# INDENTURE OF TRUST

by and among

# NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I,

# U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee

and

# U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

as Eligible Lender Trustee

\$686,600,000 NorthStar Student Loan Trust I Student Loan Backed Notes, Series 2012-1

> \$674,600,000 Senior Class A \$12,000,000 Subordinate Class B

Dated as of October 1, 2012

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#### INDENTURE OF TRUST

THIS INDENTURE OF TRUST, dated as of October 1, 2012 (this "Indenture"), is by and among NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I (the "Issuer"), a statutory trust duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (the "State"), U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association duly organized and operating under the laws of the United States of America, as trustee hereunder (together with its successors, the "Trustee"), and U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association duly organized and operating under the laws of the United States of America, as eligible lender trustee (together with its successors, the "Eligible Lender Trustee") under the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement (all capitalized terms used in these preambles, recitals and granting clauses shall have the same meanings assigned thereto in Article I hereof).

#### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer represents that it is duly created as a statutory trust under the laws of the State and that by proper action has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Indenture, which Indenture provides for the issuance and payment of student loan asset-backed notes (the "Notes"); and

WHEREAS, the Trustee has agreed to accept the trusts herein created upon the terms herein set forth; and

WHEREAS, it is hereby agreed among the parties hereto and the Noteholders (the Noteholders evidencing their consent by their acceptance of the Notes) that in the performance of any of the agreements of the Issuer herein contained, any obligation it may thereby incur for the payment of money shall not be general debt on its part, but shall be secured by and payable solely from the Trust Estate, payable in such order of preference and priority as provided herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Issuer, and as applicable the Eligible Lender Trustee, in consideration of the premises and acceptance by the Trustee of the trusts herein created, of the purchase and acceptance of the Notes by the Noteholders thereof, of the acknowledgement by the Trustee of the Granting Clauses set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, do hereby GRANT, CONVEY, PLEDGE, TRANSFER, ASSIGN AND DELIVER to the Trustee, for the benefit of the Noteholders, all of the moneys, rights and properties described in the granting clauses A through F below (the "Trust Estate"), as follows:

#### **GRANTING CLAUSE A**

The Available Funds (other than moneys released from the lien of the Trust Estate as provided herein);

#### **GRANTING CLAUSE B**

All moneys and investments held in the Funds and Accounts created under Section 5.01 hereof, including all proceeds thereof and all income thereon;

#### GRANTING CLAUSE C

The Financed Eligible Loans (other than Financed Eligible Loans released from the lien of the Trust Estate as provided herein) and all obligations of the obligors thereunder including all moneys accrued and paid thereunder;

#### GRANTING CLAUSE D

The rights of the Issuer and/or the Eligible Lender Trustee, as applicable, in and to the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement (only as to the Issuer), the Master Servicing Agreement, the Servicing Agreement, any Student Loan Sale Agreement, the Joint Sharing Agreement and the Guarantee Agreements as the same relate to the Financed Eligible Loans;

#### GRANTING CLAUSE E

Solely for the payment of principal and interest on the Class B Notes, the rights of the Issuer in and to the Residual Interests:

#### **GRANTING CLAUSE F**

All proceeds from any property described in these Granting Clauses and any and all other property, rights and interests of every kind or description that from time to time hereafter is granted, conveyed, pledged, transferred, assigned or delivered to the Trustee as additional security hereunder.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the Trust Estate, whether now owned or held or hereafter acquired, unto the Trustee and its successors or assigns;

IN TRUST NEVERTHELESS, upon the terms and trusts herein set forth for the equal and proportionate benefit and security of all present and future Noteholders, without preference of any Note over any other, except as provided herein, and for enforcement of the payment of the Notes in accordance with their terms, and all other sums payable hereunder or on the Notes, and for the performance of and compliance with the obligations, covenants and conditions of this Indenture, as if all the Notes at any time Outstanding had been executed and delivered simultaneously with the execution and delivery of this Indenture;

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that if the Issuer, its successors or assigns, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, the principal of the Notes and the interest due and to become due thereon, or provide fully for payment thereof as herein provided, at the times and in the manner mentioned in the Notes according to the true intent and meaning thereof, and shall make all required payments into the Funds and Accounts as required under Article V hereof, or shall provide, as permitted hereby, for the payment thereof by depositing with the Trustee sums sufficient to pay or to provide for payment of the entire amount due and to become so due as herein provided, then this Indenture (other than Sections 4.13 and 4.14 (for a period of 90 days after the Issuer has paid or provided for the payments of the amounts described herein) and 7.05 hereof) and the rights hereby granted shall cease, terminate and be void; otherwise, this Indenture shall be and remain in full force and effect;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually covenanted and agreed as follows:

# **ARTICLE I**

#### **DEFINITIONS AND USE OF PHRASES**

Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings set forth below, as applicable, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

"Account" shall mean any of the accounts created and established within any Fund pursuant to this Indenture.

"Acquisition Fund" shall mean the Fund by that name created in Section 5.01(a) hereof and further described in Section 5.02 hereof, including any additional Accounts and Subaccounts created therein.

"Administration and Servicing Fee" shall mean a monthly servicing fee equal to 1/12 of 0.50% of the Pool Balance as of the end of the close of business on the last day of the related Collection Period less the Servicing Fee, for the payment of fees and expenses due to the Administrator and the Master Servicer under the terms of the Master Servicing Agreement.

"Administrator" shall mean NorthStar Capital Markets Services, Inc., in its capacity as administrator under the Master Servicing Agreement, or any successor thereto in accordance with the Master Servicing Agreement, so long as the Issuer has satisfied the requirements of a Rating Notification as to each such other administrator, and shall include any Sub-Administrator.

"Affiliate" shall mean, with respect to any specified Person, any other Person controlling or controlled by or under common control with such specified Person. For the purposes of this definition, "control" when used with respect to any specified Person means the power to direct the management and policies of such Person, directly or indirectly, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise; and the terms "controlling" and "controlled" have meanings correlative to the foregoing.

"Authorized Denominations" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 2.02 hereof.

"Authorized Representative" shall mean, when used with reference to the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator and any Person duly authorized by the Trust Agreement to act on the Issuer's behalf.

"Available Funds" shall mean, the sum of the following amounts received to the extent not previously distributed: (a) all collections received by the Servicer on the Financed Eligible Loans (including payments from any Guaranty Agency received with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans) but net of (i) any collections in respect of principal on the Financed Eligible Loans applied by the Issuer to repurchase guaranteed loans from the Guaranty Agencies or the Servicer in accordance with its Guarantee Agreement or the Servicing Agreement, as applicable; and (ii) amounts required by the Higher Education Act to be paid to the Department (including, but not limited to, any Monthly Rebate Fees and any Department Rebate Interest Amounts to be

deposited into the Department Rebate Fund or paid directly to the Department) or to be repaid to borrowers (whether or not in the form of a principal reduction of the applicable Financed Eligible Loan), with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans; (b) any Interest Subsidy Payments and Special Allowance Payments received by the Trustee or the Eligible Lender Trustee with respect to Financed Eligible Loans; (c) all Liquidation Proceeds from any Financed Eligible Loans which became Liquidated Financed Eligible Loans in accordance with the Servicer's customary servicing procedures, and all other moneys collected with respect to any Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan which was written off, net of the sum of any amounts permitted to be retained by the Servicer pursuant to the Servicing Agreement in connection with such liquidation and any amounts required by law to be remitted to the obligor on such Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan; (d) the aggregate Purchase Amounts received for Financed Eligible Loans repurchased by the Depositor or purchased by the Servicer or for serial loans sold to another eligible lender pursuant to the Servicing Agreement; (e) the aggregate amounts, if any, received from the Depositor or the Servicer, as the case may be, as reimbursement of non-guaranteed interest amounts, or lost Interest Subsidy Payments and Special Allowance Payments, with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans pursuant to the Student Loan Purchase Agreement, the Student Loan Sale Agreement or the Servicing Agreement; (f) other amounts received by the Servicer pursuant to its role as Servicer under the Servicing Agreement, and payable to the Issuer in connection therewith; (g) all interest earned or gain realized from the investment of amounts in any Fund or Account; (h) any amount received pursuant to the Joint Sharing Agreement and (i) any other amounts deposited to the Collection Fund. "Available Funds" shall be determined pursuant to the terms of this definition by the Issuer and reported to the Trustee. Amounts described in clause (a)(i) and (ii) hereof shall be paid by the Trustee upon receipt of a written direction from the Issuer. The Trustee may conclusively rely on such determinations without further duty to review or examine such information.

"Basic Documents" shall mean the Trust Agreement, this Indenture, the Subscription Agreement, dated as of October 25, 2012, among NEF, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation and the Issuer, the Master Servicing Agreement, the Servicing Agreement, the Joint Sharing Agreement, any Student Loan Purchase Agreement, any Student Loan Sale Agreement, the Guarantee Agreements, the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement and other documents and certificates delivered in connection with any thereof.

"Beneficial Owner" shall mean the owner of a Beneficial Ownership Interest in the Class A Notes.

"Beneficial Ownership Interest" shall mean the right to receive payments and notices with respect to the Class A Notes which are held by a Clearing Agency under a Book-Entry System.

"Book-Entry System" shall mean a form or system under which (a) the beneficial right to principal and interest may be transferred only through a book-entry, (b) physical securities in registered form are issued only to a Clearing Agency or its nominee as registered owner, with the securities "immobilized" to the custody of the Clearing Agency, and (c) the book-entry is the record that identifies the owners of beneficial interests in that principal and interest.

"Business Day" shall mean (a) for purposes of calculating LIBOR, any day on which banks in New York, New York and London, England are open for the transaction of international business; and (b) for all other purposes, any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday, a holiday or any other day on which banks located in New York, New York, Wilmington, Delaware or the city in which the principal office of the Trustee is located, are authorized or permitted by law, regulation or executive order to close.

"Capitalized Interest Fund" shall mean the Fund by that name created in Section 5.01(b) hereof and further described in Section 5.03 hereof.

"Class" shall mean, as appropriate, the Class A Notes or the Class B Notes.

"Class A Maturity Date" shall mean the December 2031 Monthly Distribution Date.

"Class A Note Interest Shortfall" shall mean, with respect to any Monthly Distribution Date, the excess, if any, of (a) the Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount on the immediately preceding Monthly Distribution Date over (b) the amount of interest actually distributed to the Class A Noteholders on such preceding Monthly Distribution Date, plus interest on the amount of such excess interest due to the Class A Noteholders, to the extent permitted by law, at the interest rate borne by the Class A Notes from such immediately preceding Monthly Distribution Date to the current Monthly Distribution Date, as determined by the Trustee.

"Class A Noteholder" shall mean the Person in whose name a Class A Note is registered in the Note registration books maintained by the Trustee.

"Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount" shall mean, with respect to any Monthly Distribution Date, the sum of (a) the amount of interest accrued at the Class A Rate for the related Interest Accrual Period on the Outstanding Amount of the Class A Notes immediately prior to such Monthly Distribution Date, as based on the actual number of days in such Interest Accrual Period divided by 360 and rounding the resultant figure to the fifth decimal place, as determined by the Trustee; and (b) the Class A Note Interest Shortfall for such Monthly Distribution Date.

"Class A Notes" shall mean the \$674,600,000 Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Series 2012-1 Senior Class A issued by the Issuer pursuant to this Indenture, substantially in the form of Exhibit A hereto.

"Class A Rate" shall mean, for any Interest Accrual Period, other than the first Interest Accrual Period, the applicable One-Month LIBOR plus 0.70%, as determined by the Trustee. For the first Interest Accrual Period, the Class A Rate shall be equal to 0.96580%.

"Class B Collection Fund" shall mean the Fund by that name created in Section 5.01(d) hereof and further described in Section 5.06 hereof.

"Class B Rate" shall mean, for any Interest Accrual Period, other than the first Interest Accrual Period, the applicable Three-Month LIBOR, plus 5.0%. For the first Interest Accrual Period, the Class B Rate shall be equal to 5.3200%.

"Class B Maturity Date" shall mean the January 2032 Quarterly Distribution Date.

"Class B Note Interest Shortfall" shall mean, with respect to any Quarterly Distribution Date, the excess, if any, of (a) the Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount on the immediately preceding Quarterly Distribution Date over (b) the amount of interest actually distributed to the Class B Noteholders on such preceding Quarterly Distribution Date, plus interest on the amount of such excess interest due to the Class B Noteholders, to the extent permitted by law, at the interest rate borne by the Class B Notes from such immediately preceding Quarterly Distribution Date to the current Quarterly Distribution Date, as determined by the Trustee.

"Class B Noteholder" shall mean the Person in whose name a Class B Note is registered in the Note registration books maintained by the Trustee.

"Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount" shall mean, with respect to any Quarterly Distribution Date, the sum of (a) the amount of interest accrued during each of the three immediately preceding Interest Accrual Periods at the Class B Rate for each such Interest Accrual Period on the Outstanding Amount of the Class B Notes immediately prior to such Quarterly Distribution Date, based, for each Accrual Period, on the actual number of days in such Interest Accrual Period divided by 360 and rounding the resultant figure to the fifth decimal place, as determined by the Trustee; and (b) the Class B Note Interest Shortfall for such Quarterly Distribution Date.

