

STUDENT LOAN DODECAHEDRON

Subject: Student Loans

Grade Level: High School - Adult

Time: 45 minutes

Materials:

- 1 copy of page 1-4 per student or per group (MUST BE SINGLE SIDED!)
 - 1 pair of scissors per student/group
 - Tape or glue for each student/group
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PREPARATION

Print pages 1-4 for each student or group. Have scissors and tape/glue ready. Tape tends to work better, if possible. You may also want to consider printing on card stock. You may want to have an example already made so students can see what it is supposed to look like.

INSTRUCTIONS

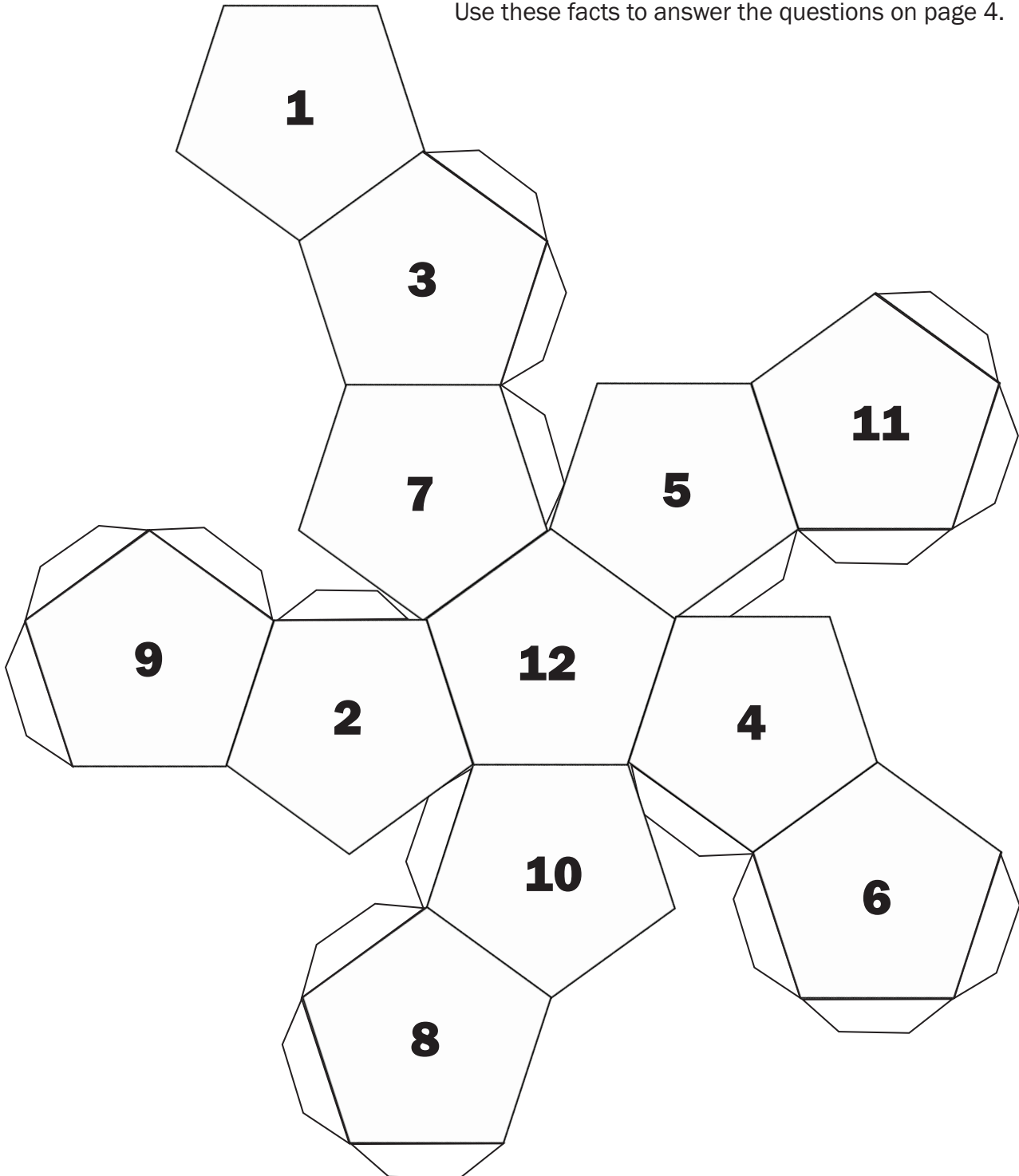
1. Start by going through the instructions on page one. Students do not need to cut out each individual piece. They have been grouped together to save time. When students are finished cutting, they should only have 5 pieces to tape together.
2. Students will use the assembled dodecahedron to answer the questions on page 4. Each type of federal loan will be on a colorful side. Each sentence touching that side applies to that loan. For example, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans (blue side) have the following characteristics:
 - Everyone can take out this loan, regardless of financial need.
 - For undergraduate and graduate students.
 - The government does NOT pay interest while you are in college.
 - Total undergraduate maximum \$31,000.

