



Testimonials from the Save Perkins Petition

<https://www.change.org/p/save-perkins-now>

- As a teacher with a graduate degree I'm barely making it with my salary already. The Perkins Program allows deferment for educators. **Without the Perkins Loan program I would not be where I am today educating our youth** and I would not afford to be able to survive on my salary if it were not for the Perkins Loan deferment programs for educators.
- Without this loan I'd be drowning in student loan debt. I wouldn't have any kind of financial freedom so I wouldn't be able to even consider starting my own business and help create more jobs. **I know this loan is a pretty small amount per student, but when I was in school I desperately needed it.** Without it I might not have finished my degree. **Don't take that away from the people who need it the most.**
- As a recipient of the Perkins Loans Program, I have been able to afford a high quality college education. **I am incredibly grateful for the assistance** and have been able to **put my degree into action by assisting my community.** My name is Joy Contreras and I proudly sign my name to the petition on Saving the Perkins Loans Program!
- I am signing this because **I completed my Bachelor's degree with the help of this loan.** I feel that deserving participants should not be robbed of the opportunity to succeed.
- **Perkins** (subsidized and low interest) loans **made it possible for me to attend a great school,** and now that I am repaying it is a reasonable amount. This would not be the case with private loans!
- **The Perkins Loan allowed me to obtain a college degree and successfully enter the American workforce. I could not have done it without this assistance.**
- I was a student completely on my own paying my own way for everything including school and STILL am. **I couldn't have gone to school without this loan.** We get so little help paying the outrageous cost of tuition as it is. **Please don't take this away too.**



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- Because of the Perkins Loan program **my dream of becoming a Registered Nurse is becoming a reality.** I would not be able to pay my tuition in full, with this loan it gives me the opportunity to break up my tuition in reasonable payments.
- I'm signing because the Perkins Loan Program has contributed so much towards me financially, and **I would not have been able to complete my schooling and get my degree without it.** I wouldn't want to see someone unable to go to school and receive their degree because money from this program was cut.
- I was awarded a Perkins Loan to help pay for my undergraduate education at Reed College. **I am now a professor at a medical university.** Without beneficial programs like the Perkins Loan, students from low income families such as myself would have a much more difficult time financing education at prestigious private institutions, and that would be a loss for society as a whole.
- **The Federal Perkins Loan is the only one that made me feel confident about repaying my finances for school.** Having eased my mind more than any other loan, the Perkins loan allowed me to graduate with a bachelor's degree.
- I was too poor in my 20's to attend more than 2 quarters of college. I finally learned enough about the system and financial aid opportunities that **I returned to college as a single parent at age 31,** and finally graduating in 2014 at age 36. I am a Perkins Loan recipient. I am so grateful for the extended grace period because I am still looking for a living wage job at 8 months after graduation. A college degree is NO LONGER a guarantee of a living wage job or a career. **The Perkins program has some unique benefits to it that help those of us students who are coming at life from extremely underprivileged backgrounds** and need some additional help to have a chance at self-sufficiency.