



Regulatory basis: 34 CFR 682.603(c)(31) indicates that the college is prevented from engaging... in any pattern or practices that results in a denial of a borrower's access to FFEL/Direct loans because of the borrower's race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, handicapped status, income, or selection of a particular agency.

Background and general information: Pine Technical and Community College (PTCC) maintains a historical lender list. The lender list is reviewed and updated annually and is comprised of the Alternative Loan lenders that students were selecting for the previous 3 years. There are other Alternative Loan lenders not on our list, and students are encouraged to research which loan options and lenders best meet their needs. PTCC does not endorse any lender, and a student may choose any lender they wish, even if that lender is not on our list.

Great Lakes FASTChoice: PTCC uses Great Lakes' electronic Alternative Loan information and comparison tool, FASTChoice, as part of the application process to give students a good understanding of their loan options, their rights and responsibilities, and the various details of each lender's loan products. It also reviews different types of funding, money management, and debt. [FASTChoice](https://choice.fastproducts.org/FastChoice/home/553500) is online at <https://choice.fastproducts.org/FastChoice/home/553500>.

Communicating with students: When students ask PTCC Financial Aid Staff which lender is the best, we will not endorse any lender. We will instead refer students to FASTChoice and let them do their own research, as well as inform them that there may be many other lenders that offer Alternative Loans, which may be found simply by searching the Internet.

Lender advertising on-campus: PTCC does not engage in or allow any type of lender advertising. We may, however, use informational brochures on specific topics such as money management, debt-reduction, financial planning, investing for college information for parents, etc., if we deem their brochure to be of superior quality and helpful to our students.

Lender sponsored meetings and/or activities: Lender Representatives sometimes invite Financial Aid staff to luncheon meetings at local restaurants, and also sometimes invite attendees of Financial Aid training seminars and conferences to dinners or entertainment events. These meetings have value because the Lender Representatives use this opportunity to share new information, updates or changes regarding their product and services, as well as ED student loan regulations. Financial Aid Staff may attend a lunch meeting or activity with a Lender Representative, however, they will have to pay for their own meal and/or activities.

Lender Gifts: Financial aid staff will not accept gifts of any kind.

PTCC will not:

- Engage in revenue sharing with an Alternative Loan Lender
- Enter into consulting/contracting arrangements with Alternative Loan Lenders
- Assign an Alternative Loan Lender to any borrower
- Refuse to certify or delay certification of an Alternative Loan based on student's choice of lender
- Engage in offers of funds from Alternative Loan Lenders
- Accept staffing assistance from an Alternative Loan Lender
- Accept compensation for participation on a loan related advisory board

For additional questions or assistance, please contact financialaid@pine.edu.