Agenda

- Overview of the Program
- Process
- Eligibility
- Funding
- Enrollment
- Withdrawal
- Employment Guidelines
- PSI and LIPP
- Reporting Requirements
Overview

Students who enroll in the PSI are eligible to receive a grant toward their tuition (up to a maximum of $52,350) during their 3L year in exchange for a commitment to work in an eligible public service position immediately after graduation or a clerkship.

Funds are awarded as a grant during a student’s 3L year, or in the case of joint degree students their last year at HLS.
Process

1. Accumulate points / establish eligibility
2. Confirm intention to participate in 3L year
3. Sign Agreement to repay if employment commitment not met
4. Receive PSI Award
5. Obtain PSI eligible employment
6. Confirm continued eligibility semi-annually
7. Receive confirmation of completion of job commitment
Eligibility is based on...

1. Date of enrollment at HLS
2. Points accumulated prior to graduation
3. Completing work commitment after graduation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of first Enrollment at HLS*</th>
<th>PSI Award</th>
<th>Points Required</th>
<th>Work Commitment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2008</td>
<td>Full Tuition</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2009</td>
<td>Full Tuition</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Transfer students are awarded in the same manner as the class with which they would have entered had they started at HLS. Students admitted after September 1, 2009 are not eligible for the PSI.
Eligibility: Reviewing your Eligibility

- You can see the maximum level of PSI benefit for which you are eligible for at the “My HLS Financial Aid” website, on the “messages” tab.
### Eligibility: Earning Points

Points are accumulated via participation in various public interest events and programs. Points are tracked by Student Financial Services and are updated once a semester. We email updated points information to students early in each semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer Employment</th>
<th>Public Service Clinical Programs</th>
<th>Student Practice Organizations</th>
<th>Pro Bono Work</th>
<th>Faculty Sponsored Public Service Projects</th>
<th>PSI Community Events Sponsored by OPIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • 4 points / week of full-time employment | • 10 points per clinical credit, contingent on completion of the clinic | • 10 points per academic semester with at least 40 hours of work | • 10 points for each 40 hour block worked | • 5 points per unpaid project | • 1 point per event  
• 5 points for early enrollment |
| • Maximum of 80 points | • No maximum | • No maximum | • No maximum | • Maximum of 10 points | • Maximum of 10 points (15 with early enrollment) |

One summer (40 points) of public service employment is mandatory for the PSI.
Funding: Logistics

- Disbursed to your eBill in early December
- The PSI Grant supplements any HLS need based grant aid for which you may be eligible
- The combination of PSI funds and HLS need based grant aid is capped at the total of tuition ($52,350 for 2013-14)
- It may be necessary to reduce existing loans in order to award your PSI Grant
### Funding: Examples

#### Example 1:
Currently only borrowing Stafford Loans, room in financial aid budget for full PSI Grant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Loan:</td>
<td>$20,500</td>
<td>$20,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSI Grant:</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$52,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>$20,500</td>
<td>$72,850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Example 2:
Currently borrowing up to the financial aid budget but not a grant recipient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budget: $78,700</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Loan:</td>
<td>Before $20,500, After $20,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perkins:</td>
<td>Before $2,700, After $2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS Loan:</td>
<td>Before $4,900, After $3,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other loans:</td>
<td>Before $58,200, After $5,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSI Grant:</td>
<td>Before $0, After $52,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>$78,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Example 3:
Currently a need-based grant recipient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budget: $78,700</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Loan:</td>
<td>Before $20,500, After $20,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perkins:</td>
<td>Before $2,700, After $2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS Loan:</td>
<td>Before $4,900, After $3,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other loans:</td>
<td>Before $25,600, After $0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS Grant:</td>
<td>Before $25,000, After $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSI Grant:</td>
<td>Before $0, After $27,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>$78,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrollment

- Online form via which students express their intent to participate in the PSI
  - Online form is a non-binding statement of intent; complete by October 11
- SFS will prepare PSI Agreement for students completing the online form
  - Printed Agreements available October 18, must be returned to SFS by November 12
  - This is a legally-binding agreement
Enrollment: Deadlines

- Agreements will not be accepted after 5pm on **November 12**; for reasons of fairness, **no deadline extensions will be granted**
  - Don’t wait until the last minute to turn it in!
- Timing of the deadline permits you to cancel any unneeded education loans without paying fees or interest charges on the cancelled amount
- You may withdraw from the PSI prior to December 2\(^{nd}\) without penalty; after that date, you will be charged a PSI cancellation fee
Withdrawal: Cancellation Fee

