

# RESOURCES

## EDUCATION AWARD

### Education Award Website from Education Northwest

<http://edaward.org/>

This comprehensive website covers everything education award; using the award for schools or loans, taxes, and even has short animations and stories to illustrate the different ways the award can be used. It also has links to other helpful resources, including Title IV schools, Direct Loans, Schools that match the Ed Award, and FinAid.org.

### The National Service Trust

1-800-942-2677

Once you finish your term of service and want to use your education award, the National Service Trust is the only entity that can influence where your Education Award can and cannot go.

### My AmeriCorps Portal

<https://my.americorps.gov>, Helpline: 202-606-5000

Where you access your education award. Has links to use in case you forgot your username and password.

## STUDENT LOANS AND FINANCING SCHOOL

### Heather Jarvis

<http://askheatherjarvis.com/>

This website is specifically designed for student loan borrowers; has access to webinars, tools, resources, and forum so you can ask questions. The website includes an entire section on Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

### Idealist Podcasts with Heather Jarvis

<http://www.idealist.org/info/Podcast/Gradschool/HeatherJarvis>

Podcasts with Amy Potthast and Heather Jarvis who is a serious national expert on this stuff -- the second show touches on AmeriCorps...this link will link to both shows plus the transcripts.

### Student Loan Borrower Assistance

<http://www.studentloanborrowerassistance.org/>

Information about repayment options, avoiding and getting out of default, and dealing with collections agencies.

### Project on Student Debt

<http://www.projectonstudentdebt.org/>

State-by-state data, research, and policy analysis.

### SmartStudent™ Guide to Financial Aid

<http://www.finaid.org/>

An online resource for comprehensive information about all aspects of financial aid.

### GL Advisor

<https://clientportal.gladvisor.com/registration.aspx>

A financial advisory firm designed to help students and young professionals manage their student loan debt. Heather Jarvis recommends their Free Personalized Student Loan Assessment.

### Idealist Grad School Resource Center

<http://www.idealist.org/info/GradEducation>

Designed to help anyone considering the many ways to connect their educational options with their future social change careers.

## FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

### **FAFSA**

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Assistance. You can fill it out on paper or online. Usually you fill it out in January or February if you are planning to go to school in the fall, but you can fill it out anytime. It's based on information from your tax form, and if you are a dependent student, it requires your parents' income as well. "Income" from AmeriCorps can be subtracted from expected financial contribution.

### **Federal Student Aid Information Center**

1-800-433-3243

Staff can answer your student aid questions and give you the help you need for free including information about federal student aid programs, help completing the FAFSA and making corrections to your Student Aid Report, and information about the process of determining need and your federal student loans.

## PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS (PSLF) and INCOME BASED REPAYMENT (IBR)

### **Federal Student Aid**

[studentaid.ed.gov/publicservice/](http://studentaid.ed.gov/publicservice/)

Federal website that has all official information on PSLF, including forms the Department of Education released on January 31st, 2012, designed to help borrowers track their progress toward qualifying for PSLF.

### **IBR Info**

<http://ibrinfo.org/>

Clear information about Income-Based Repayment and Public Service Loan Forgiveness. Check out the groovy animated student debt monster!

NOTE: <http://askheatherjarvis.com/> (listed above) also has a wealth of information on PSLF and IBR

## OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES

### **Idealist Career Guides**

<http://www.idealists.org/info/Careers/Guides>

Besides searching for nonprofit jobs across the world, Idealist also has an excellent array of resources including guides for sector switchers, first time job seekers, and even Service Corps to social impact careers. All the guides are free on the website.

### **Idealist Grad Fairs**

<http://www.idealists.org/info/GradFairs>

Meet schools that will help you make a difference with your career at Idealist Grad Fairs taking place across the country in 2012. Check out the Idealist Grad School Resource Center too (above).

### **AmeriCorps Alums**

[www.americorpsalums.org](http://www.americorpsalums.org)

AmeriCorps Alums offers a number of great things to members, including free state and federal tax returns.