§ 682.604 Required exit counseling for borrowers.

(a) Exit counseling. (1) A school must ensure that exit counseling is conducted with each Stafford Loan borrower and graduate or professional student PLUS Loan borrower either in person, by audiovisual presentation, or by interactive electronic means. In each case, the school must ensure that this counseling is conducted shortly before the student borrower ceases at least half-time study at the school, and that an individual with expertise in the title IV programs is reasonably available shortly after the counseling to answer the student borrower’s questions. As an alternative, in the case of a student borrower enrolled in a correspondence program or a study-abroad program that the home institution approves for credit, written counseling materials may be provided by mail within 30 days after the student borrower completes the program. If a student borrower withdraws from school without the school’s prior knowledge or fails to complete an exit counseling session as required, the school must, within 30 days after learning that the student borrower has withdrawn from school or failed to complete the exit counseling as required, ensure that exit counseling is provided through interactive electronic means, by mailing written counseling materials to the student borrower at the student borrower’s last known address, or by sending written counseling materials to an email address provided by the student borrower that is not an email address associated with the school sending the counseling materials.

(2) The exit counseling must—
(i) Inform the student borrower of the average anticipated monthly repayment amount based on the student borrower’s indebtedness or on the average indebtedness of student borrowers who have obtained Stafford loans, PLUS Loans, or student borrowers who have obtained both Stafford and PLUS loans, depending on the types of loans the student borrower has obtained, for attendance at the same school or in the same program of study at the same school;
(ii) Review for the student borrower available repayment plan options, including standard, graduated, extended, income sensitive and income-based repayment plans, including a description of the different features of each plan and sample information showing the average anticipated monthly payments, and the difference in interest paid and total payments under each plan;
(iii) Explain to the borrower the options to prepay each loan, to pay each loan on a shorter schedule, and to change repayment plans;
(iv) Provide information on the effects of loan consolidation including, at a minimum—
(A) The effects of consolidation on total interest to be paid, fees to be paid, and length of repayment;
(B) The effects of consolidation on a borrower’s underlying loan benefits, including grace periods, loan forgiveness, cancellation, and deferment opportunities;
(C) The options of the borrower to prepay the loan and to change repayment plans; and
(D) That borrower benefit programs may vary among different lenders;
(v) Include debt-management strategies that are designed to facilitate repayment;
(vi) Explain to the borrower the use of a Master Promissory Note;
(vii) Emphasize to the student borrower the seriousness and importance of the repayment obligation the borrower has assumed;
(viii) Emphasize to the student borrower that the full amount of the loan (other than a loan made or originated
by the school must be repaid in full even if the student borrower does not complete the program, does not complete the program within the regular time for program completion, is unable to obtain employment upon completion, or is otherwise dissatisfied with or does not receive the educational or other services that the student borrower purchased from the school;

(ix) Describe the likely consequences of default, including adverse credit reports, delinquent debt collection procedures under Federal law, and litigation;

(x) Provide—
(A) A general description of the terms and conditions under which a borrower may obtain full or partial forgiveness or discharge of principal and interest, defer repayment of principal or interest, or be granted forbearance on a title IV loan, including forgiveness benefits or discharge benefits available to a FFEL borrower who consolidates his or her loan into the Direct Loan program; and

(B) A copy, either in print or by electronic means, of the information the Secretary makes available pursuant to section 485(d) of the HEA;

(xi) Require the student borrower to provide current information concerning name, address, social security number, references, and driver’s license number and State of issuance, as well as the student borrower’s expected permanent address, the address of the student borrower’s next of kin, and the name and address of the student borrower’s expected employer (if known). The school must ensure that this information is provided to the guaranty agency or agencies listed in the student borrower’s records within 60 days after the student borrower provides the information;

(xii) Review for the student borrower information on the availability of the Student Loan Ombudsman’s office;

(xiii) Inform the student borrower of the availability of title IV loan information in the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) and how NSLDS can be used to obtain title IV loan status information; and

(xiv) A general description of the types of tax benefits that may be available to borrowers.

(3) If exit counseling is conducted by electronic interactive means, the school must take reasonable steps to ensure that each student borrower receives the counseling materials, and participates in and completes the counseling.

(4) The school must maintain documentation substantiating the school’s compliance with this section for each student borrower.

(5)(i) For students who have received both FFEL Program and Direct Loan Program loans for attendance at a school, the school’s compliance with the exit counseling requirements in 34 CFR 685.304(b) satisfies the requirements of this section if the school ensures that the exit counseling also provides the borrower with the information described in paragraphs (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section.

(ii) A student’s completion of electronic interactive exit counseling offered by the Secretary satisfies the requirements of this section, and for students who have also received Direct Loan Program loans for attendance at the school, the requirements of 34 CFR 685.304(b).

(b) [Reserved]

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1845–0020)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1077, 1078, 1078–1, 1082, 1085, 1092, 1094)

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EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting §682.604, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at www.fdsys.gov.

§682.605 Determining the date of a student’s withdrawal.

(a) Except in the case of a student who does not return for the next scheduled term following a summer break, which includes any summer term or terms in which classes are offered but students are not generally required to attend, a school must follow the procedures in §686.22(b) or (c), as applicable, for determining the student’s date of withdrawal. In the case of a student who does not return from a summer