STUDENT STACKS

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Student Activities Fair

It was great meeting so many students at the Activities Fair! Missed out on a prize? Connect with OSFL at future events where learning about money can be fun and rewarding. See you soon!

Upcoming Events

- **Understanding Health Insurance (ISA)**
  Thursday, 11/12/2026
  BS 435
- **Study Break Trivia**
  Thursday, 11/19/2026
  Library
- **Incoming Student Webinar**
  Monday, 11/23/2026
  Teams Meeting



Financial Spotlight

Your Loan, Your Choice

As the borrower, you have the power to compare lenders and choose the option that best meets your needs. Review interest rates, repayment terms, borrower benefits, and cosigner release options before making a decision. Often a cosigner can be released from the loan obligation with income and a specific number of on time payments. This may help you to get a cosigner if needed.

If you are not approved, do not panic. Each private lender has their own formula, so you may qualify with another lender or by adding a qualified cosigner. Be sure to ask the lender for the denial reason. This will help you make informed decisions. Take time to shop around to help you secure better loan terms and save money over time.

Message from the Director

Not all private loans are created equal. use MUSC's preferred lender list as a starting point, compare lenders carefully, and choose the loan that best supports your goals. OSFL can help. Book an appointment today!



Money Minute: Borrow with Intention

By: Robbie Pokora

Student loans are often a necessary investment in a healthcare career, but it's important to remember that the smartest borrowing decision isn't always finding the lowest interest rate. Sometimes it's deciding how much you truly need.

Additional loan funds can make daily life easier, but every borrowed dollar comes with a future cost. Those dollars may eventually compete with other priorities like purchasing a home, starting a family, or investing for retirement. While it may be difficult to think that far ahead during school, your future financial goals deserve a place in today's borrowing decisions.

Before taking out the maximum amount of loans offered, take a moment to evaluate your necessary expenses. If this process seems scary to you, please come and make an appointment with us! Borrowing with intention can help ensure that your future income works toward your goals, not just yesterday's spending.

Private Lender Best Practices

1



Utilize all federal student aid to secure fixed rates and borrower protections. Federal aid qualifies for PSLF.

2



Shop multiple lenders to prequalify and compare offers. Do so within a two week time frame to reduce credit score impact.

3



Review cosigner requirements and release options. Prioritize lenders offering release options after on-time payments.

4



Evaluate interest rates. Seek fixed rates over variable rates. This ensures that the loan costs will not fluctuate.



Financial Fit Students Podcast, Episode 29

Your first bank doesn't have to be your forever bank. As your life goals and financial needs change take time to reevaluate your banking choices.

Check out episode 29 to see if a credit union might be a better fit.

LISTEN

Balling on a Budget November

Explore free and low cost things to do around the Lowcountry and have fun while keeping your budget on track.

SCAN HERE