan is best for me?**

Interest rates and fees can vary by lender. We would like to encourage you to visit the following Web site: [www.finaid.org/calculators/loanalyzer.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loanalyzer.phtml), which allows you to compute the various terms set by each lender, using their listed interest rates, fees, and repayment periods.

### **I have chosen a lender and know how much I want to borrow, what do I do now?**

Most lenders offer an online application process. If you feel more comfortable with a hard copy application, you may contact the lender to request one. In order to ensure proper processing, your application must be certified by the school before any lender will disburse funds.

### **I have completed the loan application and have been approved. When will I receive the funds?**

Loans typically have multiple disbursements (a percentage released each semester). If your loan application is submitted at least one month prior to the beginning of classes, your first disbursement should be available by the first day of classes.


### **How can I obtain a copy of my Credit Report?**

Any of the following national credit bureaus will send you a copy for a small fee

Experian:	1-888-397-3742
TransUnion:	1-800-888-4213
Equifax Credit:	1-800-685-1111

**Please note that there are regulations for private loans that require additional disclosure statements due to the Truth-In-Lending-Act. You can help by submitting the Borrower Self-Certification Form promptly, and by allowing at least three weeks for the entire process.**

## 2011-2012 Non-U.S. Citizen Sample List of Alternative Student Loan Providers

	<b>CITIBANK: CitiAssist</b>  <a href="#">Borrower Self-Certification Form</a> Requirement for private loans	<b>Sallie Mae: LawLoans Smart Option Loan</b>  <a href="#">Borrower Self-Certification Form</a> Requirement for private loans
<b>Phone Web site</b>	800.967.2400  <a href="http://www.studentloan.com/schools/umich/law/">http://www.studentloan.com/schools/umich/law/</a>	800.695.3317  <a href="https://www1.salliemae.com/international/non_us_students/smart-option-international-students.htm">https://www1.salliemae.com/international/non_us_students/smart-option-international-students.htm</a>
<b>Loan Limits</b>	Maximum: Cost of education minus all other aid received for academic year  Minimum: None Aggregate: \$180,000	Maximum: Cost of education minus all other aid received for academic year.  Minimum: \$1,000 Aggregate: \$150,000 - none with co-signer
<b>Fees: insurance, origination and/or guarantee</b>	0 – 5% (determined by credit history)	No disbursement or repayment fees
<b>Interest Rates</b>	Interest rates range from 3 month LIBOR rate plus 3.25% up to 3 month LIBOR plus 11% (determined by credit history) both while in school and in repayment	Interest rates range from LIBOR rate plus 2% up to LIBOR plus 9.875% (determined by credit history and chosen repayment plan) both while in school and in repayment
<b>Repayment</b>	9-month grace period after graduation   Up to 20 years No pre-payment penalty Co-signer release option after 24 months of on time payments	6-month separation period after graduation  When you apply for the loan you must choose one of three options for making interest payments while you are in school; 1) full monthly interest payments, 2) partial monthly interest payments of \$25 for each loan or 3) the Deferred Repayment Option (no interest payments during school). Principal and interest repayment begins 6 months after graduation if you select the Deferred Repayment Option when you apply for the loan.  5 - 15 years No pre-payment penalty .25 percentage point interest rate reduction with auto-debit
<b>Eligibility</b>	May be enrolled less than half-time   Must have a creditworthy U.S. cosigner	Must be enrolled at least half-time   Must have a creditworthy cosigner who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

**Please note that these terms and rates are subject to change. For current terms/interest rates please contact your lender.**  
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