Private Loan Lender Rankings

For Undergraduate Students at Drake University¹

- 1. ISL Education Lending
- 2. Citizens
- 3. Earnest
- 4. College Ave Student Loans
- 5. Nelnet
- 6. SoFi
- 7. Sallie Mae
- 8. Ascent

Ranking Methodology

Rankings are based on the following factors for undergraduate cosigned loans in 2023*:

- 1) average weighted interest rates
- 2) Loan application approval rate
- 3) The lender offers pre-qualified loan terms (no credit impact)

*93.8% of the total private loan volume processed in 2023 was for cosigned loans.

The loan terms offered by lenders change frequently and will depend on your individual circumstances. Borrowers are encouraged to compare offered rates and terms from multiple lenders² before finalizing a loan application.

The table below provides more detailed rankings by loan type for loans made in 2023.

	Cosigned Loans			No Cosigner Loans		
Rank	Interest Rate: Fixed	Interest Rate: Variable	Approval Rate	Interest Rate: Fixed	Interest Rate: Variable	Approval Rate
1	ISL Education	College Ave	Earnest	ISL Education		ISL Education
2	Citizens		ISL Education			Nelnet
3	Earnest		Sallie Mae			Sallie Mae
4	College Ave		College Ave			Ascent
5	Sallie Mae		Citizens			College Ave
6	Ascent		Ascent			
Insufficient Volume for Ranking	SoFi Nelnet	ISL Education Earnest Sallie Mae	SoFi Nelnet	SoFi Ascent Earnest	Ascent Citizens College Ave	SoFi Earnest Citizens
		SoFi Ascent Citizens Nelnet		Citizens College Ave Nelnet Sallie Mae	Earnest ISL Education Nelnet Sallie Mae SoFi	Guzeno

In addition to credit approval, lenders may have other requirements (ex. satisfactory academic standing, enrollment in an eligible program, current enrollment status, etc.) that Drake must certify for the lender. Even if your credit is approved, your loan may be denied if the lender later determines that you are ineligible for the loan.

¹ This is not a complete list of private education loan lenders, and it is possible you could find better terms from a lender not listed here. You may borrow from any lender of your choosing.

² The following lenders offer prequalified loan terms that do not affect your credit: ISL Education Lending, Citizens, Earnest, College Ave, Nelnet, SoFi, Ascent.