"Class B Notes" shall mean the \$12,000,000 Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Series 2012-1 Subordinate Class B issued by the Issuer pursuant to this Indenture, substantially in the form of Exhibit B hereto and secured on a junior priority to the Class A Notes.

"Clearing Agency" shall mean an organization registered as a "clearing agency" pursuant to Section 17A of the Exchange Act. The initial Clearing Agency shall be The Depository Trust Company and its successor or assigns and the initial nominee for the Clearing Agency shall be Cede & Co. If (a) the then Clearing Agency resigns from its functions as depository of the Class A Notes or (b) the Issuer discontinues use of the Clearing Agency, any other securities depository which agrees to follow the procedures required to be followed by a securities depository in connection with the Notes and which is selected by the Issuer with the consent of the Trustee.

"Clearing Agency Participant" shall mean a broker, dealer, bank, other financial institution or other Person for whom from time to time a Clearing Agency effects book-entry transfers and pledges of securities deposited with the Clearing Agency.

"Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time. Each reference to a section of the Code herein shall be deemed to include the United States Treasury Regulations, including applicable temporary and proposed regulations, relating to such section which are applicable to the Notes or the use of the proceeds thereof. A reference to any

specific section of the Code shall be deemed also to be a reference to the comparable provisions of any enactment which supersedes or replaces the Code thereunder from time to time.

"Collection Fund" shall mean the Fund by that name created in Section 5.01(c) hereof and further described in Section 5.04 hereof.

"Collection Period" shall mean, with respect to the first Monthly Distribution Date, the period beginning on the Date of Issuance and ending on November 30, 2012 and with respect to each subsequent Monthly Distribution Date, the Collection Period shall mean the calendar month immediately preceding such Monthly Distribution Date.

"Commission" shall mean the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Date of Issuance" shall mean October 25, 2012.

"Delaware Trustee" shall mean Wilmington Trust, National Association, a national banking association, not in its individual capacity, but solely in its capacity as the trustee of the Issuer under the Trust Agreement, or any successor thereto appointed pursuant to the Trust Agreement.

"Delaware Trustee Fee" shall mean (a) the Delaware Trustee's initial setup fee of \$4,000 plus the initial \$4,000 annual fee and (b) an annual fee equal to \$5,250 (subject to inflation of 3% per year), payable on each October Monthly Distribution Date, beginning on the October 2013 Monthly Distribution Date.

"Department" shall mean the United States Department of Education, an agency of the Federal government.

"Department Rebate Fund" shall mean the Fund by that name created in Section 5.01(d) hereof and further described in Section 5.06 hereof, including any Accounts and Subaccounts created therein.

"Department Rebate Interest Amount" shall mean, with respect to any date of determination, the greater of (a)(i) the amount of interest paid by borrowers on the Financed Eligible Loans first disbursed on or after April 1, 2006 that exceeds the Special Allowance Payment support levels applicable to such Financed Eligible Loans under the Higher Education Act since the prior Department Rebate Payment Date less (ii) the amount of accrued Interest Subsidy Payments or Special Allowance Payments due to the Issuer since the prior Department Rebate Payment Date and (b) \$0.00.

"Department Rebate Payment Date" shall mean the quarterly date that (i) the Department Rebate Interest Amount is due and payable to the Department or (ii) the Department offsets the Department Rebate Interest Amount from Interest Subsidy Payments or Special Allowance Payments due to the Issuer.

"Depositor" shall mean NorthStar Education Funding I, L.L.C.

"Depositor Eligible Lender Trustee" shall mean U.S. Bank National Association, in its capacity as eligible lender trustee for the Depositor and under the terms of the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement, between the Depositor and U.S. Bank, or any successor eligible lender trustee designated thereunder.

"Determination Date" shall mean, the second Business Day preceding each Monthly Distribution Date.

"DTC" shall mean the Depository Trust Company.

*"Eligible Lender"* shall mean (i) the Eligible Lender Trustee and (ii) any "eligible lender," as defined in the Higher Education Act, and which has received an eligible lender designation from the Secretary with respect to Eligible Loans made under the Higher Education Act.

*"Eligible Lender Trust Agreement"* shall mean the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2012, between the Issuer and U.S. Bank National Association, as eligible lender trustee, as amended from time to time.

"Eligible Lender Trustee" shall mean U.S. Bank National Association, in its capacity as eligible lender trustee hereunder and under the terms of the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement, or any successor eligible lender trustee designated pursuant to this Indenture and the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement.

"Eligible Lender Trustee Fee" shall mean the fee, if any, of the Eligible Lender Trustee set forth in the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement. Such fee shall be in satisfaction of the Eligible Lender Trustee's compensation as eligible lender trustee under this Indenture and the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement.

"Eligible Loan" shall mean any loan made to finance post-secondary education that is made under the Higher Education Act.

"ERISA" shall mean the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

"Event of Bankruptcy" shall mean (a) the Issuer shall have commenced a voluntary case or other proceeding seeking liquidation, reorganization or other relief with respect to itself or its debts under any bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar law now or hereafter in effect or seeking the appointment of a trustee, receiver, liquidator, custodian or other similar official of it or any substantial part of its property, or shall have made a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or shall have declared a moratorium with respect to its debts or shall have failed generally to pay its debts as they become due, or shall have taken any action to authorize any of the foregoing; or (b) an involuntary case or other proceeding shall have been commenced against the Issuer seeking liquidation, reorganization or other relief with respect to it or its debts under any bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar law now or hereafter in effect or seeking the appointment of a trustee, receiver, liquidator, custodian or other similar official of it or any substantial part of its property provided such action or proceeding is not dismissed within 60 days.

"Event of Default" shall have the meaning specified in Article VI hereof.

"Exchange Act" shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"Financed" or "Financing" when used with respect to Eligible Loans, shall mean or refer to Eligible Loans (a) acquired by the Issuer with balances in the Acquisition Fund or otherwise deposited in or accounted for in the Acquisition Fund or otherwise constituting a part of the Trust Estate and (b) substituted or exchanged for Financed Eligible Loans, but does not include Eligible Loans released from the lien of this Indenture and sold or transferred, to the extent permitted by this Indenture.

"Fiscal Year" shall mean the fiscal year of the Issuer (initially October 1 to September 30) as established from time to time.

"Fitch" shall mean Fitch Inc. and its successors and assigns.

"Funds" shall mean each of the Funds created pursuant to Section 5.01 hereof.

"GLELSI" shall mean Great Lakes Educational Loan Services, Inc., and its successors and assigns.

"Global Certificate" shall mean any Class A Note registered in the name of a Clearing Agency or its nominee. Each Rule 144A Certificate shall constitute a "Global Certificate."

"Guarantee" or "Guaranteed" shall mean, with respect to an Eligible Loan, the insurance or guarantee by a Guaranty Agency pursuant to such Guaranty Agency's Guarantee Agreement of the maximum percentage of the principal of and accrued interest on such Eligible Loan allowed by the terms of the Higher Education Act with respect to such Eligible Loan at the time it was originated and the coverage of such Eligible Loan by the federal reimbursement contracts, providing, among other things, for reimbursement to such Guaranty Agency for payments made by it on defaulted Eligible Loans insured or guaranteed by such Guaranty Agency of at least the minimum reimbursement allowed by the Higher Education Act with respect to a particular Eligible Loan.

"Guarantee Agreements" shall mean a guaranty or lender agreement between the Trustee or the Eligible Lender Trustee and any Guaranty Agency, and any amendments thereto.

"Guaranty Agency" shall mean any entity authorized to guarantee student loans under the Higher Education Act and with which the Trustee or the Eligible Lender Trustee maintains a Guarantee Agreement.

"Higher Education Act" shall mean the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended or supplemented from time to time, or any successor federal act and all regulations, directives, bulletins and guidelines promulgated from time to time thereunder.

"Highest Priority Notes" shall mean at any time when any of the Class A Notes are Outstanding, the Class A Notes, and at any time when no Class A Notes are Outstanding, the Class B Notes.

"Indenture" shall mean this Indenture of Trust, including all supplements and amendments hereto.

"Independent" shall mean, when used with respect to any specified Person, that the Person (a) is in fact independent of the Issuer, any other obligor upon the Notes, the Depositor and any Affiliate of any of the foregoing Persons; (b) does not have any direct financial interest or any material indirect financial interest in the Issuer, any such other obligor, the Depositor or any Affiliate of any of the foregoing Persons; and (c) is not connected with the Issuer, any such other obligor, the Depositor or any Affiliate of any of the foregoing Persons as an officer, employee, promoter, underwriter, placement agent, trustee, partner, director or person performing similar functions.

"Index Maturity" shall mean (i) for One-Month LIBOR, one month, (ii) for Three-Month LIBOR, three months.

"Individual Note" shall mean any Note registered in the name of a Noteholder other than a Clearing Agency or its nominee.

"Initial Pool Balance" shall mean the Pool Balance as of the Date of Issuance.

"Institutional Accredited Investor" shall mean an institutional "Accredited Investor" as defined in Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) of the Securities Act.

"Interest Accrual Period" shall mean, initially, the period commencing on the Date of Issuance and ending on December 25, 2012 and thereafter, with respect to each Monthly Distribution Date, the period beginning on and including the immediately preceding Monthly Distribution Date and ending on the day immediately preceding such current Monthly Distribution Date.

"Interest Subsidy Payment" shall mean an interest payment on Eligible Loans received pursuant to the Higher Education Act and an agreement with the federal government, or any similar payments.

"Investment Securities" shall mean:

- (a) direct obligations of, or obligations on which the timely payment of the principal of and interest on which are unconditionally and fully guaranteed by, the United States of America;
- (b) interest-bearing time or demand deposits, certificates of deposit or other similar banking arrangements with a maturity of 12 months or less with any bank, trust company, national banking association or other depository institution, including those of the Trustee, provided that, at the time of deposit or purchase such depository institution has commercial paper which is rated "F1+" by Fitch and rated "A-1+" by S&P;
- (c) bonds, debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued or guaranteed by any of the following agencies: Federal Farm Credit Banks, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation; the Export-Import Bank of the United States; the Federal

National Mortgage Association; Federal Home Loan Banks provided such obligation is rated "AAA" by Fitch and rated "AA+" by S&P; or any agency or instrumentality of the United States of America which shall be established for the purposes of acquiring the obligations of any of the foregoing or otherwise providing financing therefor;

- (d) repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements, other than overnight repurchase agreements and overnight reverse repurchase agreements, with banks, including the Trustee and any of its affiliates, which are members of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or firms which are members of the Securities Investors Protection Corporation, in each case whose outstanding, unsecured debt securities are rated no lower than two subcategories below the highest rating on the Notes by Fitch and S&P, if commercial paper is outstanding, commercial paper which is rated "F1+" by Fitch and rated "A-1+" by S&P;
- (e) overnight repurchase agreements and overnight reverse repurchase agreements at least 101% collateralized by securities described in subparagraph (a) of this definition and with a counterparty, including the Trustee and any of its affiliates, that has senior debt rated "AA-" or higher by Fitch and "AA" or higher by S&P, and if commercial paper is outstanding, commercial paper which is rated "F1+" by Fitch and rated "A-1+" by S&P, or a counterparty approved in writing by Fitch and S&P, respectively;
- investment agreements or guaranteed investment contracts, which may be entered into by and among the Issuer and/or the Trustee and any bank, bank holding company, corporation or any other financial institution, including the Trustee and any of its affiliates, whose outstanding (i) commercial paper is rated "F1+" by Fitch and rated "A-1+" by S&P for agreements or contracts with a maturity of 12 months or less; (ii) unsecured long-term debt is rated no lower than two subcategories below the highest rating on any Class of Outstanding Notes by Fitch and S&P and, if commercial paper is outstanding, commercial paper which is rated "F1+" by Fitch and rated "A-1+" by S&P for agreements or contracts with a maturity of 24 months or less, but more than 12 months, or (iii) unsecured long-term debt which is rated no lower than two subcategories below the highest rating on any Class of Outstanding Notes by Fitch and S&P and, if commercial paper is outstanding, commercial paper which is rated "F1+" by Fitch and rated "A-1+" by S&P for agreements or contracts with a maturity of more than 24 months, or, in each case, by an insurance company whose claims-paying ability is so rated; provided, however, that notice of entry into any such investment agreement or guaranteed investment contract must be provided to the Rating Agencies;
- (g) "tax-exempt bonds" as defined in Section 150(a)(6) of the Code, other than "specified private activity bonds" as defined in Section 57(a)(5)(C) of the Code, that mature not more than 365 days after the date of purchase and are rated in the highest category by Fitch and S&P for long-term or short-term debt or shares of a so-called money market or mutual fund rated "AAA/F1+" by Fitch and rated "AAAm/AAAm-G" or higher by S&P, that do not constitute "investment property" within the meaning of Section 148(b)(2) of the Code, provided that the fund has all of its assets invested in obligations of such rating quality;

- (h) commercial paper, including that of the Trustee and any of its affiliates, which is rated in the single highest classification, "F1+" by Fitch and "A-1+" by S&P, and which matures not more than 90 days after the date of purchase;
- (i) investments in a money market fund rated at least "AAAmmf" if rated by Fitch and rated at least "AAAm" or "AAAm-G" by S&P, including funds for which the Trustee or an affiliate thereof acts as investment advisor or provides other similar services for a fee; and
- (j) any other investment after the requirements of a Rating Notification have been satisfied.

