

STUDENT LOAN DEBT

These guidelines establish a procedure for compensation for counsel who provide services to debtors in addressing student loan debt in Chapter 13 cases before the undersigned.

A fee in the amounts set forth below (in addition to the no-look fees established in these Guidelines and not subject to the supplemental fee cap referenced in these guidelines) shall be allowed for any of the following services upon request and permitted by court order:

- 1) **Up to \$1,500** - Contested confirmation hearings on a plan provision addressing student loan debt, including provisions to separately classify student loan debt under § 1322(b)(1), to provide for the curing or waiving of a default under § 1322(b)(3), to provide for the curing of a default and maintenance of payments under § 1322(b)(5), or to address student loan interest under § 1322(b)(10).
- 2) **\$1,250** - Seeking plan confirmation providing for debtor(s)' enrollment in/maintenance of an Income Driven Repayment Plan (IDR) (which includes ICR, IBR, PAYE, or REPAYE, etc. versions) with the U.S. Department of Education and/or any student loan servicer/guarantor and which prohibit debtor(s)' disqualification due to bankruptcy. (An additional fee of **\$200** per year is allowable for necessary reenrollments during the term of the case.)
- 3) **\$1,500** – Participation in court ordered mediation regarding student loan debt **in lieu of a contested hearing**.

To qualify for these fees: (1) for a contested hearing, the parties must file a (joint) statement of dispute, present testimony and other evidence, and/or, for issues of law only, file a separate memorandum of law, or (2) for a settlement before trial of a contested hearing, the settlement must occur after substantial preparation and readiness for trial. In the event of mediation, the fees may be authorized upon the mediator's submission of a mediation report indicating that Debtor(s)' attorney actively participated in the mediation.

As an alternative to these fees, an application seeking additional compensation may also be submitted for expedited consideration.