Cohort Default Rate

About the Cohort Default Rate

Federal student loan borrowers generally must begin repaying their loans six months after graduating, leaving school, or dropping below half-time enrollment. If borrowers make no payments for any period of 270 days, or roughly 9 months, they will default on their student loans.

The U.S. Department of Education (Dept) tracks the number and percentage of federal student loan borrowers who default on their student loans within three years of entering repayment. This is the Cohort Default Rate, commonly referred to as "three-year" CDRs.

A cohort default rate is the percentage of a school's borrowers who enter repayment on certain Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program or William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program loans during a particular federal fiscal year (FY), October 1 to September 30, and default or meet other specified conductions prior to the end of the next fiscal year. This is compared to the national rate.

Schiller International University's Three-Year Official Cohort Default Rates

Fiscal Year	Borrowers Entering Repayment	Borrowers in Default	Schiller International University's CDR	National CDR
FY 2023	22	0	0.0%	0.4%
FY 2022	31	0	0.0%	0.0%
FY 2021	28	0	0.0%	0.0%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Cohort Default Rate Database.

For a more in-depth description of cohort default rates and how the rates are calculated please refer to the Cohort Default Rate Guide.

Updated: September 2026