Any such Investment Security may be purchased by or through the Trustee or any of its Affiliates.

"Issuer" shall mean NorthStar Student Loan Trust I, a statutory trust organized and existing under the laws of the State, and any successor thereto.

*"Issuer Expenses"* shall mean the expenses of the Issuer relating to the Delaware Trustee Fees and Rating Surveillance Fees.

"Issuer Order" shall mean a written order signed in the name of the Issuer by an Authorized Representative.

"Joint Sharing Agreement" shall mean the Amended and Restated Joint Sharing Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2002, among U.S. Bank, as indenture trustee under the NorthStar Indenture (as defined therein), as indenture trustee under the T.H.E. Indenture (as defined therein), and as indenture trustee under the T.H.E. II Indenture (as defined therein), NEF (as assignee of NorthStar Guarantee, Inc., Division B), NorthStar T.H.E. Funding LLC, NorthStar T.H.E. Funding II, L.L.C., the Eligible Lender Trustee and NCMS, as joined by (i) NorthStar T.H.E. Funding III, LLC and the T.H.E. III Trustee (as defined in the Joinder Agreement to the Joint Sharing Agreement dated as of December 19, 2002), (ii) NEF and the Edsouth Trustee (as defined in Joinder Agreement No. 2, dated as of January 1, 2008), (iii) NEF and the NEF/Citi Trustee (as defined in Joinder Agreement No. 3 to the Joint Sharing Agreement, dated as of February 26, 2008), (iv) NorthStar Student Loan Trust II and the 2012A Trustee (as defined in Joinder Agreement No. 5 to the Joint Sharing Agreement, dated as of October 25, 2012), (v) the Depositor on the date hereof and (vi) the Issuer and the Trustee on the date hereof, as further joined, amended or supplemented.

"LIBOR" shall mean One-Month LIBOR or Two-Month LIBOR, as applicable.

"LIBOR Determination Date" shall mean, for each Interest Accrual Period, the second Business Day before the beginning of that Interest Accrual Period.

"Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan" shall mean any defaulted Financed Eligible Loan liquidated by the Servicer (which shall not include any Financed Eligible Loan on which payments are received from a Guaranty Agency) or which such Servicer has, after using all reasonable efforts to realize upon such Financed Eligible Loan, determined to charge off.

"Liquidation Proceeds" shall mean, with respect to any Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan which became a Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan during the current Collection Period in accordance with the Servicer's customary servicing procedures, the moneys collected in respect of the liquidation thereof from whatever source, other than moneys collected with respect to any Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan which was written off in prior Collection Periods or during the current Collection Period, net of the sum of any amounts expended by or, in accordance with the Servicing Agreement, to be retained by the Servicer in connection with such liquidation and any amounts required by law to be remitted to the obligor on such Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan.

"Master Servicer" shall mean NCMS and any other successor master servicer selected by the Issuer, including an affiliate of the Issuer, so long as the Issuer has satisfied the requirements of a Rating Notification as to each such other master servicer, and shall include any Sub-Master Servicer.

"Master Servicing Agreement" shall mean the Master Servicing Agreement, dated as of August 27, 2010, between NEF and NCMS, as supplemented by the Supplemental Servicing Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2012, pursuant to which NCMS agrees to act as Administrator and Master Servicer for the Issuer.

"Maturity" when used with respect to any Note, shall mean the date on which the principal thereof becomes due and payable as therein or herein provided, whether at its Note Final Maturity Date, by earlier prepayment or purchase, by declaration of acceleration, or otherwise.

"Minimum Purchase Amount" shall mean, on any Monthly Distribution Date, an amount that would be sufficient to (a) reduce the Outstanding Amount of each Class of Notes on such Monthly Distribution Date to zero; (b) pay to the respective Noteholders the Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount and the Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount payable on such Monthly Distribution Date; and (c) pay any Administration and Servicing Fees, Servicing Fees, Trustee Fees, Eligible Lender Trustee Fees, Trustee Expenses and Issuer Expenses due and owing.

"Monthly Distribution Date" shall mean the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) day of each calendar month or, if such day is not a Business Day, the immediately succeeding Business Day, commencing on December 26, 2012.

"Monthly Distribution Date Certificate" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(a) hereof and shall be in the form of Exhibit C attached hereto.

"Monthly Rebate Fee" shall mean the monthly rebate fee payable to the Department on the Financed Eligible Loans within the Trust Estate.

"NCMS" shall mean NorthStar Capital Markets Services, Inc., and any successor thereto.

"NEF" shall mean NorthStar Education Finance, Inc., and any successor thereto.

"NEF Eligible Lender Trustee" shall mean U.S. Bank National Association, in its capacity as eligible lender trustee for NEF and under the terms of the Amended and Restated Eligible Lender Trust Agreement, between NEF and U.S. Bank, or any successor eligible lender trustee designated thereunder.

"NEF Private Loan Indenture" means that certain Indenture of Trust, dated as of May 1, 2006, by and between NEF, as issuer, and U.S. Bank National Association, as indenture trustee, as the same may be amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time.

"NES" shall mean NorthStar Education Services LLC, and any successor thereto.

"Note Final Maturity Date" for a Class of Notes or for any Note of such Class, as the context may require, shall mean the Class A Maturity Date or the Class B Maturity Date, as applicable.

"Noteholder" shall mean, (a) with respect to a book-entry Class A Note, the Person who is the owner of such book-entry Class A Note, as reflected on the books of the Clearing Agency, or on the books of a Person maintaining an account with such Clearing Agency (directly as a Clearing Agency Participant or as an indirect participant, in each case in accordance with the rules of such Clearing Agency); and (b) with respect to Class A Notes held in definitive form pursuant to Section 2.11 hereof and Class B Notes, the Person in whose name a Note is registered in the Note registration books of the Trustee.

"Notes" shall mean, collectively, the Class A Notes and the Class B Notes.

"One-Month LIBOR", "or "Three-Month LIBOR" shall mean, with respect to any Interest Accrual Period, the London interbank offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars having the applicable Index Maturity as it appears on Bloomberg, or another page of this or any other financial reporting service in general use in the financial services industry, as of 11:00 a.m., London time, on the related LIBOR Determination Date as obtained by the Trustee from such source. If this rate does not appear on Bloomberg, or another page of this or any other financial reporting service in general use in the financial services industry, the rate for that day will be determined on the basis of the rates at which deposits in U.S. dollars, having the applicable Index Maturity and in a principal amount of not less than U.S. \$1,000,000, are offered at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, on that LIBOR Determination Date, to prime banks in the London interbank market by the Reference Banks. The Trustee will request the principal London office of each Reference Bank to provide a quotation of its rate. If the Reference Banks provide at least two quotations, the rate for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations. If the Reference Banks provide fewer than two quotations, the rate for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the rates quoted by major banks in New York City, selected by the Trustee at approximately 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on that LIBOR Determination Date, for loans in U.S. dollars to leading European banks having the applicable Index Maturity and in a principal amount of not less than U.S. \$1,000,000. If the banks selected as described above are not providing quotations, One-Month LIBOR or Three-Month LIBOR, as the case may be, in effect for the applicable Interest Accrual Period will be One-Month LIBOR or Three-Month LIBOR, as the case may be, in effect for the previous Interest Accrual Period.

"Opinion of Counsel" shall mean (a) with respect to the Issuer one or more written opinions of counsel who may, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Indenture, be employees of or counsel to the Delaware Trustee, the Issuer, the Depositor or an Affiliate of the Depositor and who shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee, and which opinion or opinions shall be addressed to the Trustee, as trustee, and shall be in form and substance satisfactory to the Trustee; (b) with respect to the Depositor, the Administrator or the Servicer, one or more written opinions of counsel who may be an employee of or counsel to the Depositor, the Administrator or the Servicer, which counsel shall be acceptable to the Trustee and the Delaware Trustee; and (c) with respect to the Trustee one or more written opinions of counsel who may, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Indenture, be employees of or counsel to the Trustee, the Delaware Trustee, the Issuer, the Depositor or an Affiliate of the Depositor and who shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee.

"Optional Purchase Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.03 hereof.

"Outstanding" shall mean, when used in connection with any Note, a Note which has been executed and delivered pursuant to this Indenture which at such time remains unpaid as to principal or interest, excluding Notes which have been replaced pursuant to Section 2.03 or 2.04 hereof, unless provision has been made for such payment pursuant to Section 10.02 hereof.

"Outstanding Amount" shall mean, as of any date of determination, the aggregate principal amount of all Notes Outstanding or the applicable Class or Classes of Notes, as the case may be, Outstanding at such date of determination.

"Person" shall mean an individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, joint stock company, trust, limited liability company, unincorporated organization or government or agency, or political subdivision thereof.

"Pool Balance" shall mean as of any date the aggregate principal balance of the Financed Eligible Loans on such date (including accrued interest thereon to the extent such interest is expected to be capitalized), after giving effect to the following, without duplication: (i) all payments received by the Issuer through such date from or on behalf of obligors on such Financed Eligible Loans; (ii) all Purchase Amounts on Financed Eligible Loans received by the Issuer through such date from the Depositor or the Servicer; (iii) all Liquidation Proceeds and Realized Losses on Financed Eligible Loans liquidated through such date; (iv) the aggregate amount of adjustments to balances of Financed Eligible Loans permitted to be effected by the Servicer under the Servicing Agreement recorded through such date; and (v) the aggregate amount by which reimbursements by Guarantee Agencies of the unpaid principal balance of defaulted Financed Eligible Loans through such date are reduced from 100% to 97%, or other applicable percentage as required by the risk sharing provisions of the Higher Education Act. The Pool Balance shall be calculated by the Issuer and certified to the Trustee, upon which the Trustee may conclusively rely with no duty to further examine or determine such information.

"Principal Office" shall mean the principal office of the party indicated, as set forth in Section 9.01 hereof or elsewhere in this Indenture.

"*Program*" shall mean the NEF's program for the origination and the purchase of Eligible Loans, as the same may be modified from time to time.

"Proposed Action" means any proposed action, failure to act or other event which, under the terms of this Indenture, is conditional upon a Rating Notification.

"Purchase Amount" with respect to any Financed Eligible Loan shall mean the amount required to prepay in full such Financed Eligible Loan under the terms thereof including all accrued interest thereon and any unamortized premium, it being acknowledged that any accrued and unpaid Interest Subsidy Payments or Special Allowance Payments will continue to be payable to the Trustee and constitute part of the Trust Estate.

"Qualified Institutional Buyer" shall mean a "qualified institutional buyer" within the meaning of Rule 144A.

"Quarterly Distribution Date" shall mean the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) day of January, April, July and October or, if such day is not a Business Day, the immediately succeeding Business Day, commencing on January 26, 2013.

"Rating" shall mean one of the rating categories of Fitch and S&P or any other Rating Agency, provided Fitch and S&P or any other Rating Agency, as the case may be, is currently rating the Notes.

"Rating Agency" shall mean each of Fitch and S&P and their successors and assigns or any other rating agency requested by the Issuer to maintain a Rating on any of the Notes.

"Rating Notification" means, with respect to a Proposed Action, that the Issuer shall have given written notice of such Proposed Action to each Rating Agency at least 20 Business Days prior to the proposed effective date thereof.

"Rating Surveillance Fees" shall mean annual amounts equal to \$5,000 payable to Fitch and \$20,000 payable to S&P on each October Monthly Distribution Date, beginning on the October 2013 Monthly Distribution Date.

"Realized Loss" shall mean the excess of the principal balance (including any interest that had been or had been expected to be capitalized) of any Liquidated Financed Eligible Loan over Liquidation Proceeds with respect to such Financed Eligible Loan to the extent allocable to principal (including any interest that had been or had been expected to be capitalized).

"Record Date" shall mean the close of business on the day preceding each Monthly Distribution Date.

"Reference Banks" shall mean, with respect to a determination of LIBOR for any Interest Accrual Period by the Issuer, four major banks in the London interbank market selected by the Issuer.

"Regulation D" shall mean Regulation D, as promulgated under the Securities Act.

"Regulations" shall mean the Regulations promulgated from time to time by the Secretary or any Guaranty Agency guaranteeing Financed Eligible Loans.

"Reserve Fund" shall mean the Fund by that name created in Section 5.01(f) hereof and further described in Section 5.06 hereof, including any Accounts and Subaccounts created therein.

"Residual Interests" means all right, title and interest of NEF in, to and under (i) all funds or other proceeds from time to time released, either directly or indirectly, to NEF pursuant to clause (I) of Section 5.03(c) of the NEF Private Loan Indenture (or any successor provision thereto) and (ii) all proceeds of the foregoing, which rights have been contributed to the Depositor pursuant to the Student Loan Purchase Agreement and contributed by the Depositor to the Issuer pursuant to the Student Loan Sale Agreement.

