



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
from the Ohio Student Association

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THE FIGHT FOR EDUCATION DEBT RELIEF CONTINUES

Back in August, President Biden announced a student debt relief plan that would forgive up to \$20K worth of debt per eligible borrower. This was a major victory for organizers and young people throughout the country, including the Ohio Student Association and our membership. For years, we have fought tirelessly for student debt cancellation and for accessible and affordable education for everyone, regardless of race or income. We aren't alone; polls have shown that the majority of Americans support taking action toward student loan forgiveness.

Unfortunately, on Monday a federal appeals court issued a preliminary injunction against the debt forgiveness program. This comes on top of the overtly political ruling previously made by a federal judge in Texas in a different lawsuit, which called the program "unconstitutional" and had already blocked it. All of this means that the Department of Education is no longer accepting applications for debt relief, though the millions of applications that have already been submitted will continue to be held. These court rulings do not mean the destruction of the program, but additional steps must be taken before eligible students can receive the education debt relief they so critically need to fulfill their potential and for our communities to thrive. Indeed, more than 1.5 million Ohioans collectively owe \$62+ billion in debt.

We call on President Biden to immediately extend the payment pause until his administration can fully implement debt relief for all eligible borrowers, and to continue to utilize every possible legal avenue to ensure that this desperately needed relief becomes reality.

While we are glad that the Department of Justice has already filed an appeal to the Texas ruling on Biden's behalf, borrowers are facing down the swiftly approaching resumption of student loan payments. OSA has fought for full student debt cancellation since day one, and we will keep fighting until higher education in Ohio and across the country is accessible and affordable for all of us - no debt, no exceptions.

For more information about the student debt relief plan see: <https://www.ohiostudentloancancellation.com>

[The Ohio Student Association](#) is a statewide grassroots organization anchored by student-led chapters on college campuses across Ohio that organize issue campaigns to fight for racial, economic, and educational justice.

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