

VA Matrix

revised 5/3/2022

Student Loan Debt

If student loan repayment is scheduled to begin within 12 months of the date of the VA loan closing, Lenders should consider the anticipated monthly obligation in the loan analysis. If the borrower is able to provide evidence that the debt may be deferred for a period of time outside that timeframe, the debt need not be considered in the analysis. Documentation should be provided to confirm.

If payment already established or to begin within 12 months:

Determine the "threshold" payment of 5% of outstanding loan balance divided by 12. If payment on credit report is higher than threshold payment, then use the payment shown on the credit report. If the actual payment is lower than threshold payment lender may use it IF the Veteran provides a statement from the loan servicer documenting the terms and loan payment.

If payment to be deferred:

Do not count the payment if deferred for more than 12 months from loan closing date. Documentation of the deferment dates for each student loan to be excluded must be provided.

If payment has been reduced:

Same guidance as "If payment already established".