"Responsible Officer" shall mean, when used with respect to the Trustee, any officer within the corporate trust office of the Trustee, including any vice president, assistant vice president, trust officer or any other officer of the Trustee who customarily performs functions similar to those performed by the Persons who at the time shall be such officers, respectively, or to whom any corporate trust matter is referred because of such person's knowledge of and familiarity with the particular subject and who shall have direct responsibility for the administration of this Indenture.

"Rule 144A" shall mean Rule 144A promulgated under the Securities Act.

"Rule 144A Certificate" shall mean a Rule 144A global registered note certificate representing Notes sold in reliance on Rule 144A.

"S&P" shall mean Standard and Poor's Financial Services, LLC, a subsidiary of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., its successors and assigns.

"Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the United States Department of Education or any successor to the pertinent functions thereof under the Higher Education Act.

"Securities Act" shall mean the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Securities Legend" shall mean, with respect to the Class A Notes, the following legend: "THIS NOTE HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), OR REGISTERED OR QUALIFIED UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES OR BLUE SKY LAW OF ANY STATE. THE HOLDER HEREOF, BY PURCHASING THIS NOTE, AGREES THAT THIS NOTE MAY BE REOFFERED, RESOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED ONLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECURITIES ACT AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AND ONLY (A) PURSUANT TO RULE 144A PROMULGATED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT ("RULE 144A") TO A PERSON THAT THE HOLDER REASONABLY BELIEVES IS A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 144A (A "QIB"), PURCHASING FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR A QIB PURCHASING FOR THE ACCOUNT OF A QIB, WHOM THE HOLDER HAS INFORMED, IN EACH CASE, THAT THE REOFFER, RESALE, PLEDGE OR OTHER TRANSFER IS

BEING MADE IN RELIANCE ON RULE 144A; (B) PURSUANT TO ANOTHER EXEMPTION AVAILABLE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES LAWS; OR (C) PURSUANT TO A VALID REGISTRATION STATEMENT," and with respect to the Class B Notes, the following legend: "THIS NOTE HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), OR REGISTERED OR QUALIFIED UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES OR BLUE SKY LAW OF ANY STATE. THE HOLDER HEREOF, BY PURCHASING THIS NOTE, AGREES THAT THIS NOTE MAY BE REOFFERED, RESOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED ONLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECURITIES ACT AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AND ONLY (A) PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION AVAILABLE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES LAWS TOGETHER WITH A WRITTEN OPINION OF COUNSEL THAT SUCH TRANSFER IS EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION; OR (B) PURSUANT TO A VALID REGISTRATION STATEMENT."

"Servicer" shall mean GLELSI and any other servicer or successor servicer selected by the Issuer, including an affiliate of the Issuer, so long as the Issuer has satisfied the requirements of a Rating Notification as to each such other servicer.

"Servicing Agreement" shall mean (a) the Student Loan Servicing Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2012, between the Issuer, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Servicer, as amended from time to time, and (b) any replacement servicing agreement among the Issuer, the Trustee and any other Servicer.

"Servicing Fee" shall mean a monthly servicing fee for the payment of fees and expenses due to the Servicer under the terms of the Servicing Agreement that shall not exceed the Administration and Servicing Fee.

"Special Allowance Payments" shall mean the special allowance payments authorized to be made by the Secretary by Section 438 of the Higher Education Act, or similar allowances, if any, authorized from time to time by federal law or regulation.

"Specified Reserve Fund Balance" shall mean, with respect to any Monthly Distribution Date, the greater of (a) 0.25% of the Outstanding Amount of the Class A Notes after giving effect to payments of principal on such Monthly Distribution Date; and (b) 0.15% of the Outstanding Amount of the Class A Notes on the Closing Date, provided that in no event will such balance exceed the sum of the Outstanding Amount of the Notes. The Specified Reserve Fund Balance shall be calculated by the Issuer and certified to the Trustee, upon which certification the Trustee may conclusively rely with no duty to further examine or determine such information.

"State" shall mean the State of Delaware.

"Student Loan Purchase Agreement" shall mean the FFELP Student Loan Purchase and Residual Interest Contribution Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2012, among NEF, the

Depositor, the NEF Eligible Lender Trustee and the Depositor Eligible Lender Trustee and assigned to the Trustee, as amended and supplemented pursuant to the terms thereof and hereof.

"Student Loan Sale Agreement" shall mean the FFELP Student Loan Sale and Residual Interest Contribution Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2012, among the Depositor, Issuer, the Depositor Eligible Lender Trustee and the Eligible Lender Trustee as amended and supplemented pursuant to the terms thereof and hereof.

"Sub-Administrator" shall mean NES, in its capacity as sub-administrator under the Subservicing Agreement, or any successor thereto, so long as the Issuer has satisfied the requirements of a Rating Notification as to each such other sub-administrator.

*"Subservices Agreement"* shall mean the Amended and Restated Subservicing Agreement, dated as of October 25, 2012, among NES, NCMS, the Trustee and Great Lakes Educational Loan Services, Inc.

"Sub-Master Servicer" shall mean NES, in its capacity as sub-master servicer under the Subservicing Agreement, or any successor thereto, so long as the Issuer has satisfied the requirements of a Rating Notification as to each such other sub-master servicer.

"Subaccount" shall mean any of the subaccounts which may be created and established within any Account by this Indenture.

"Supplemental Indenture" shall mean an agreement supplemental hereto executed pursuant to Article VIII hereof.

"Trust Agreement" shall mean the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, dated as of October 24, 2012, between the Depositor and the Delaware Trustee, as amended pursuant to the terms thereof.

"Trust Auction Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.04 hereof.

"Trust Estate" shall mean the property described as such in the granting clauses hereto.

"Trustee" shall mean U.S. Bank National Association, acting in its capacity as Trustee under this Indenture, or any successor trustee designated pursuant to this Indenture.

"Trustee Expenses" shall mean the costs and expenses of the Trustee and the Eligible Lender Trustee, other than the Trustee Fee, payable pursuant to Section 5.08 or Section 6.02 hereof, which expenses (subject to the provison of this definition), prior to the occurrence of an Event of Default, shall not exceed in any calendar year an amount equal to \$50,000; provided, however, that to the extent that less than \$50,000 is used in any calendar year for such costs and expenses of the Trustee and the Eligible Lender Trustee, such excess shall be available for costs and expenses of the Trustee and the Eligible Lender Trustee in any future calendar year.

"Trustee Expense Reserve Fund" shall mean the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund established pursuant to Section 5.01.

"Trustee Expense Reserve Fund Deposit" shall mean a deposit equal to the lesser of (i) \$4,167 and (ii) the amount necessary to bring the balance in the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund to \$150,000.

"Trustee Fee" shall mean an initial fee of \$2,500 payable on the Date of Issuance, and a monthly fee equal to the greater of (a) the product of 1/12 of .0075% multiplied by the Outstanding Amount of the Class A Notes and (b) \$20,000 per annum. Such fee shall be in satisfaction of the Trustee's compensation as trustee under this Indenture.

"Three-Month LIBOR" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term under the definition of "One-Month LIBOR."

"Wilmington Trust" shall mean Wilmington Trust, National Association, and any successor thereto.

Words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender, and words importing the feminine gender include the masculine gender. Words importing persons include firms, associations and corporations. Words importing the singular number include the plural number and vice versa. Additional terms are defined in the body of this Indenture.

All references herein to "New York City time" shall be presumed to refer to "Eastern time" unless the Trustee is notified in writing to the contrary.

#### ARTICLE II

# NOTE DETAILS AND FORM OF NOTES

**Section 2.01. Note Details.** The Notes, together with the Trustee's certificate of authentication, shall be in substantially the forms set forth in Exhibits A and B hereto, with such appropriate insertions, omissions, substitutions and other variations as are required or permitted by this Indenture and may have such letters, numbers or other marks of identification and such legends or endorsements placed thereon as may, consistently herewith, be determined by the officers executing the Notes, as evidenced by their execution of the Notes. Any portion of the text of any Note may be set forth on the reverse thereof, with an appropriate reference thereto on the face of the Note.

The definitive Notes shall be typewritten, printed, lithographed or engraved or produced by any combination of these methods (with or without steel engraved borders), all as determined by the Authorized Representatives executing such Notes, as evidenced by their execution of such Notes.

Each Note shall be dated the Date of Issuance. The terms of the Notes set forth in Exhibits A and B hereto are part of the terms of this Indenture.

**Section 2.02. Execution, Authentication and Delivery of Notes.** The Notes shall be executed in the name and on behalf of the Issuer by the manual or facsimile signature of an Authorized Representative. Any Note may be signed (manually or by facsimile) or attested on behalf of the Issuer by any person who, at the date of such act, shall hold the proper office or

position, notwithstanding that at the date of authentication, issuance or delivery, such person may have ceased to hold such office or position.

The Trustee shall upon Issuer Order authenticate and deliver Notes for original issue in an aggregate principal amount of \$674,600,000 for the Class A Notes and \$12,000,000 for the Class B Notes. The aggregate principal amount of Notes Outstanding at any time may not exceed such amount except as provided in Section 2.03 or 2.04 hereof.

The Notes shall be issuable as registered notes, in minimum denominations of \$100,000 and in integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof (the "Authorized Denominations").

No Note shall be entitled to any benefit under this Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose, unless there appears on such Note a certificate of authentication in accordance with Section 2.05 hereof.

Section 2.03. Registration, Transfer and Exchange of Notes; Persons Treated as Noteholders. The Issuer shall cause books for the registration and for the transfer of the Notes as provided in this Indenture to be kept by the Trustee which is hereby appointed the transfer agent of the Issuer for the Notes. Notwithstanding such appointment and with the prior written consent of the Issuer, the Trustee is hereby authorized to make any arrangements with other institutions which it deems necessary or desirable in order that such institutions may perform the duties of transfer agent for the Notes. Upon surrender for transfer of any Note at the Principal Office of the Trustee, duly endorsed for transfer or accompanied by an assignment duly executed by the Noteholder or his attorney duly authorized in writing, the Issuer shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver in the name of the transferee or transferees a new fully registered Note or Notes of the same interest rate and for a like Class and aggregate principal amount of the same Note Final Maturity Date. In connection with any transfer under this Indenture, the Trustee may require Noteholders to provide such security or indemnity as may be reasonably requested.

Notes may be exchanged at the Principal Office of the Trustee for a like aggregate principal amount of fully registered Notes of the same Class, interest rate and Note Final Maturity Date in Authorized Denominations. The Issuer shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver Notes which the Noteholder making the exchange is entitled to receive, bearing numbers not contemporaneously outstanding. The execution by the Issuer of any fully registered Note of any Authorized Denomination shall constitute full and due authorization of such denomination and the Trustee shall thereby be authorized to authenticate and deliver such fully registered Note.

As to any Note, the person in whose name the same shall be registered shall be deemed and regarded as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes, and payment of either principal or interest on any fully registered Note shall be made only to or upon the written order of the Noteholder thereof or his legal representative but such registration may be changed as hereinabove provided. All such payments shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon such Note to the extent of the sum or sums paid.

By acceptance of a definitive Note, whether upon original issuance or subsequent transfer, each Noteholder acknowledges the restrictions on the transfer of such Note set forth in the Securities Legend and in Section 2.12 hereof and agrees that it will transfer such Note only as provided herein.

No transfer of any Note shall be made unless such transfer is exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and any applicable state securities laws or is made in accordance with the Securities Act and laws. In the event of any such transfer, unless such transfer is made to Qualified Institutional Buyers in reliance on Rule 144A, (a) the Trustee shall require a written Opinion of Counsel acceptable to and in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee that such transfer may be made pursuant to an exemption, describing the applicable exemption and the basis therefor, from the Securities Act and laws or is being made pursuant to the Securities Act and laws, which Opinion of Counsel shall not be an expense of the Trustee, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator, the Issuer or the Trust Estate; and (b) the Trustee shall require the transferee to execute a transferee letter in the form of Exhibit E hereto certifying to the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator and the Trustee that such transfer complies with federal and state law, which transferee letter shall not be an expense of the Trustee, the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator or the Trust Estate. The Noteholder desiring to effect such transfer shall, and does hereby agree to, indemnify the Issuer, the Trustee, the Administrator and the Sub-Administrator against any liability that may result if the transfer is not so exempt or is not made in accordance with such federal and state laws. None of the Issuer, the Trustee, the Administrator or the Sub-Administrator intends or is obligated to register or qualify any Note under the Securities Act or any state securities laws.

The Trustee shall have no obligation or duty to monitor, determine or inquire as to compliance with any restrictions on transfer imposed under this Indenture or under applicable law with respect to any transfer of any interest in any Note other than to require delivery of such certificates and other documentation or evidence as are expressly required by, and to do so if and when expressly required by the terms of, this Indenture.

The Trustee shall require the payment by any Noteholder requesting exchange or transfer of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer. The applicant for any such transfer or exchange may be required to pay all taxes and governmental charges in connection with such transfer or exchange, other than exchanges pursuant to Section 2.07 hereof.

