



The University of Mississippi

Office of Financial Aid

University, MS 38677

Phone: (800) 891- 4596 Fax: (662) 915-1164

Policy Name:	Student Loan Code of Conduct
Purpose:	This document contains the Office of Financial Aid's current policy on Student Loan Code of Conduct.
Disclaimer:	This policy is subject to change, without notice, in order to comply with administrative and regulatory requirements.

Student Loan Code of Conduct Overview

The Office of Financial Aid (OFA) at The University of Mississippi is dedicated to the highest levels of ethical behavior. Employees within the OFA will avoid any conflict of interest or the perception thereof.

Additionally, in compliance with the Student Loan Code of Conduct requirements outlined in the **Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008**, The University of Mississippi OFA *prohibits all of the following*:

- Revenue sharing agreements with lenders
- Conflicts of interest
- Accepting gifts above a nominal value from lenders
- Contracting arrangements with a lender that provides compensation to school staff
- Assigning a lender to a borrower or refusing to certify a loan for a borrower's choice of lender
- Accepting from lenders any staffing assistance for call center or financial aid office
- Accepting compensation for service on an advisory board, except that reasonable expenses associated with that service may be reimbursed by the lender
- Accepting compensation for any type of consulting agreement or contract to provide services to or on behalf of a lender relating to education loans
- Steering borrowers to particular lenders or delaying loan certifications
- Offers of funds for private loans to students in exchange for providing concessions or promises to the lender for a specific number of FSA loans, a specified loan volume, or a preferred lender arrangement

For the following purposes, it is not considered a "gift" to the school for a lender to provide:

- Standard materials, activities or programs on issues related to a loan, default aversion, default prevention or financial literacy (i.e. brochures, workshops, training)

- Food, refreshments, training or informational material that is designed to improve the service of a lender or servicer if the training contributes to the professional development of the school staff
- Favorable terms, conditions and borrower benefits, as long as these are provided to all students at the school
- Entrance and exit counseling services, as long as the school controls the counseling and does not promote the products and services of the lender
- Philanthropic contributions not tied to loan volume