

# Student Loan Debt Letter

Patsy Collins, MA, AFC, CPFC

Director

Student Money Management Center



# THECB 60x30 Initiative

- SHSU Team Leader
  - Dr. Heather Thielemann; VP Enrollment Management
- SHSU Subcommittee for Student Debt
  - Team Leader: Dr. Kristy Vienne; AVP Student Affairs
  - Student Loan Debt Letter
    - Summer 2018 – Prepared: 13,730
      - Mailed Letters w/Insert (Less than 100 returned)
      - E-mails (41 Not Delivered)
    - 2019
      - Electronic/E-mails
      - Letters – Under Review
        - Targeted Audiences



# Debt Letter Example



Sam Houston State University

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

1\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 77302

Name  
Street Address  
City, State, Zip Code



Subj: Student Loan Debt  
Budgeting and Planning

Dear Name,

At Sam Houston State University, we are proud to share in your educational journey. Higher education requires a real investment in time, energy, and financial resources. We think you made a great choice by pursuing a degree in higher education and investing in yourself. Additionally, studies indicate the majority of college graduates earn more, have a lower unemployment rate, and live longer than those who do not have a college degree.

#### Student Loan Debt

The purpose of this communication is to give you a quick recap of your student loans to date. We want you to be informed about your student debt and options for repayment. Although Sam Houston cannot guarantee or promise this is all of your student loan debt, this is a general overview of your account. To date, your estimated accumulated student loan debt and monthly loan payment is:

Federal Student Loans	\$10500
SHSU Certified Alternative Loans	\$0
Total Estimated Student Loan Debt	\$10500
Total Estimated Interest	\$4000
Estimated Monthly Payment @ 6.8%	\$121

#### How to Find Out More About Your Student Loan Debt

Please note that the disclosure above is not an official record of your student loan debt. Using your FSA ID, you can log onto NSLDS.ed.gov to review all of your federal student loans. The data Sam Houston accessed from the National Student Loan Database (NSLDS) may be incomplete due to the timing and processing of your federal loans, student loans accrued at other (transfer) schools you may have attended as well as nursing student loan debt.

In addition, you will need to review your personal files for any additional alternative loans you may have utilized from previous academic years at Sam Houston or at other transfer schools. Private education loans including Be On Time, College Access and loans accrued at other banking institutions are not included in NSLDS information.

#### Federal and State Programs to Reduce Loan Debt and Assist in Repayment

You may be eligible for tuition and fee waivers, the TEACH Grant, a tuition rebate or a loan forgiveness program for teachers or public servants. There are also multiple loan repayment plans available for student borrowers. For questions or assistance in determining program for which you may be eligible, please visit the Student Money Management Center.

#### Next Steps

Schedule an appointment with a Financial Coach at the Student Money Management Center (SMMC) using Campus Connect. You may also schedule an appointment via phone at 936.294.2600 or E-mail studentdebt@SHSU.EDU.

Meet with a Career Counselor. Outside of earning a degree, one of the most important steps you can take to secure a solid financial future is to develop an internship and career plan. To assist with this effort, your financial coach will refer you to a career counselor. During your first meeting. Or, you may contact Career Services at 936.294.1713 to schedule an appointment.

Also, please be sure to review the enclosure – Debt Letter Next Steps to ensure you maintain eligibility for future financial aid disbursements to pay for your classes.

We look forward to working with you to structure a successful transition from your educational career at Sam Houston to your new professional career. Please be sure to contact the referred offices above if you have any questions with regard to this letter. We will be happy to help!

# Breaking it Down

Subj: Student Loan Debt  
 Budgeting and Planning

Dear Name,

At Sam Houston State University, we are proud to share in your educational journey. Higher education requires a real investment in time, energy, and financial resources. We think you made a great choice by pursuing a degree in higher education and investing in yourself. Additionally, studies indicate the majority of college graduates earn more, have a lower unemployment rate, and live longer than those who do not have a college degree.