Section 2.04. Lost, Stolen, Destroyed and Mutilated Notes. Upon receipt by the Trustee of evidence satisfactory to it of the ownership of and the loss, theft, destruction or mutilation of any Note and, in the case of a lost, stolen or destroyed Note, of indemnity satisfactory to it, and upon surrender and cancellation of the Note, if mutilated, (a) the Issuer shall execute, and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver, a replacement Note of the same Class, interest rate, Note Final Maturity Date and denomination in lieu of such lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated Note or (b) if such lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated Note shall have matured or within 15 days shall be due and payable, in lieu of executing and delivering a new Note as aforesaid, the Issuer may pay such Note. Any such new Note shall bear a number not contemporaneously outstanding. The applicant for any such new Note may be required to pay all taxes and governmental charges and all expenses and charges of the Issuer and of the Trustee in

connection with the issuance of such Note. All Notes shall be held and owned upon the express condition that, to the extent permitted by law, the foregoing conditions are exclusive with respect to the replacement and payment of mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Notes, negotiable instruments or other securities.

Section 2.05. Trustee's Authentication Certificate. The Trustee's authentication certificate upon any Notes shall be substantially in the form attached to the Notes. No Note shall be secured hereby or entitled to the benefit hereof, or shall be valid or obligatory for any purpose, unless a certificate of authentication, substantially in such form, has been duly executed by the Trustee; and such certificate of the Trustee upon any Note shall be conclusive evidence and the only competent evidence that such Note has been authenticated and delivered hereunder. The Trustee's certificate of authentication shall be deemed to have been duly executed by it if manually signed by an authorized officer or signatory of the Trustee, but it shall not be necessary that the same person sign the certificate of authentication on all of the Notes issued hereunder.

Section 2.06. Cancellation and Destruction of Notes by the Trustee. Whenever any Outstanding Notes shall be delivered to the Trustee for the cancellation thereof pursuant to this Indenture, upon payment of the principal amount and interest represented thereby, or for replacement pursuant to Section 2.03 or 2.04 hereof, such Notes shall be promptly cancelled and discharged in accordance with its retention policy then in effect.

Section 2.07. Temporary Notes. Pending the preparation of definitive Notes, the Issuer may execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver temporary Notes. Temporary Notes shall be issuable as fully registered Notes without coupons, of any denomination, and substantially in the form of the definitive Notes but with such omissions, insertions and variations as may be appropriate for temporary Notes, all as may be determined by the Issuer. Every temporary Note shall be executed by the Issuer and be authenticated by the Trustee upon the same conditions and in substantially the same manner, and with like effect, as the definitive Notes. As promptly as practicable the Issuer shall execute and shall furnish definitive Notes and thereupon temporary Notes may be surrendered in exchange therefor without charge at the Principal Office of the Trustee, and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver in exchange for such temporary Notes a like aggregate principal amount of definitive Notes. Until so exchanged the temporary Notes shall be entitled to the same benefits under this Indenture as definitive Notes.

**Section 2.08. Issuance of Notes.** The Issuer shall have the authority, upon complying with the provisions of this Article, to issue and deliver the Notes which shall be secured by the Trust Estate.

**Section 2.09. Notices to Clearing Agency.** Whenever a notice or other communication is required under this Indenture to be given to Noteholders of the Class A Notes, unless and until Individual Notes shall have been issued to Noteholders of the Class A Notes pursuant to Section 2.11 hereof, the Trustee shall give all such notices and communications specified herein to the Clearing Agency.

### Section 2.10. Payment of Principal and Interest.

- Each Class of Notes shall accrue interest as provided in the forms of the Class A Notes and the Class B Notes, set forth in Exhibits A and B respectively, hereto. The Trustee shall determine the Class A Rate and the Class B Rate on each LIBOR Determination Date, and shall give notice of such Class A Rate and Class B Rate to the Issuer and the Sub-Administrator in the form of Exhibit G hereto. At least five (5) Business Days prior to each Monthly Distribution Date, the Trustee shall give notice to the Sub-Administrator of the Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount and the Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount for such Monthly Distribution Date in the form of Exhibit H hereto. Such interest shall be payable with respect to each Class of Notes on each Monthly Distribution Date as specified in Section 5.04(c) hereof, subject to Section 4.01 hereof. Any installment of interest or principal, if any, payable on any Note which is punctually paid or duly provided for by the Issuer on the applicable Monthly Distribution Date shall be paid to the Person in whose name such Note is registered on the Record Date by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the account designated by such Person (if such account designation is provided at least five (5) Business Days prior to such Monthly Payment Date) or, if no such account is designated, by check mailed first-class, postage prepaid to such Person's address as it appears on the records of the Trustee on such Record Date, except that, unless Individual Notes have been issued for the Class A Notes pursuant to Section 2.11 hereof, with respect to the Class A Notes registered on the Record Date in the name of the nominee of the Clearing Agency (initially, such nominee to be Cede & Co.), payment shall be made by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the account designated by such nominee and except for the final installment of principal payable with respect to such Note on a Monthly Distribution Date or on the Note Final Maturity Date for such Note which shall be payable as provided below. Interest shall be calculated on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed in each Interest Accrual Period divided by 360 and rounding the resultant figure to the fifth decimal point.
- The principal of each Note shall be payable in installments on each (b) Monthly Distribution Date as provided in Section 5.04(c) hereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the entire unpaid principal amount of each Class of Notes shall be due and payable, if not previously paid, on the Note Final Maturity Date for such Class of Notes and on the date on which an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing if the Noteholders representing not less than a majority of the Outstanding Amount of the Notes have declared the Notes to be immediately due and payable in the manner provided in Section 6.08 hereof. The Trustee shall, upon receipt of written notice from the Issuer, notify the Noteholder on or prior to the close of business on the Record Date preceding the applicable Monthly Distribution Date on which the Issuer expects that the final installment of principal of and interest on such Note will be paid. Such notice shall be mailed or transmitted by facsimile or electronic delivery prior to such final Monthly Distribution Date and shall specify that such final installment will be payable only upon presentation and surrender of such Note and shall specify the place where such Note may be presented and surrendered for payment of such installment.

# Section 2.11. Book-Entry Class A Notes.

- (a) Subject to paragraph (d) of this Section, the Noteholder of the Class A Notes shall be a Clearing Agency, and the Class A Notes shall be registered in the name of the nominee for such Clearing Agency.
- The Class A Notes shall be initially issued in the form of one or more separate, authenticated fully-registered Class A Notes in the aggregate Outstanding Amount of the Class A Notes. Upon initial issuance, the ownership of the Class A Notes shall be registered in the registration books kept by the Trustee in the name of the nominee of the Clearing Agency. The Trustee and the Issuer may treat the Clearing Agency, or its nominee, as the sole and exclusive owner of the Class A Notes registered in its name for the purposes of (i) payment of the principal or redemption price of and interest on the Class A Notes; (ii) selecting the Class A Notes or portions thereof to be redeemed; (iii) giving any notice permitted or required to be given to Noteholders under this Indenture; (iv) registering the transfer of the Class A Notes; and (v) obtaining any consent or other action to be taken by Noteholders and for all other purposes whatsoever, and neither the Trustee nor the Issuer shall be affected by any notice to the contrary (except as provided in paragraph (d) of this Section). Neither the Trustee nor the Issuer shall have any responsibility or obligation to any Clearing Agency Participant, any Beneficial Owner of the Class A Notes or any other Person claiming a Beneficial Ownership Interest in the Class A Notes under or through a Clearing Agency or any Clearing Agency Participant thereof, or any other Person which is not shown on the registration books as being a Noteholder, with respect to the accuracy of any records maintained by a Clearing Agency or any Clearing Agency Participant thereof, the payment to a Clearing Agency of any amount in respect of the principal or redemption price of or interest on the Class A Notes; any notice which is permitted or required to be given to Noteholders under this Indenture; the selection by a Clearing Agency or any Clearing Agency Participant thereof of any Person to receive payment in the event of a partial redemption of the Class A Notes; or any consent given or other action taken by a Clearing Agency as a Noteholder. The Trustee shall pay all principal and redemption price of and interest on the Class A Notes only to or upon the order of the Clearing Agency, and all such payments shall be valid and effective to fully satisfy and discharge the Issuer's obligations with respect to the principal, purchase price or redemption price of and interest on the Class A Notes to the extent of the sum or sums so paid. Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this Section, no Person other than a Clearing Agency shall receive an authenticated Class A Note evidencing the obligation of the Issuer to make payments of principal or redemption price and interest pursuant to this Indenture. Upon delivery by a Clearing Agency to the Trustee of written notice to the effect that such Clearing Agency has determined to substitute a new nominee in place of the preceding nominee, the Class A Notes will be transferable to such new nominee in accordance with paragraph (g) of this Section.
- (c) The Class A Notes may be offered and/or sold only to Qualified Institutional Buyers in reliance on Rule 144A. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, Class A Notes sold to Qualified Institutional Buyers in reliance on Rule 144A will be represented by interests in a Rule 144A global registered note certificate (the

"Rule 144A Certificate"). The Rule 144A Certificate will be deposited on the Date of Issuance with the Trustee, as custodian for DTC (the "DTC Custodian") and registered in the name of Cede & Co. as initial nominee for DTC. The aggregate principal amount of the Rule 144A Certificate may from time to time be increased or decreased by adjustments made on the records of the Trustee or DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as hereinafter provided.

- A Clearing Agency may determine to discontinue providing its services (d) with respect to the Class A Notes at any time by giving notice to the Issuer and the Trustee and discharging its responsibilities with respect thereto under applicable law, or the Issuer may determine that a Clearing Agency is incapable of discharging its responsibilities and may so advise such Clearing Agency. In either such event, the Issuer shall use reasonable efforts to locate another securities depository. circumstances (if there is no successor Clearing Agency), the Issuer and the Trustee shall be obligated to deliver Individual Notes representing the Class A Notes in accordance with paragraph (g) of this Section. In the event Individual Notes representing the Class A Notes are issued, the provisions of this Indenture shall apply to such Individual Notes in all respects, including, among other things, the transfer and exchange of the Class A Notes and the method of payment of principal or redemption price of and interest on the Class A Notes. Whenever a Clearing Agency requests the Issuer and the Trustee to do so, the Issuer and the Trustee will cooperate with such Clearing Agency in taking appropriate action after reasonable notice (i) to make available one or more separate Individual Notes representing the Class A Notes to any Clearing Agency Participant having the Class A Notes credited to its account with the Clearing Agency, or (ii) to arrange for another securities depository to maintain custody of the Individual Notes.
- (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Indenture to the contrary, so long as the Class A Notes are registered in the name of the nominee of a Clearing Agency, all payments with respect to the principal or redemption price of and interest on the Class A Notes and all notices with respect to the Class A Notes shall be made and given, respectively, to such Clearing Agency as provided in its letter of representations or other such instruction letter.
- (f) In connection with any notice or other communication to be provided to Noteholders pursuant to this Indenture by the Issuer or the Trustee or with respect to any consent or other action to be taken by Noteholders, the Issuer or the Trustee, as the case may be, shall establish a record date for such consent or other action and give the Clearing Agency notice of such record date not less than 15 calendar days in advance of such record date (or such longer time as may be required by such Clearing Agency) to the extent possible. Such notice to such Clearing Agency shall be given only when such Clearing Agency is the sole Noteholder.
- (g) In the event that any transfer or exchange of Class A Notes is permitted under paragraph (b) or (d) of this Section, such transfer or exchange shall be accomplished upon receipt by the Trustee from the Noteholder of the Class A Notes to be transferred or exchanged and appropriate instruments of transfer to the permitted transferee, all in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Indenture. In the event

Individual Notes representing the Class A Notes are issued to Noteholders other than the nominee of the Clearing Agency, or another securities depository as Noteholder of all the Class A Notes, the provisions of this Indenture shall also apply to, among other things, the printing of such Individual Notes and the methods of payment of principal or redemption price of and interest on such Individual Notes representing the Class A Notes.

# Section 2.12. Transfer Restrictions - Class A Notes.

- (a) Each person who is or who becomes a Beneficial Owner of a Class A Note shall be deemed by the acceptance or acquisition of such Beneficial Ownership Interest to have agreed to be bound by the provisions of this Section. No Beneficial Ownership Interest in a Class A Note may be transferred, unless the proposed transferee shall have delivered to the Issuer and, if requested by the Trustee, the Trustee any of (i) evidence satisfactory to them that such Class A Note has been registered under the Securities Act and has been registered or qualified under all applicable state securities laws to the reasonable satisfaction of the Issuer; or (ii) an express agreement substantially in the form of the Investment Letter attached as Exhibit E hereto for Qualified Institutional Buyers by the proposed transferee to be bound by and to abide by the provisions of this Section and the restrictions noted in such Investment Letter; provided that compliance with the provisions of this clause (ii) shall be deemed to have been satisfied if the proposed transferee is listed in the latest available S&P Rule 144A list of Qualified Institutional Buyers or other industry recognized subscriber services listing Qualified Institutional Buyers.
- (b) The Issuer will, upon the request of any Beneficial Owner of any Class A Note, which Beneficial Owner is a Qualified Institutional Buyer, provide such Beneficial Owner, and any Qualified Institutional Buyer designated by such Beneficial Owner, such financial and other information as such Beneficial Owner may reasonably determine to be necessary in order to permit compliance with the information requirements of Rule 144A under the Securities Act in connection with the resale of Class A Notes, except at such time as the Issuer is subject to the reporting requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (c) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary herein, so long as a Global Certificate is held by or on behalf of DTC, transfers of a Global Certificate, in whole or in part, shall only be made in accordance with Section 2.11(c) and this subsection (c) of this Section.
  - (i) Global Certificates. Subject to paragraph (ii) of this subsection (c), transfers of a Global Certificate shall be limited to transfers of such Global Certificate in whole, but not in part, to nominees of DTC or to a successor of DTC or such successor's nominee.
  - (ii) Certificated Securities. In the event that a Global Certificate is exchanged for Class A Notes in definitive registered form without interest coupons, pursuant to Section 2.11(g) hereof, the Class A Notes may be exchanged for one another only in accordance with such procedures and restrictions as are

substantially consistent as determined by the Issuer and the Trustee to insure that such transfers comply with Rule 144A.

