



Here Are Some of the Benefits of Applying with a Creditworthy Cosigner

A greater chance of getting approved for your loan. When you apply with a creditworthy cosigner, Sallie Mae® considers the income and credit histories of both you and your cosigner. A cosigner with a long history of good credit may be able to help overcome your limited credit history and enable you to qualify for the loan.

The possibility of a lower interest rate. The more creditworthy the cosigner, the greater potential there is for you to receive a lower interest rate on your loan. And a lower interest rate can mean significant savings over the life of your loan.

An opportunity to establish a credit history. Having established a credit history can help you get favorable rates on a car, a home, and other purchases after you graduate.

Finding a Cosigner for Your Smart Option Student Loan®

Looking for a cosigner on your Sallie Mae Smart Option Student Loan®? A wide range of individuals can be a cosigner as long as they are creditworthy, understand and accept the responsibilities of being a cosigner, and meet any specific cosigner requirements of the lender.

A creditworthy cosigner is an individual with good or excellent credit and an ability to repay the loan.

Who should you ask to be a cosigner?

Your goal in selecting a cosigner is to find someone whose strong credit history can make up for your short credit history. You may want to ask:

- ▶ A parent or guardian
- ▶ A relative such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or cousin
- ▶ Your spouse
- ▶ Another individual who is supportive of your higher education goals

Still not sure who to ask? Consider this: Who's the first person you'd invite to your graduation? That person might be the one you ask to be a cosigner.

You want to select a cosigner who has demonstrated:

- ▶ **The ability to pay.** When Sallie Mae evaluates cosigners, we look at their ability to pay which includes comparing the cosigner's total debt to their total income and the amount of student loans they already have
- ▶ **Stability.** We look at how long the cosigners have lived at their current address, whether they have a stable job, and whether they have an established credit history
- ▶ **Willingness to pay.** We consider the cosigners' credit scores and their payment history on other types of credit, including credit cards, mortgages, and automobile loans

So choose your cosigner wisely, and you'll reap more of the benefits that having a creditworthy cosigner can offer.

For more information about applying with a cosigner, please visit [SallieMae.com/SmartCosigner](https://www.SallieMae.com/SmartCosigner)

See Reverse for Information on Cosigner Release >>

Your cosigner
can learn more
about credit and
credit scores at
Myfico.com.

SallieMae[®]
Dream. Invest. Succeed.[®]

How should you ask someone to be a cosigner?

Be confident. Tell your potential cosigner what you plan to do with the education you receive and let him or her know that cosigning will help you achieve one of your life's goals. Remind your cosigner that he or she could also help you qualify for a better interest rate on your loan.

Remind your cosigner about the cosigner release

And be sure to tell your cosigner about Sallie Mae's cosigner release. After you graduate and demonstrate that you can handle principal and interest payments, you can apply to release your cosigner from your loan. If approved, your cosigner has helped you when you needed it the most and is now released from the responsibility for the remainder of the loan.

To qualify for cosigner release, the borrower must have successfully completed school, made 12 consecutive on-time principal and interest payments, meet age of majority requirements, and meet the underwriting requirements when the request for cosigner release is processed. The borrower's account must remain current until the request for the cosigner release is processed. The borrower must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident at the time the cosigner release is processed.

For more information about applying with a cosigner,
please visit SallieMae.com/SmartCosigner

Sallie Mae Smart Option Student Loans are made by Sallie Mae Bank[®] or a Sallie Mae lender partner.

The Sallie Mae logo, Sallie Mae, Sallie Mae Bank, Sallie Mae Smart Option Student Loan, Smart Option Student Loan, and Dream. Invest. Succeed. are registered service marks and the Saving | Planning | Paying for Education logo is a service mark of Sallie Mae, Inc. SLM Corporation and its subsidiaries, including Sallie Mae, Inc., are not sponsored by or agencies of the United States of America. © 2010 by Sallie Mae, Inc. All rights reserved. GCR2332 04/10 BOR-938.