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In addition, you will need to review your personal files for any additional alternative loans you may have utilized from previous academic years at Sam Houston or at other transfer schools. Private education loans including Be On Time, College Access and loans accrued at other banking institutions are not included in NSLDS information.



# Additional Information

## **Federal and State Programs to Reduce Loan Debt and Assist in Repayment**

You may be eligible for tuition and fee waivers, the TEACH Grant, a tuition rebate or a loan forgiveness program for teachers or public servants. There are also multiple loan repayment plans available for student borrowers. For questions or assistance in determining program for which you may be eligible, please visit the Student Money Management Center.

## **Next Steps**

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# Letter - Enclosure

## Debt Letter Next Steps

[shsu.edu/debt-letter](https://shsu.edu/debt-letter)

In order to retain your eligibility for Federal Student Aid, please review the following checklist.

- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** [shsu.edu/sap](https://shsu.edu/sap)

### Requirements

	Minimum GPA	Hours Completion Rate	Max Attempted Hours
Undergrad	2.0	67%	180
Graduate	3.0	67%	30 - 36

Review your information in DegreeWorks to ensure compliance! [degreeworks.shsu.edu](https://degreeworks.shsu.edu)

### Questions?

Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at (936) 294-1774.

- Complete Your Degree**

- As you continue to increase your student loan debt amount, it becomes increasingly important to finish your degree.
- The federal government is attempting to reduce your student loan debt by only paying aid on courses that count toward your attempted degree.



919 Bearkat Blvd.  
Student Services Annex  
(936) 294-2600  
[studentdebt@shsu.edu](mailto:studentdebt@shsu.edu)  
[shsu.edu/smmc](https://shsu.edu/smmc)

f t i You p @SHSU\_SMMC

Sam Houston State University  
MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

## KattrIBUTES

These SHSU KattrIBUTES are most representative of the SHSU student body and most desired by potential employers.

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Critical Thinking
- Ethics
- Career Ready



# Student Preference

Date

Dear First Name,

## Student Loan Debt

The purpose of this communication is to give you a quick recap of your student loans borrowed to date. We want you to *be informed* about your student debt and options for repayment. Although **School Name** cannot guarantee or promise this is all of your student loan debt, this is a general overview of your account. Your estimated accumulated student loan debt and monthly loan payment estimate is:

Federal Student Loans:	\$
Alternative Student Loans:	\$
<b>Total Estimated Student Loan Debt:</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total Estimated Interest:</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Estimated Monthly Payment @ 6.8%</i>	<i>\$</i>



## How to Find Out More about Your Student Loan Debt

Please note that the disclosure above is **not** an official record of your student loan debt. Using your FSA ID, you can log onto [NSLDS.ed.gov](https://www.nsls.ed.gov) to review all of your federal loans. You may also want to visit with your [Financial Aid Counselor or Money Management Center Coach](#) to obtain a more complete assessment of your student loan debt. For example, due to the timing and processing of your federal loans, student transfer loans accrued at other institutions, nursing student loan debt, or private loan debt this information may not be complete.

## Learn about Programs Available to Reduce Loan Debt and Assist in Repayment!

You may be eligible for state tuition and fee waivers and rebates, the TEACH Grant, or a loan forgiveness program for teachers or public servants as well as benefits for military personnel. There are also multiple loan repayment plans available for student borrowers. For questions or assistance in determining what you may be eligible for, please visit [Financial Aid Office or Money Management Center contact information](#).

We look forward to working with you to review your current information, offering alternatives and structuring a successful transition from your educational career at **School Name** to your new professional career.



# Questions?



# SMMC Contact Information

- Location: Student Affairs Annex
- Phone: 936-294-2600
- Fax: 936-294-2275
- Hours: 8:00 – 5:00  
Monday - Friday
- Email: [smmc@shsu.edu](mailto:smmc@shsu.edu)
- Website: [www.shsu.edu/smmc](http://www.shsu.edu/smmc)