- (iii) Restrictions on Transfers. Any transfer of an interest in the Rule 144A Certificate to a Person that is not a Qualified Institutional Buyer shall be null and void and shall not be given effect for any purpose hereunder, and the Trustee shall hold any funds conveyed by the intended transferee of such interest in the Rule 144A Certificate in trust for the transferor and shall promptly reconvey such funds to such Person in accordance with the written instructions thereof delivered to the Trustee at its address listed in Section 9.01 hereof.
- (d) Each Noteholder, by its purchase of a Class A Note, whether upon original issuance or subsequent transfer, is deemed to have represented and agreed that:
  - in connection with the purchase of the Class A Notes, (1) none of the Issuer, the Trustee or any of their respective affiliates is acting as a fiduciary or financial or investment advisor for such Beneficial Owner; (2) such Beneficial Owner is not relying (for purposes of making any investment decision or otherwise) upon any advice, counsel or representations (whether written or oral) of the Issuer, the Trustee or any of their respective affiliates other than any statements in the Offering Memorandum relating to the Class A Notes (the "Offering Memorandum"), and such Beneficial Owner has read and understands the Offering Memorandum; (3) such Beneficial Owner has consulted with its own legal, regulatory, tax, business, investment, financial and accounting advisors to the extent it has deemed necessary and has made its own investment decision (including decisions regarding the suitability of any transaction pursuant to this Indenture) based upon its own judgment and upon any advice from such advisors as it has deemed necessary and not upon any view expressed by the Issuer, the Trustee or any of their respective affiliates; and (4) the Noteholder is a Qualified Institutional Buyer as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act, is aware (and if it is acquiring the Class A Notes for the account of one or more Qualified Institutional Buyers, each Beneficial Owner of the Class A Notes is aware) that the Issuer is relying on the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A, that it is acquiring the Class A Notes for its own account or for the account of one or more Qualified Institutional Buyers for whom it is authorized to act, in either case for investment purposes and not for distribution in violation of the Securities Act, that it is able to bear the economic risk of an investment in the Class A Notes and that the Noteholder has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of purchasing the Class A Notes;
  - (ii) the Noteholder understands that the Class A Notes are being offered only in a transaction that does not require registration under the Securities Act and, if such Noteholder decides to resell or otherwise transfer such Class A Notes, then it agrees that it will resell or transfer such Class A Notes only so long as such notes are eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A, to a person whom the seller reasonably believes is a Qualified Institutional Buyer acquiring the Class A

Notes for its own account or as a fiduciary or agent for others (which others must also be Qualified Institutional Buyers) to whom notice is given that the resale or other transfer is being made in reliance on Rule 144A and in accordance with any applicable United States state securities laws or other applicable securities laws of the relevant jurisdiction;

- (iii) unless the Securities Legend has been removed from the Class A Notes, such Noteholder shall notify each transferee of the Class A Notes of the deemed representations set out above and that such transferee shall be deemed to have agreed to notify its subsequent transferees as to the foregoing;
- (iv) the acquisition or purchase by an employee benefit plan or other retirement arrangement ("Plan") of a Class A Note will not constitute or otherwise result in: (1) in the case of a Plan subject to Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, a non-exempt prohibited transaction in violation of Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code which is not covered by a class or other applicable exemption and (2) in the case of a Plan subject to a substantially similar federal, state, local or foreign law ("Similar Law"), a non-exempt violation of such substantially Similar Law;
- (v) the Noteholder understands that each certificate representing an interest in the Class A Notes will bear the Securities Legend, unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable law; and
- (vi) by virtue of its acceptance of such Class A Note or Beneficial Ownership Interest therein to indemnify the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator, the Servicer, the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Issuer against any and all liability that may result if any transfer of such Class A Note is not made in a manner consistent with the Securities Legend.

# Section 2.13. Transfer Restrictions - Class B Notes

(a) Each person who is or who becomes a Class B Noteholder shall be deemed by the acceptance or acquisition of such Class B Notes to have agreed to be bound by the provisions of this Section. No Class B Note may be transferred, unless the proposed transferee shall have delivered to the Issuer and, if requested by the Trustee, the Trustee any of (i) evidence satisfactory to them that such Class B Note has been registered under the Securities Act and has been registered or qualified under all applicable state securities laws to the reasonable satisfaction of the Issuer; or (ii) an express agreement substantially in the form of the Investment Letter attached as Exhibit F hereto for Institutional Accredited Investors by the proposed transferee to be bound by and to abide by the provisions of this Section and the restrictions noted in such Investment Letter, which letter shall be accompanied by a written Opinion of Counsel acceptable to and in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Issuer and the Trustee that such transfer may be made pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act, describing the applicable exemption and the basis therefor, which Opinion of Counsel shall not be an expense of the Trustee or the Issuer.

- (b) The Issuer will, upon the request of any Class B Noteholder, which Class B Noteholder is an Institutional Accredited Investor, provide such Class B Noteholder, such financial and other information as such Class B Noteholder may reasonably request, provided such information would be required to be delivered to a Beneficial Owner of a Class A Note pursuant to Section 2.12(b) hereof.
- (c) Each Class B Noteholder, by its purchase of a Class B Note, whether upon original issuance or subsequent transfer, is deemed to have represented and agreed that:
  - (i) in connection with the purchase of the Class B Notes, (1) none of the Issuer, the Trustee or any of their respective affiliates is acting as a fiduciary or financial or investment advisor for such Class B Noteholder; (2) such Class B Noteholder is not relying (for purposes of making any investment decision or otherwise) upon any advice, counsel or representations (whether written or oral) of the Issuer, the Trustee or any of their respective affiliates; (3) such Class B Noteholder has read, understands and is fully familiar with the Basic Documents and related agreements, (4) such Class B Noteholder has consulted with its own legal, regulatory, tax, business, investment, financial and accounting advisors to the extent it has deemed necessary and has made its own investment decision (including decisions regarding the suitability of any transaction pursuant to this Indenture) based upon its own judgment and upon any advice from such advisors as it has deemed necessary and not upon any view expressed by the Issuer, the Trustee or any of their respective affiliates; and (5) the Class B Noteholder is an Institutional Accredited Investor, is aware that the Issuer (with respect to the original issuance of the Class B Notes) is relying on the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Regulation D, that it is acquiring the Class B Notes for its own account for investment purposes and not for distribution in violation of the Securities Act, that it is able to bear the economic risk of an investment in the Class B Notes and that the Class B Noteholder has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of purchasing the Class B Notes:
  - (ii) the Class B Noteholder understands that the Class B Notes are being offered only in a transaction that does not require registration under the Securities Act and, if such Class B Noteholder decides to resell or otherwise transfer such Class B Notes, then it agrees that it will resell or transfer such Class B Notes only so long as such notes are eligible for resale pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act and any applicable United States state securities laws or other applicable securities laws of the relevant jurisdiction;
  - (iii) unless the Securities Legend has been removed from the Class B Notes, such Class B Noteholder shall notify each transferee of the Class B Notes of the deemed representations set out above and that such transferee shall be deemed to have agreed to notify its subsequent transferees as to the foregoing;

- (iv) the acquisition or purchase by an employee benefit plan or other retirement arrangement ("Plan") of a Class B Note will not constitute or otherwise result in: (1) in the case of a Plan subject to Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, a non-exempt prohibited transaction in violation of Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code which is not covered by a class or other applicable exemption and (2) in the case of a Plan subject to a substantially similar federal, state, local or foreign law ("Similar Law"), a non-exempt violation of such substantially Similar Law;
- (v) the Class B Noteholder understands that each certificate representing an interest in the Class B Notes will bear the Securities Legend, unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable law; and
- (vi) by virtue of its acceptance of such Class B Note to indemnify the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator, the Servicer, the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Issuer against any and all liability that may result if any transfer of such Class B Note is not made in a manner consistent with the Securities Legend.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Indenture, with respect to any Class B Notes, no transfer (or purported transfer) of all or any portion of such Notes shall be effective, and any such transfer (or purported transfer) shall be void *ab initio*, and no Person shall otherwise become a holder of such Notes if (i) at the time of transfer (or purported transfer) such Notes are traded on an established securities market or readily tradeable on a secondary market or (ii) after giving effect to such transfer (or purported transfer) the Issuer would have more than 95 holders of Class B Notes, Certificates and any other interests in the Issuer treated as equity for federal income tax purposes. For purposes of determining whether the Issuer will have more than 95 holders, each person indirectly owning an interest in the Issuer through a partnership (including an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes), a grantor trust or an S corporation (each such entity a "flow through entity") shall be treated as a holder.

Section 2.14. Tax Characterization of Notes and Trust. The parties hereto agree that it is their mutual intent that all Notes be characterized as indebtedness for all tax purposes; provided, however, that if any tax authority ever determines that a Class of Notes is does not qualify as indebtedness for tax purposes, it is further the intention of the parties hereto that such Class of Notes be classified as an equity interest in the Issuer and that, from the effective date of such classification, the Issuer be classified as a partnership for purposes of such tax regime. Each party hereto and each Noteholder (by accepting and holding a Note) hereby covenants to every other party hereto and to every other Noteholder to treat the Notes as indebtedness for all tax purposes in all tax filings, reports and returns and otherwise, and further covenants that neither it nor any of its Affiliates will take, or participate in the taking of or permit to be taken, any action that is inconsistent with the treatment of the Notes as indebtedness for tax purposes unless and until required otherwise by an applicable taxing authority. All successors and assignees of the parties hereto shall be bound by this provision.

#### **ARTICLE III**

## PARITY AND PRIORITY OF LIEN; OTHER OBLIGATIONS

**Section 3.01. Parity and Priority of Lien.** The provisions, covenants and agreements herein set forth to be performed by or on behalf of the Issuer shall be for the equal benefit, protection and security of the Noteholders of any and all of the Notes, all of which, shall be of equal rank without preference, priority or distinction of any of the Notes over any other thereof, except as expressly provided in this Indenture with respect to certain payment and other priorities.

Section 3.02. Other Obligations. The Available Funds and other moneys, Financed Eligible Loans, securities, evidences of indebtedness, interests, rights and properties pledged under this Indenture are and will be owned by the Issuer free and clear of any pledge, lien, charge or encumbrance thereon or with respect thereto prior to, of equal rank with or subordinate to the respective pledges created by this Indenture, except as otherwise expressly provided herein, and all action on the part of the Issuer to that end has been duly and validly taken. If any Financed Eligible Loan is found to have been subject to a lien at the time such Financed Eligible Loan was acquired, the Issuer shall cause such lien to be released, shall purchase such Financed Eligible Loan from the Trust Estate for a purchase price equal to its principal amount plus any unamortized premium, if any, and interest accrued thereon or shall replace such Financed Eligible Loan with another Eligible Loan with substantially identical characteristics which replacement Eligible Loan shall be free and clear of liens at the time of such replacement. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Issuer shall not create or voluntarily permit to be created any debt, lien or charge on the Financed Eligible Loans which would be on a parity with, subordinate to, or prior to the lien of this Indenture; shall not do or omit to do or suffer to be done or omitted to be done any matter or things whatsoever whereby the lien of this Indenture or the priority of such lien for the Notes hereby secured might or could be lost or impaired; and will pay or cause to be paid or will make adequate provisions for the satisfaction and discharge of all lawful claims and demands which if unpaid might by law be given precedence to or any equality with this Indenture as a lien or charge upon the Financed Eligible Loans; provided, however, that nothing in this Section shall require the Issuer to pay, discharge or make provision for any such lien, charge, claim or demand so long as the validity thereof shall be by it in good faith contested, unless thereby the same will endanger the security for the Notes; and provided further that any subordinate lien hereon (i.e., subordinate to the lien securing the Notes) shall be entitled to no payment from the Trust Estate, nor may any remedy be exercised with respect to such subordinate lien against the Trust Estate until all Notes have been paid or deemed paid hereunder.

