Business \& Education at Work for Maine

## Comparing Private Loans

This worksheet was designed to assist you in evaluating the various private loan programs to determine which loan would best suit your overall needs. It is important to remember that the terms and conditions may vary greatly from one lender to another.

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| What is the current interest rate? <br> Is it fixed or variable? |  |  |  |
| What is the maximum interest rate? |  |  |  |
| Are there loan fees? <br> How and when are they charged? |  |  |  |
| Is there a cap on the interest rate? |  |  |  |
| What are the credit criteria? |  |  |  |
| Is a co-signer required? <br> Is there a co-signer release option? |  |  |  |
| When does repayment begin? |  |  |  |
| Is there a grace period? |  |  |  |
| Are there deferment options available? |  |  |  |

## Additional considerations:

- Have you maxed out on your federal loans?
- What are your expected future earnings?
- Based your expected future earnings, will you be able to afford the monthly loan payments?
- What, if any, are the implications of borrowing from more than one educational loan program?
- How does the total amount borrowed affect your credit rating?

