STATE OF CONNECTICUT STUDENT LOAN REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Administered by the Office of Higher Education

GO LIVE DATE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2025

APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE OR ACCEPTED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2025

What is it?

In 2024, the General Assembly approved the development of a <u>Student Loan Reimbursement Program</u>, a \$6 million program aimed at providing financial relief to Connecticut residents burdened with student loan debt. Applicants will be awarded on a first-come first-serve basis and receive up to \$5,000 a year with a \$20,000 cap over four years.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be current Connecticut residents and have lived in the state for a minimum of five (5) consecutive years immediately prior to the date on their application.

Applicants must have an outstanding student loan balance, and during 2024 have paid toward a federal direct loan, federal direct PLUS loan, federal Perkins loan, CHESLA loan or other state-sponsored student loan.

Applicants must have graduated from a Connecticut public or private college or university with a degree or have earned an occupation/professional license or certificate.*

Applicants must have a Connecticut adjusted gross income of not more than \$125,000 for single applicants, or \$175,000 for married applicants in 2023.

Applicants must have volunteered for at least 50 hours after January 1, 2024. These hours must be completed at a <u>Connecticut Nonprofit Organization</u> - including serving on its Board of Directors, in municipal government, or through military service. Proof of volunteer documentation must be notarized.

Application Process

The Office of Higher Education, in partnership with its contracted IT specialist, NELNET, is developing a Student Loan Reimbursement Program (SLRP) program within the agency's **CT SCHOLARS** portal. On January 1, 2025, applicants may begin their application by navigating to the **CT SCHOLARS** portal where they'll be instructed to create an account, complete an application and upload required **documents** for acceptance consideration. <u>Click here to learn what documents you'll need to verify your eligibility</u>. Applications are not considered ready for approval until ALL documents have been submitted.

QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO OHE.SLRP@CT.GOV

^{*} A hardship waiver may be requested if a degree could not be completed because of personal or family medical or financial circumstances.