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## JD/PhD Accelerated Loan Forgiveness Program

Harvard Law School has established a new financial assistance program for new students pursuing a JD at Harvard Law School and a PhD at the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. In recognition of the burden law school debt places on graduates who intend to pursue academic careers, the program offers accelerated loan forgiveness to eligible students.

Through the JD/PhD funding program, eligible students pay HLS tuition and fees not otherwise covered by need-based grants with special HLS JD-PhD Loans. After graduation, twenty percent of the recipient's HLS JD/PhD Loans will be forgiven for each year that the JD/PhD graduate is employed in a qualifying job. (Other loans taken out to cover law school-related expenses are not part of this program.)

Qualifying employment includes tenure-track appointments, and other comparable academic appointments or positions. For graduates entering other forms of employment, e.g., government work, that are reasonably likely to lead to academic positions, loan repayment may be suspended for one year with the possibility of additional periods of suspension. However, graduates who do not enter qualifying employment within 5 years of graduating from Harvard will be obligated to repay the JD/PhD Loans. Decisions regarding the funding, including qualifying employment status and eligibility for suspension of repayment, will be made by a Law School JD/PhD committee on a case-by-case basis.

Funding for JD/PhD Loans is limited. Eligible students are those who are newly admitted to both HLS and GSAS each year. Students who have been admitted to both schools, but have not yet matriculated at one of them may also be eligible depending on the availability of funds. Students who have matriculated at both HLS and GSAS are not eligible. For more information about the funding, contact Julie Barton, HLS Joint and Concurrent Degree Advisor, at [jbarton@law.harvard.edu](mailto:jbarton@law.harvard.edu) or 617-495-7192.