Students will see that these four sentences touch four of the blue sides.

3. Close by going through the answers to page 4 using the key and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of each type of federal loan.

DODECAHEDRON

1. Cut out the shapes on **page 2 and 3**.
2. Tape or glue them together **using the pattern on this page** to build the dodecahedron.
3. When the dodecahedron is complete, each student loan type (colored piece) should have 4 or 5 facts along the edges (sentences on the white pieces). Use these facts to answer the questions on page 4.



**PRIVATE
STUDENT LOAN**
5

The grace period varies.
Many do not have a grace period.

11

For undergraduate and
graduate students.
For parents and graduate
students. Credit checked.

This loan is given by the
GOVERNMENT based
on financial need.

8

Total undergraduate maximum:
\$31,000.

No grace period
for repayment.

Total maximum \$23,000.

10

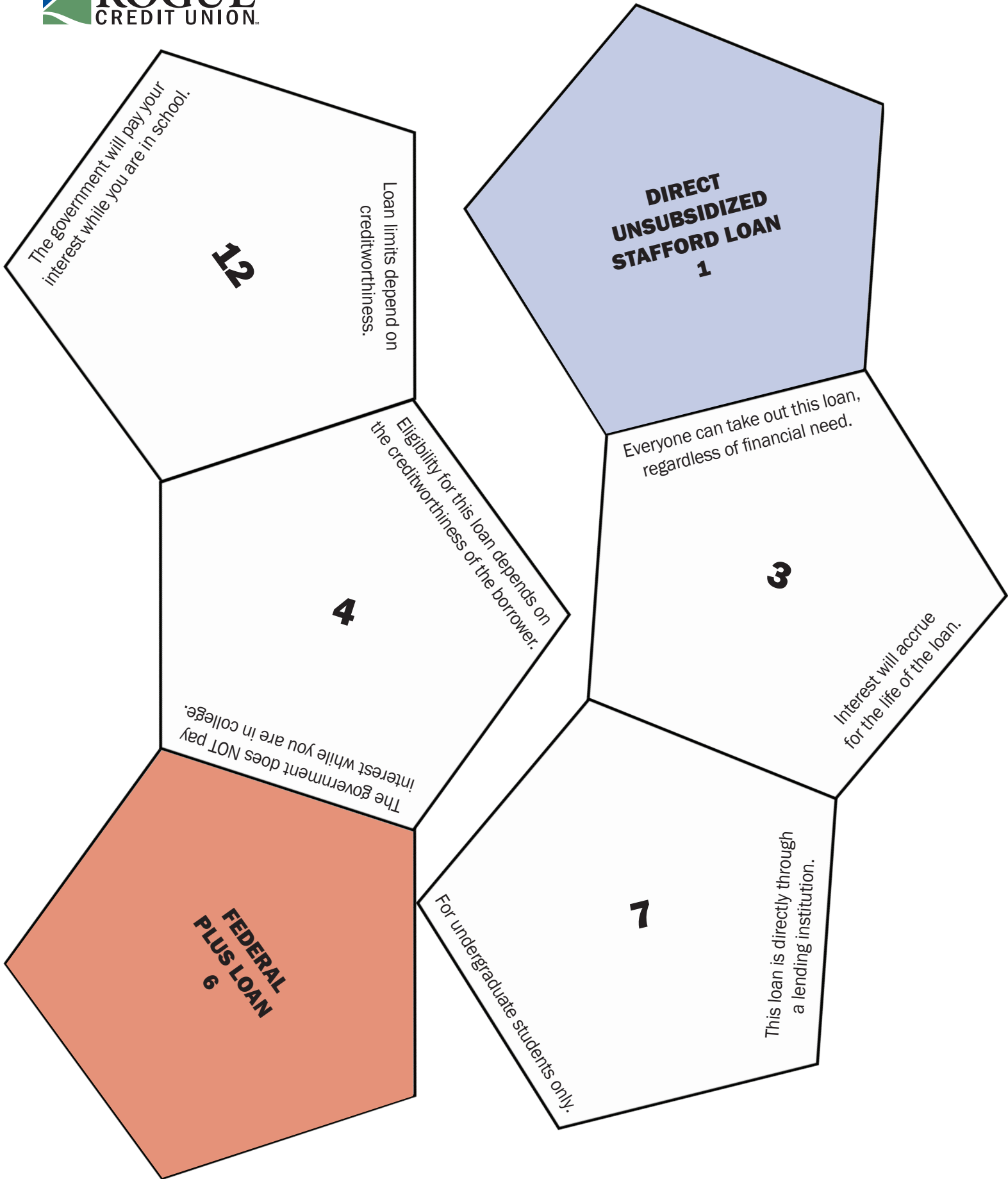
Everyone can take out this loan,
regardless of financial need.

