From: <u>DL-Office of Student Finance</u>
To: <u>DL-Office of Student Finance</u>

Subject: CARDOZO - STUDENT LOAN EXIT COUNSELING ***PLEASE READ***

Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:13:22 PM

Importance: High



Office of Student Finance

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*** STUDENT LOAN EXIT COUNSELING ***

The following information pertains to all upcoming graduating 3L J.D. and LL.M. students who have received loans while attending Cardozo. It is important that you carefully read <u>ALL</u> of the information in this email. If you have not received any student loans while at Cardozo, please disregard this email.

REMINDER: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) has suspended all payments and set interest rates to 0% for all federal student loans, effective 3/13/2020 – 9/30/2021. Payments and accruing interest will resume on 10/1/2021 unless otherwise notified by the DOE. **Visit HERE for the DOE's student loan COVID website.**

FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN EXIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT:

Federal regulations require the completion of an Exit Counseling session by students who received federal loans **BEFORE** graduation. Student loan Exit Counseling is designed to help you understand your rights and responsibilities as a borrower and to guide you in managing your repayment.

The Exit Counseling session must be completed online if you received a federal Stafford loan and/or a federal Graduate PLUS loan while attending Cardozo.

Please visit <u>HERE</u> to complete your federal student loan online Exit Counseling session with the U.S. Department of Education.

CARDOZO YU LOAN EXIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT:

Any student who received an institutional Cardozo YU loan must complete an online Exit Counseling session with Yeshiva University's loan servicer, Heartland ECSI. The online Exit Counseling session must be completed **BEFORE** graduation. The Exit Counseling for your Cardozo YU loan is designed to

help you understand your rights and responsibilities as a borrower and to guide you in managing your repayment. The session will also provide details pertaining to your specific Cardozo YU loan(s) and your anticipated repayment figures and timetable.

Heartland ECSI will send your Cardozo YU loan Exit Counseling notification via email prior to graduation. The notification will be sent to your Cardozo email address. Please complete the Exit Counseling prior to graduation.

LOAN HISTORY:

It is recommended that you obtain and carefully review your student loan history. Please feel free to utilize a few retrieval options below and cross reference. Your loan history should match on these various sites!

- To obtain your complete history of all of your student loans taken out while at Cardozo, please follow these steps:
 - 1. Log into InsideTrack https://insidetrack.yu.edu/
 - 2. Under "Students", click on Cardozo School of Law
 - 3. Under "Student Aid" on the right-hand side of the page, click on "Financial Aid Status"
 - 4. Click on the "Financial Aid" tab on the top of the page, and then click on "Award"
 - 5. Click on "Award History"
- To obtain a complete detailed history of <u>all</u> of your federal student loans, visit here: https://studentaid.gov/
- Visit your student loan federal loan servicer's website. If you are not sure who your federal loan servicer is, please visit <u>HERE</u>. Please note that you may have multiple federal loan servicers. If you need further assistance, please contact Student Finance.
- Private student loan lender/servicer. This would only pertain to students who received private student loans.
- The Financial Aid Office at your prior school(s). If you received student loans at a previous institution before attending Cardozo, please contact the Financial Aid Office(s) at your former school(s) for an itemized student loan history printout. This option is only for students who cannot absolutely account for every student loan taken out at their prior institution(s).

It is extremely important that you can account for every loan that you have received while attending Cardozo and/or at any other institution. If you are not absolutely sure, do not assume, and double check!

ONE-ON-ONE EXIT COUNSELING MEETING:

It is recommended that you set up an exit counseling meeting with Jon Goldberg (Director of Student Finance) before graduation. Due to continued social distancing, the meeting will be held via Zoom or phone (whichever you prefer). We will review your personal student loan history, repayment options, loan forgiveness, budgeting, consolidation, and default prevention.

To schedule your exit counseling meeting, please visit **HERE**.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Within the online booking form, please be sure to select your meeting option (Zoom or phone). If you select the Zoom option, Jon Goldberg will email you the Zoom invitation prior the meeting. If you select the phone option, Jon Goldberg will call you.
- Please come prepared. Be sure to review your loan history prior to your exit counseling meeting. You may also complete your required online exit counseling prior the meeting (it's your choice).
- We're currently booking appointments from April through the end of May! Do not book your meeting for June or any other summer month. Additional appointment slots may be added at a later date if needed.

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCE CONTACT INFORMATION:

As of Friday (3/13/2020), Cardozo's OSF is open remotely until further notice. Please feel free to call, email, or reach out via our online chat option (during office hours) on our office webpage.

• Email: clfinaid@yu.edu

• Website (Online Chat): <u>www.cardozo.yu.edu/studentfinance</u>

• Phone: 646-592-6249

• Office Hours: 9am – 5:30pm (M – Th), 9am – 2:30pm (F)

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HELPFUL ONLINE RESOURCES:

Federal Student Loan Servicer Information:

You will eventually need to log into your federal student loan servicer's website to manage your loan repayment. Your loan servicer is not the Department of Education! Your loan servicer is a private company officially contracted out by the Department of Education. If you do not know which company is servicing your federal student loans, please visit HERE and click on the loan detail within each itemized loan. Within the loan detail, your loan servicer and their contact information will be indicated.. You should have already received loan statements from your servicer via e-mail and/or mail.

Federal Student Loan Account Details:

• https://studentaid.gov/ – View your federal student loan account(s).

Debt Management:

 www.cardozo.yu.edu/debtmanagement - Detailed information and resources on budgeting, loan repayment, loan forgiveness, and default prevention.

Repayment Plans:

• https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment/plans - Federal Student Loan Repayment Plans.

• https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/understand/plans/income-driven - Income Driven Repayment Plans (Income Based Repayment, Pay As You Earn, and Revised Pay As You Earn)

Loan Forgiveness:

- https://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service Public Service Loan Forgiveness.
- <u>www.cardozo.yu.edu/lrap</u> Cardozo's Loan Repayment Assistance Program.
 - https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_aid_indigent_defense/loan_repayment_assistance_programs/ State Loan Repayment Assistance Programs.
- https://www.hesc.ny.gov/repay-your-loans/repayment-options-assistance/loan-forgiveness-cancellation-and-discharge/district-attorney-and-indigent-legal-services-attorney-loan-forgiveness-program.html District Attorney Loan Forgiveness Program.
- https://www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program_ID=65 John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program.
- www.finaid.org/loans/forgiveness.phtml Loan forgiveness information & links.

Consolidation:

• https://studentaid.gov/app/launchConsolidation.action - Federal Direct Consolidation Loans.

Loan Repayment Calculators:

- https://studentaid.gov/loan-simulator/ Federal loan repayment loan simulator.
- <u>www.finaid.org/calculators/loanpayments.phtml</u> Loan payment calculator (fixed amounts 10 30 years).
- <u>www.finaid.org/calculators/</u> A variety of financial aid calculators.
- <u>www.fool.com/calcs/calculators.htm</u> a variety of interesting calculators running the gamut from credit & budget, home, college, retirement, etc.

Student Loan Debt Relief Advocacy:

- <u>www.studentloanborrowerassistance.org</u> This site is for people who already have student loans and want to know more about their options and rights.
- https://www.equaljusticeworks.org/law-students/student-debt-resources/ EJW's comprehensive website on student loan debt relief, with a focus on public interest.

Default Prevention:

- https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/default/avoid
- http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/default
- www.finaid.org/loans/default.phtml

If you have questions regarding any of the information in this email, please feel free to contact me.

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! I wish you the very best.

Sincerely,

Jon D. Goldberg Director of Student Finance Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law