- Intended to ensure that PSI is not used as a way to obtain an interest-free “loan”
- Equivalent to interest on the amount of your PSI grant from December 2\textsuperscript{nd} to date of written withdrawal from PSI, if withdrawal occurs on or before April 15, 2014
- Withdrawal after April 15, 2014 is subject to larger repayment penalty, based on months of PSI work commitment completed
Withdrawal: Before 4/15/14

- Upon withdrawal, your PSI grant will be cancelled and the cancellation fee will be charged to your student bill. Examples*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Withdrawal</th>
<th>Cancellation Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2014</td>
<td>$334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1, 2014</td>
<td>$681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1, 2014</td>
<td>$1,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1, 2014</td>
<td>$1,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15, 2014</td>
<td>$1,548</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*examples based on PSI Grant of $52,350; fee based on interest rate of 8%
Upon withdrawal your PSI grant will be converted to a loan according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time in Eligible Position</th>
<th>Amount to be Repaid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 12 months</td>
<td>110% of PSI Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-23 months</td>
<td>100% of PSI Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-35 months</td>
<td>90% of PSI Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-47 months</td>
<td>80% of PSI Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48-60 months</td>
<td>70% of PSI Grant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Withdrawal: Paperwork After 4/16/14

- You will receive 3 Truth in Lending Act (TILA) disclosures and a Promissory Note
- The loan will be serviced by the Harvard University Student Loan Office
- The interest rate on the loan will be 8% and the repayment term is 10 years
- In the PSI Agreement you also agree to sign the Promissory Note if/when required
Employment Guidelines

- Full Tuition Benefit
  - 5 years of continuous eligible employment
  - Up to 1 year of a clerkship counts toward meeting the employment requirement

- PSI job eligibility is more restrictive than that of LIPP
Employment Guidelines

- Any full-time job for a governmental unit, which includes federal, military, state, or local government, or the overseas equivalent.

- Any full-time job for a nonprofit 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(5) organization or the overseas equivalent, with the exception of jobs at higher education institutions.

- Any full-time job for a political campaign.

- Up to one year of a clerkship can qualify toward the five year commitment for those students receiving the full tuition benefit. Graduates taking a second clerkship year must complete the remainder of their public service commitment immediately after the second clerkship year.
Employment Guidelines

- Employment must begin 3 months after graduation (by 9/1/14 for May 2014 graduates) and work must be paid employment to qualify.

- Your PSI commitment can be put on hold for up to 2 years of further education.

- Positions at institutions of higher education are NOT eligible for the PSI.

- Positions in private sector (including private public interest firms) are NOT eligible for the PSI.
A job in higher education that comprises “substantial public interest practice similar to that required in a legal public interest job” might be designated as PSI-eligible.

- The PSI Committee evaluates all such jobs on appeal and makes eligibility determinations.
  - Jobs that are primarily administrative, research or academic in nature are not PSI-eligible.
  - Also ineligible: general counsel for a higher education institution, special assistant to Dean.

Contact us in advance if you are considering any higher education jobs.
Employment Guidelines: Periods of Unemployment and Part-Time Work

- Temporarily unemployed graduates can request short-term suspension of the repayment requirement while they are between jobs; volunteer positions are not qualified employment.
- Periods of parental leave do not count towards the PSI employment requirement.
- If a parent returns to work at least half-time after the birth of child, the part-time employment will count toward the PSI employment requirement; no other part-time work qualifies for the PSI.
The job eligibility requirements for the PSI are more restrictive than the requirements for LIPP, so while you (or your job) may not be eligible for the PSI you could still be eligible for LIPP assistance.

Recipients of the PSI are also eligible to participate in LIPP if eligible for LIPP.
PSI and LIPP: Job Eligibility By Program

- Clerkship
- Any work in the Government
- Political Campaigns
- Any work at a Non-Profit
- Law Related Work at a For-Profit Entity
- Any work in Higher Education
- Law Related Self-Employment

Fellowship: generally yes for LIPP; for PSI, it always depends on the nature of fellowship.
Reporting Requirements

1. **May 2014** - Contact information for the Fall with job information if available

2. **August 2014 and every 6 months thereafter** - online update form and Employer Certification

- You must provide PSI updates even if you are in LIPP
- If we don’t hear from you we will initiate the conversion of the grant to a loan
- It is YOUR responsibility to keep your contact information current
Questions?
Contact Information

Student Financial Services
Wasserstein Hall, Suite 5027

617-495-4606
or
psi@law.harvard.edu

Full guidelines at
http://www.law.harvard.edu/current/sfs/psi/