9

The government does NOT pay
interest while you are in college.

Six month repayment grace
period after graduation.

**DIRECT
SUBSIDIZED
STAFFORD LOAN**
2



QUESTIONS

Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?

2. What is the total undergraduate maximum for this type of loan?

3. Is this loan based on financial need?

4. Who can take out this type of loan?

Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?

2. What is the total undergraduate maximum for this type of loan?

3. Is this loan based on financial need?

4. Who can take out this type of loan?

5. How long do you have after graduation before you need to make your first payment (grace period)?

Private Student Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?

2. What is the total maximum PER YEAR for this type of loan?

3. Is this loan based on financial need?

4. Who can take out this type of loan?

5. How long do you have after graduation before you need to make your first payment (grace period)?

Direct PLUS Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?

2. Is this loan based on financial need? What is it based on?

3. Who can take out this type of loan?

4. How long do you have after graduation before you need to make your first payment (grace period)?

KEY

Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?
No. You are responsible for paying it.
2. What is the total undergraduate maximum for this type of loan?
\$31,000.
3. Is this loan based on financial need?
No.
4. Who can take out this type of loan?
Undergraduates and graduates.

Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?
Yes!
2. What is the total undergraduate maximum for this type of loan?
\$23,000.
3. Is this loan based on financial need?
Yes.
4. Who can take out this type of loan?
Undergraduates only.
5. How long do you have after graduation before you need to make your first payment (grace period)?
6 months.

Private Student Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?
No, interest will accrue for the life of the loan even if the payments are deferred until after you graduate.
2. What is the total maximum PER YEAR for this type of loan?
It depends on your credit score.
3. Is this loan based on financial need?
No, it is based on creditworthiness.
4. Who can take out this type of loan?
Anyone with an approved credit score.
5. How long do you have after graduation before you need to make your first payment (grace period)?
It depends on the lender. For many of them, you have to pay right away.

Direct PLUS Loans:

1. Does the government pay the interest on this type of loan while you are in college?
No. You are responsible for paying it.
2. Is this loan based on financial need? What is it based on?
No. It is based on credit.
3. Who can take out this type of loan?
Graduate students and parents of students.
4. How long do you have after graduation before you need to make your first payment (grace period)?
There is no grace period for this type of loan. You have to make the first payment right after graduation.