



Professional Judgment Additional Requirements

PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT

The Office of Financial Aid (OFA) at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School (AJMLS) and Savannah Law School (SLS) may exercise discretion to accommodate special circumstances, with respect to some aspects of eligibility, using Professional Judgment. Professional judgment allows the OFA to treat a student *individually* when the student has special circumstances not sufficiently addressed by standard procedures. The OFA at AJMLS & SLS uses professional judgment on a **case-by-case basis**.

Special circumstances will include conditions that <u>differentiate an individual student from a whole class of students</u>. The OFA at AJMLS & SLS will not accept professional judgments made for a student by another school, but will review the circumstances and, if appropriate, document the professional judgment decision. The decision of the OFA at AJMLS & SLS regarding professional judgment is final and **cannot** be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education (per Federal Regulations).

*The OFA at AJMLS/SLS will complete Verification before exercising professional judgment.

In addition to submitting the required documents for a professional judgment, all students must review and complete all of the following requirements:

- 1) Complete and submit a "Financial Goals" Worksheet
- 2) Complete and submit a "Budgeting" Worksheet

<u>Instructions to complete the above mentioned requirements:</u>

Complete the interactive "Financial Goals" & "Budgeting" Worksheets located under Worksheet and Tips at http://www.nelnet.com/Get-Financially-Fit.aspx and submit them with your Professional Judgment form. The information entered on this form, can be saved, so please keep a copy for your records.

**Please take advantage of the <u>loan calculator</u> located in the left margins on the "Get Financially Fit" home page. It will give you an estimated monthly student loan repayment based on the type of repayment option you select.

When you finish the series, you will have the tools needed to talk about money with confidence, manage finances more responsibly, and make solid financial plans for the future. Remember to borrow sensibly.