#### ARTICLE IV

# PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES; DUTIES OF THE ISSUER

Section 4.01. Payment of Principal and Interest. The Issuer covenants that it will promptly pay, but solely from the Trust Estate, the principal of and interest, if any, on each and every Note issued under the provisions of this Indenture at the places, on the dates and in the manner specified herein and in said Notes according to the true intent and meaning thereof. The Notes shall be and are hereby declared to be payable from and equally secured, except as specifically provided in this Indenture with respect to certain payment and other priorities, by an irrevocable first lien on and pledge of the properties constituting the Trust Estate, subject to the application thereof as permitted by this Indenture, but in no event shall the Noteholders have any right to possession or control of any Financed Eligible Loans, which shall be held only by the Trustee or its agent or bailee.

**Section 4.02. Covenants as to Additional Conveyances.** At any and all times, the Issuer will duly execute, acknowledge and deliver, or will cause to be done, executed and delivered, all and every such further acts, conveyances, transfers and assurances in law as the Trustee shall reasonably require for the better conveying, transferring and pledging and confirming unto the Trustee, all and singular, the properties constituting the Trust Estate hereby transferred and pledged, or intended so to be transferred and pledged.

#### Section 4.03. Further Covenants of the Issuer.

- The Issuer will cause financing statements and continuation statements with respect thereto at all times to be filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State and any other jurisdiction necessary to perfect and maintain the security interest granted by the Issuer and the Eligible Lender Trustee hereunder. The Issuer and the Eligible Lender Trustee hereby irrevocably authorize the Trustee to file any and all financing statements and amendments thereto as may be required or advisable in order to perfect or to continue the perfection of the security interest in the Trust Estate, in each case, on behalf of the Issuer and the Eligible Lender Trustee. The Trustee shall not have any obligation to make any initial financing statement filings and may rely on such initial filings made by the Issuer in connection with any filings the Trustee makes hereunder. Such financing statements and any amendments thereto may describe the Trust Estate as being of an equal or greater scope or with greater or lesser detail than as set forth in the definition of "Trust Estate" (the terms of which shall be binding on the Issuer and the Eligible Lender Trustee). The Trustee shall not be responsible for the cost and expense of any financing statement filings, including, without limitation, continuation statements and amendments.
- (b) The Issuer will duly and punctually keep, observe and perform each and every term, covenant and condition on its part to be kept, observed and performed, contained in this Indenture and the other agreements to which the Issuer is a party pursuant to the transactions contemplated herein, including but not limited to the Basic

Documents to which it is a party and the Guarantee Agreements, and will punctually perform all duties required by the Trust Agreement and the laws of the State.

- (c) The Issuer shall operate on the basis of its Fiscal Year.
- (d) The Issuer shall cause to be kept full and proper books of records and accounts, in which full, true and proper entries will be made of all dealings, business and affairs of the Issuer which relate to the Notes.
- (e) The Issuer, upon written request of the Trustee, will permit at all reasonable times the Trustee or its agents, accountants and attorneys, to examine and inspect the property, books of account, records, reports and other data relating to the Financed Eligible Loans, and will furnish the Trustee such other information as it may reasonably request. The Trustee shall be under no duty to make any such examination unless requested in writing to do so by the Noteholders of 66-2/3% in collective aggregate principal amount of the Notes at the time Outstanding, and unless such Noteholders shall have offered the Trustee security and indemnity satisfactory to it against any fees, costs, expenses and liabilities which might be incurred thereby.
- (f) The Issuer shall cause an annual audit to be made by Baune, Dosen & Co. or any other independent auditing firm of national reputation and file one copy thereof with the Trustee and each Rating Agency within 150 days of the close of each Fiscal Year. The Trustee shall be under no obligation to review or otherwise analyze such audit. In the event such independent public accountants require the Trustee to agree to the procedures to be performed by such firm in any of the reports required to be prepared pursuant to this subsection (f), the Issuer shall direct the Trustee in writing to so agree; it being understood and agreed that the Trustee will deliver such letter of agreement in conclusive reliance upon the direction of the Issuer, and the Trustee has not made any independent inquiry or investigation as to, and shall have no obligation or liability in respect of, the sufficiency, validity or correctness of such procedures.
- (g) The Issuer covenants that all Financed Eligible Loans upon receipt thereof shall be delivered to the Trustee or its agent or bailee to be held pursuant to this Indenture and pursuant to the Servicing Agreement.
- (h) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, except upon the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default hereunder, the Issuer hereby expressly reserves and retains the privilege to receive and, subject to the terms and provisions of this Indenture, to keep or dispose of, claim, bring suits upon or otherwise exercise, enforce or realize upon its rights and interest in and to the Financed Eligible Loans and the proceeds and collections therefrom, and neither the Trustee nor any Noteholders shall in any manner be or be deemed to be an indispensable party to the exercise of any such privilege, claim or suit and the Trustee shall be under no obligation whatsoever to exercise any such privilege, claim or suit; provided, however, that the Trustee shall have and retain control of the Financed Eligible Loans pursuant to Section 5.02 hereof (which Financed Eligible Loans may be held by the Trustee's agent or bailee) so long as such loans are subject to the lien of this Indenture.

# Section 4.04. Enforcement of the Master Servicing Agreement and the Servicing Agreement.

- (a) The Issuer shall comply with and shall require the Master Servicer and the Servicer to comply with the following whether or not the Issuer is otherwise in default under this Indenture:
  - (i) cause to be diligently enforced and taken all reasonable steps, actions and proceedings necessary for the enforcement of all terms, covenants and conditions of the Master Servicing Agreement and the Servicing Agreement, including the prompt payment of all amounts due the Issuer thereunder, including, without limitation, all principal and interest payments, and Guarantee payments which relate to any Financed Eligible Loans and cause the Servicer to specify whether payments received by it represent principal or interest;
  - (ii) not permit the release of the obligations of the Master Servicer or the Servicer under the Master Servicing Agreement or the Servicing Agreement except in conjunction with amendments or modifications permitted by paragraph (viii) below;
  - (iii) at all times, to the extent permitted by law, cause to be defended, enforced, preserved and protected the rights and privileges of the Issuer, the Trustee and the Noteholders under or with respect to the Servicing Agreement;
  - (iv) at its own expense, the Issuer shall duly and punctually perform and observe each of its obligations to the Master Servicer under the Master Servicing Agreement and to the Servicer under the Servicing Agreement in accordance with the terms thereof;
  - (v) the Issuer agrees to give the Trustee and each Rating Agency prompt written notice of each default on the part of the Servicer of its obligations under the Servicing Agreement coming to the Issuer's attention;
  - (vi) the Issuer shall not waive any default by the Master Servicer under the Master Servicing Agreement or by the Servicer under the Servicing Agreement without first receiving the approval of Noteholders holding at least 51% of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes at the time Outstanding;
  - (vii) the Issuer shall cause the Servicer to deliver to the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Issuer, on or before March 31 of each year, beginning with March 31, 2013, a certificate stating that (i) a review of the activities of the Servicer during the preceding calendar year and of its performance under the Servicing Agreement has been made under the supervision of the officer signing such certificate and (ii) to the best of such officer's knowledge, based on such review, the Servicer has fulfilled all its obligations under the Servicing Agreement throughout such year, or, there has been a default in the fulfillment of any such obligation, specifying each such default known to

such officer and the nature and stature thereof (the Issuer shall send copies of such annual certificate of the Servicer to each Rating Agency);

- (viii) not consent or agree to or permit any amendment or modification of the Servicing Agreement which will in any manner materially adversely affect the rights or security of the Noteholders (the Issuer and the Trustee shall be entitled to receive and conclusively rely upon an Opinion of Counsel that any such amendment or modification will not materially adversely affect the rights or security of the Noteholders);
- (ix) if at any time the Servicer fails in any material respect to perform its obligations under the Servicing Agreement or under the Higher Education Act, including without limitation the failure of the Servicer to comply with the due diligence requirements of the Higher Education Act, or if any servicing audit shows any material deficiency in the servicing of Financed Student Loans by the Servicer, the Issuer shall, or cause the Servicer to, cure the failure to perform or the material deficiency or remove the Servicer and appoint another Servicer; provided that if the failure to perform or the material deficiency is not capable of being cured in the manner specified above, the Issuer shall not be required to remove the Servicer and appoint another Servicer if such failure to perform or the material deficiency will not adversely affect the security provided the Noteholders by the Financed FFELP Loans and any related Guarantee, Special Allowance Payments and interest subsidy payments; and
- (x) the Issuer is obligated to retain a replacement Servicer in the event that an existing Servicing Agreement expires or terminates and is not renewed.

**Section 4.05. Procedures for Transfer of Funds.** In any instance where this Indenture requires a transfer of funds or money from one Fund to another, a transfer of ownership in investments or an undivided interest therein may be made in any manner agreeable to the Issuer and the Trustee, and in the calculation of the amount transferred, interest on the investment which has or will accrue before the date the money is needed in the fund to which the transfer is made shall not be taken into account or considered as money on hand at the time of such transfer.

Section 4.06. Additional Covenants with Respect to the Higher Education Act. The Issuer covenants that it will cause the Trustee to be, or replace the Trustee with, an Eligible Lender under the Higher Education Act, that it will acquire or cause to be acquired Eligible Loans originated and held only by an Eligible Lender and that it will not dispose of or deliver any Financed Eligible Loans or any security interest in any such Financed Eligible Loans to any party who is not an Eligible Lender so long as the Higher Education Act or Regulations adopted thereunder require an Eligible Lender to be the owner or holder of Guaranteed Eligible Loans; provided, however, that nothing above shall prevent the Issuer from delivering the Eligible Loans to the Servicer or a Guaranty Agency. The Noteholders of the Notes shall not in any circumstances be deemed to be the owner or holder of the Guaranteed Eligible Loans.

The Issuer, or the Administrator on behalf of the Issuer, shall be responsible for each of the following actions with respect to the Higher Education Act:

- (a) the Issuer shall be responsible for dealing with the Guaranty Agencies with respect to the rights, benefits and obligations under the Guarantee Agreements with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans;
- (b) the Issuer shall cause to be diligently enforced, and shall cause to be taken all reasonable steps, actions and proceedings necessary or appropriate for the enforcement of all terms, covenants and conditions of all Financed Eligible Loans and agreements in connection therewith, including the prompt payment of all principal and interest payments and all other amounts due thereunder;
- (c) the Issuer shall cause the Financed Eligible Loans to be serviced by entering into the Servicing Agreement or other agreement with the Servicer for the collection of payments made for, and the administration of the accounts of, the Financed Eligible Loans;
- (d) the Issuer shall comply, and shall cause all of its officers, directors, employees and agents to comply, with the provisions of the Higher Education Act and any regulations or rulings thereunder, with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans; and
- (e) the Issuer shall cause all Available Funds, including the benefits of the Guarantee Agreements, the Interest Subsidy Payments and the Special Allowance Payments, to flow to the Trustee. The Trustee shall have no liability for actions taken at the direction of the Issuer, the Administrator or the Sub-Administrator, except for negligence or willful misconduct in the performance of its express duties hereunder. The Trustee shall have no obligation to administer, service or collect the loans in the Trust Estate or to maintain or monitor the administration, servicing or collection of such loans.

Section 4.07. Financed Eligible Loans; Collections Thereof; Assignment Thereof. The Issuer, through the Master Servicer and the Servicer, shall diligently collect all principal and interest payments on all Financed Eligible Loans, and all Interest Subsidy Payments, insurance, guarantee and default claims and Special Allowance Payments which relate to such Financed Eligible Loans; provided, however, the Issuer may offer interest rate reductions with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans which result in rates of interest not less than those shown in the cash flow analyses provided to each Rating Agency on the Date of Issuance. The Issuer shall not offer any additional types of borrower incentive programs on the Financed Eligible Loans. The Issuer shall cause the filing and assignment of such claims (prior to the timely filing deadline for such claims under the Regulations) by the Servicer. The Issuer will comply with the Higher Education Act and Regulations which apply to the Program and to such Financed Eligible Loans. The Issuer shall not, except as otherwise provided herein, consent or agree to or permit any amendment or modification of any Financed Eligible Loan or agreement in connection therewith which will in any manner materially adversely affect the rights or security of the Noteholders.

Section 4.08. Appointment of Agents, Direction to Trustee, Etc. The Issuer shall employ and appoint all employees, agents, consultants and attorneys which it may consider

necessary. No member of the board of directors or officer of the Administrator or Sub-Administrator, either singly or collectively, shall be personally liable for any act or omission not willfully fraudulent or mala fide. The Issuer hereby directs the Trustee to enter into this Indenture and each of the applicable Basic Documents. The Issuer hereby directs the Eligible Lender Trustee to enter into this Indenture, the Guarantee Agreements and the Eligible Lender Trust Agreement.

**Section 4.09.** Capacity to Sue. The Issuer shall have the power and capacity to sue and to be sued on matters arising out of or relating to the financing of the Financed Eligible Loans.

Section 4.10. Continued Existence; Successor to Issuer. The Issuer agrees that it will do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect its existence, rights and franchises as a Delaware statutory trust, except as otherwise permitted by this Section. The Issuer further agrees that it will not (a) sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all, of its assets (except Financed Eligible Loans if such sale, transfer or disposition will discharge this Indenture in accordance with Article X hereof); (b) consolidate with or merge into another entity; or (c) permit one or more other entities to consolidate with or merge into it. The preceding restrictions in clauses (a), (b) and (c) above shall not apply to a transaction if the transferee or the surviving or resulting entity, if other than the Issuer, by proper written instrument for the benefit of the Trustee, irrevocably and unconditionally assumes the obligation to perform and observe the agreements and obligations of the Issuer under this Indenture.

