

Pennsylvania Bar Foundation – PA IOLTA Board Loan LRAP FAQs

I don't see my organization listed on the loan application. May I apply anyway?

No. The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation – PA IOLTA Board LRAP is only open to attorneys employed by IOLTA-funded organizations. If you are not presently employed by one of the 36 organizations listed on the application, you are not eligible.

How do I calculate my current annual debt service?

Add together the monthly payment amount for each of your eligible loans to get your total monthly loan service. Multiply the total monthly loan service by 12 to get the amount of your annual debt service.

How do I calculate my net student loan debt?

Subtract from your annual debt service the amount of any loan repayment assistance you are receiving or anticipate receiving during the loan cycle. The remainder is your net student loan debt. It should be a positive number. If it is not a positive number, then you have “negative annual debt service.”

How do I calculate my debt to income ratio?

Take your net student loan debt and divide it by your gross salary. Your result is stated as a percentage.

I have negative debt service. Can I still apply?

Yes, you are welcome to apply; however, given the limited financial resources and the large pool of potential applicants, we do not anticipate being able to provide assistance to those who are already having their annual debt service met. The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation – PA IOLTA Board LRAP is positioned as a program of last resort.

My annual debt service is less than \$2,000; does that mean I am not eligible to apply?

No. You are welcome to apply. The fact that your annual debt service is less than \$2,000 is not a disqualifying factor, however, if accepted, it means you might not receive the maximum annual loan amount of \$2,000.

My loans are being deferred. Am I still eligible for assistance?

Yes. The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation – PA-IOLTA Board LRAP program requires that your eligible loans be in satisfactory repayment status. That includes loans in forbearance or deferment status.

What are eligible loans?

Examples of eligible loans include Federal student loans like Perkins, Stafford and PLUS loans. Examples of eligible private student loans include those available through private lenders and institutions such as Sallie Mae or Citibank.

I'm a public defender. Am I eligible?

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The John R. Justice Grant Program being administered by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency might be of assistance. Visit the PCCD website at:

<https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/JohnRJustice-Grant-Program-.aspx> for program details.

I just extended the repayment period for my student loans so I could reduce my monthly payments. Should I return to a shorter repayment timeframe so I can maximize the amount of assistance I received from the LRAP?

That is a personal decision.

I am presently receiving LRAP support from my law school (regardless of when it is scheduled to end). Should I include it on my application?

Yes. If you expect to receive assistance from another LRAP for the loan period in which you are applying, you need to list it.

Can I fax/e-mail in my application?

Yes, however original signatures are required.

How long can I receive loan assistance?

Assuming you remain eligible under the program requirements and in qualifying employment, you may receive a maximum of ten (10) years of repayment assistance, assuming funding is available.