

# GET SMART

## ABOUT STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS



### Graduating with debt? Scammers are a threat.



**58%**  
of college students have student loan debt (2021)



**43 MILLION**  
people have outstanding federal loans



**\$95 MILLION**  
was lost in 2017 due to scammers charging illegal fees for false student loan debt relief schemes

Source: Operations Game of Loans partnership with FTC and 11 states, 2017

### If you're asked to do any of these things, get wise to the "whys"

Don't pay up-front costs or monthly fees

**WHY:** Scammers want to trick you into paying upfront fees to get the process started. This is illegal.

Don't provide your Federal Student Aid ID

**WHY:** Scammers can get into your account and steal your identity.

Don't act immediately to qualify

**WHY:** They want to pressure you to sign up for debt relief without asking questions.

### Report Debt Forgiveness Scams

-  Federal Trade Commission [reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov)
-  Better Business Bureau [www.bbb.org/scamtracker](https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker)
-  Federal Student Aid [studentaid.gov/feedback-center](https://studentaid.gov/feedback-center)