**Forgivable Education Loans for Service (FELS)**

Are you a resident of North Carolina? Are you interested in becoming a School Psychologist and working in North Carolina? Are you interested in receiving Education Loans to help you reach that goal and that will be forgiven 3 years after graduation?

If you answered yes to these 3 questions you should consider applying to the Western Carolina University School Psychology Graduate Program and at the same time consider applying for a Forgivable Education Loan for Service (FELS). This loan program was established by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2012 in order to provide financial assistance to qualified students enrolled in an approved education program and committed to working in critical employment shortage professions in North Carolina. **In October 2018, School Psychology was recognized as one of those professions eligible for this program**.

***Applications for these Education Loans will be available December 1, 2018 at the following web location:*** <https://www.cfnc.org/FELS>

* Deadline for the application is March 1st
* Applications will be entered into a lottery for consideration

**In order to be eligible you need to meet the following criteria:**

* Be a legal North Carolina resident and NC resident for tuition purposes
* Present accumulative minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.20
* Not be in default, or does not owe a refund, under any federal or State loan or grant program
* Plan to apply to and if accepted, enroll in the WCU School Psychology Graduate Program (you much be admitted to the program prior to receiving funding if selected)
* Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress according to the enrolling policy of the institution
* Be willing to work in NC as a School Psychologist

**Amount of Loan:**

* $5,000 per semester (enrolled in 9+ hours)
* Max Total Loan Limits: $20,000

**Loan Forgiveness Repayment Rate:**

* 1 academic year of loans ($10,000) will be forgiven for each year of full-time qualifying employment.