If a transfer is made as provided in this Section, the provisions of this Section shall continue in full force and effect and no further transfer shall be made except in compliance with the provisions of this Section.

Sale Agreement. The Issuer shall notify the Trustee in writing of any proposed amendments to the Student Loan Purchase Agreement or Student Loan Sale Agreement. No such amendment shall become effective unless and until the Trustee consents thereto in writing based upon an Opinion of Counsel. The consent of the Trustee shall not be unreasonably withheld and shall not be withheld if the Trustee receives an Opinion of Counsel acceptable to it that such an amendment is required by the Higher Education Act and is not materially prejudicial to the Noteholders.

#### Section 4.12. Representations; Negative Covenants.

- (a) The Issuer hereby makes the following representations and warranties to the Trustee on which the Trustee relies in authenticating the Notes and on which the Noteholders have relied in purchasing the Notes. Such representations and warranties shall survive the transfer and assignment of the Trust Estate to the Trustee.
  - (i) Organization and Good Standing. The Issuer is duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State, and has the power to own its assets and to transact the business in which it presently engages.

- (ii) Due Qualification. The Issuer is duly qualified to do business and is in good standing, and has obtained all material necessary licenses and approvals, in all jurisdictions where the failure to be so qualified, have such good standing or have such licenses or approvals would have a material adverse effect on the Issuer's business and operations or in which the actions as required by this Indenture require or will require such qualification.
- (iii) Authorization. The Issuer has the power, authority and legal right to create and issue the Notes; to execute, deliver and perform this Indenture; and to grant the Trust Estate to the Trustee; furthermore, the creation and issuance of the Notes; execution, delivery and performance of this Indenture; and grant of the Trust Estate to the Trustee have been duly authorized by the Issuer by all necessary statutory trust action.
- (iv) Binding Obligation. This Indenture, assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by the Trustee and the Notes in the hands of the Noteholders thereof constitute legal, valid and binding obligations of the Issuer enforceable against the Issuer in accordance with their terms, except that (A) such enforcement may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws (whether statutory, regulatory or decisional) now or hereafter in effect relating to creditors' rights generally and (B) the remedy of specific performance and injunctive and other forms of equitable relief may be subject to certain equitable defenses and to the discretion of the court before which any proceeding therefor may be brought, whether a proceeding at law or in equity.
- (v) No Violation. The consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Indenture and the fulfillment of the terms hereof do not conflict with, result in any breach of any of the terms and provisions of or constitute (with or without notice, lapse of time or both) a default under the organizational documents of the Issuer, or any material indenture, agreement, mortgage, deed of trust or other instrument to which the Issuer is a party or by which it is bound, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien upon any of its material properties pursuant to the terms of any such indenture, agreement, mortgage, deed of trust or other instrument, other than this Indenture, nor violate any law or any order, rule or regulation applicable to the Issuer of any court or of any federal or state regulatory body, administrative agency or other governmental instrumentality having jurisdiction over the Issuer or any of its properties.
- (vi) No Proceedings. There are no proceedings, injunctions, writs, restraining orders or investigations to which the Issuer or any of its affiliates is a party pending, or, to the best of its knowledge, threatened, before any court, regulatory body, administrative agency or other tribunal or governmental instrumentality (A) asserting the invalidity of this Indenture, (B) seeking to prevent the issuance of any Notes or the consummation of any of the transactions contemplated by this Indenture or (C) seeking any determination or ruling that

might materially and adversely affect the performance by the Issuer of its obligations under, or the validity or enforceability of this Indenture.

- (vii) Approvals. All approvals, authorizations, consents, orders or other actions of any person, corporation or other organization, or of any court, governmental agency or body or official, required on the part of the Issuer in connection with the execution and delivery of this Indenture have been taken or obtained on or prior to the Date of Issuance.
- (viii) *Place of Business*. The Issuer's place of business and chief executive office is located in the State of Delaware, and the Issuer has had no other chief executive office.
- (ix) Tax and Accounting Treatment. The Issuer intends to treat the transactions contemplated by the Student Loan Sale Agreement as an absolute transfer rather than as a pledge of the Financed Eligible Loans from the Depositor for federal income tax and financial accounting purposes and the Issuer (through the Eligible Lender Trustee) will be treated as the owner of the Financed Eligible Loans for all purposes. The Issuer further intends to treat the Notes as its indebtedness for federal income tax and financial accounting purposes.
- (x) Taxes. The Issuer has filed (or caused to be filed) all federal, state, county, local and foreign income, franchise and other tax returns required to be filed by it through the date hereof, and has paid all taxes reflected as due thereon. There is no pending dispute with any taxing authority that, if determined adversely to the Issuer, would result in the assertion by any taxing authority of any material tax deficiency, and the Issuer has no knowledge of a proposed liability for any tax year to be imposed upon such entity's properties or assets for which there is not an adequate reserve reflected in such entity's current financial statements.
- (xi) Legal Name. The legal name of the Issuer is "NorthStar Student Loan Trust I," and the Issuer has not changed such name since its inception. The Issuer has no trade names, fictitious names, assumed names or "dba's" under which it conducts its business and has made no filing in respect of any such name.
- (xii) Business Purpose. The Issuer has acquired the Financed Eligible Loans conveyed to it under the Student Loan Sale Agreement for a bona fide business purpose and has undertaken the transactions contemplated herein as principal rather than as an agent of any other Person. The Issuer has no subsidiaries, has adopted and operated consistently with all requirements for statutory trusts under the laws of the State with respect to its operations and has engaged in no other activities other than those specified in this Indenture, the Student Loan Purchase Agreement and the Student Loan Sale Agreement and in accordance with the transactions contemplated herein and therein.

- (xiii) *Compliance with Laws*. The Issuer is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations with respect to the conduct of its business and has obtained and maintains all permits, licenses and other approvals as are necessary for the conduct of its operations.
- (xiv) Valid Business Reasons; No Fraudulent Transfers. The transactions contemplated by this Indenture are in the ordinary course of the Issuer's business, and the Issuer has valid business reasons for granting the Trust Estate pursuant to this Indenture. At the time of each such grant: (A) the Issuer granted the Trust Estate to the Trustee without any intent to hinder, delay or defraud any current or future creditor of the Issuer; (B) the Issuer was not insolvent and did not become insolvent as a result of any such grant; (C) the Issuer was not engaged and was not about to engage in any business or transaction for which any property remaining with such entity was an unreasonably small capital or for which the remaining assets of such entity are unreasonably small in relation to the business of such entity or the transaction; (D) the Issuer did not intend to incur, and did not believe or should not have reasonably believed, that it would incur, debts beyond its ability to pay as they become due; and (E) the consideration received by the Issuer for the grant of the Trust Estate was reasonably equivalent to the value of the related grant.
- (xv) No Management of Affairs of Depositor, NEF or Servicer. The Issuer is not and will not be involved in the day-to-day management of the Depositor, NEF, the Servicer or any affiliate.
- (xvi) No Transfers with Depositor, NEF or Affiliates. Other than the acquisition of assets and the transfer of any Notes pursuant to this Indenture, the Issuer does not engage in and will not engage in any transactions with the Depositor, NEF or their affiliates, except as provided herein with respect to the Master Servicing Agreement or the payment of distributions to the Depositor or NEF.
- (xvii) Ability to Perform. There has been no material impairment in the ability of the Issuer to perform its obligations under this Indenture.
- (xviii) *Financial Condition*. No material adverse change has occurred in the Issuer's financial status since the date of its formation.
- (xix) Event of Default. No Event of Default has occurred and no event has occurred that, with the giving of notice, the passage of time, or both, would become an Event of Default.
- (xx) Acquisition of Financed Eligible Loans Legal. The Issuer has complied with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations in connection with its acquisition of the Financed Eligible Loans from the Depositor.
- (xxi) No Material Misstatements. No information, certificate of an officer, statement furnished in writing or report delivered to the Trustee, the

Servicer, a Subservicer or any Noteholder by the Issuer contains any untrue statement of a material fact.

(xxii) *Not an Investment Company*. The Issuer is not an "investment company" within the meaning of the Investment Company Act, or is exempt from all provisions of the Investment Company Act.

#### (b) The Issuer will not:

- (i) sell, transfer, exchange or otherwise dispose of any portion of the Trust Estate except as expressly permitted by this Indenture;
- (ii) claim any credit on, or make any deduction from, the principal amount of any of the Notes by reason of the payment of any taxes levied or assessed upon any portion of the Trust Estate;
- (iii) except as otherwise provided herein, dissolve or liquidate in whole or in part, except with the prior written consent of the Trustee and to the extent Notes remain Outstanding, the approval of all of the Noteholders;
- (iv) permit the validity or effectiveness of this Indenture, any Supplement or any grant hereunder to be impaired, or permit the lien of this Indenture to be amended, hypothecated, subordinated, terminated or discharged, or permit any Person to be released from any covenants or obligations under this Indenture, except as may be expressly permitted hereby;
- (v) except as otherwise provided herein, permit any lien, charge, security interest, mortgage or other encumbrance (other than the lien of this Indenture) to be created on or extend to or otherwise arise upon or burden the Trust Estate or any part thereof or any interest therein or the proceeds thereof;
- (vi) permit the lien of this Indenture not to constitute a valid first priority, perfected security interest in the Trust Estate;
- (vii) incur or assume any indebtedness or guarantee any indebtedness of any Person whether secured by any Financed Eligible Loans under this Indenture or otherwise, except for such obligations as may be incurred by the Issuer in connection with the issuance of the Notes pursuant to this Indenture and unsecured trade payables in the ordinary course of its business;
- (viii) operate such that it would be consolidated with the Depositor, NEF or any other affiliate and its separate existence disregarded in any federal or state proceeding;
- (ix) act as agent of the Depositor or, except as provided in the Student Loan Sale Agreement, allow the Depositor to act as its agent;

- (x) allow the Depositor or NEF or any other affiliate to pay its expenses, guarantee its obligations or advance funds to it for payment of expenses; or
- consent to the appointment of a conservator or receiver or (xi) liquidator in any insolvency, readjustment of debt, marshalling of assets and liabilities or similar proceedings of or relating to the Issuer or of or relating to all or substantially all of its property, or a decree or order of a court or agency or supervisory authority having jurisdiction in the premises for the appointment of a conservator or receiver or liquidator in any insolvency, readjustment of debt, marshalling of assets and liabilities or similar proceedings, or for the winding-up or liquidation of its affairs, shall have been entered against the Issuer; or the Issuer shall not consent to the appointment of a receiver, conservator or liquidator in any insolvency, readjustment of debt, marshalling of assets and liabilities, voluntary liquidation or similar proceedings of or relating to the Issuer or of or relating to all or substantially all of its property; or admit in writing its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, file a petition to take advantage of any applicable insolvency, bankruptcy or reorganization statute, make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors or voluntarily suspend payment of its obligations.
- (c) The Issuer makes the following representations and warranties as to the Trust Estate which is granted to the Trustee hereunder on such date, on which the Trustee relies in accepting the Trust Estate. Such representations and warranties shall survive the grant of the Trust Estate to the Trustee pursuant to this Indenture:
  - (i) Financed Eligible Loans. Each Financed Eligible Loan acquired by the Issuer shall constitute an Eligible Loan and shall satisfy any representations and warranties made with respect thereto in the Student Loan Sale Agreement.
  - (ii) *Grant*. It is the intention of the Issuer that the transfer herein contemplated constitutes a grant of the Financed Eligible Loans to the Trustee.
  - (iii) All Filings Made. All filings (including, without limitation, UCC filings) necessary in any jurisdiction to give the Trustee a first priority perfected ownership and security interest in the Trust Estate, including the Financed Eligible Loans, have been made no later than the Date of Issuance and copies of the file-stamped financing statements shall be delivered to the Trustee within five Business Days of receipt by the Issuer or its agent from the appropriate secretary of state. The Issuer has not caused, suffered or permitted any lien, pledges, offsets, defenses, claims, counterclaims, charges or security interest with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans (other than the security interest created in favor of the Trustee) to be created.
  - (iv) Transfer Not Subject to Bulk Transfer Act. Each grant of the Financed Eligible Loans by the Issuer pursuant to this Indenture is not subject to the bulk transfer act or any similar statutory provisions in effect in any applicable jurisdiction.

(v) No Transfer Taxes Due. Each grant of the Financed Eligible Loans (including all payments due or to become due thereunder) by the Issuer pursuant to this Indenture is not subject to and will not result in any tax, fee or governmental charge payable by the Issuer or the Depositor to any federal, state or local government.

# **Section 4.13.** Additional Covenants. So long as any of the Notes are Outstanding:

- (a) The Issuer shall not engage in any business or activity other than in connection with the transactions contemplated by the Basic Documents.
- (b) The Issuer shall not consolidate or merge with or into any other entity or convey or transfer its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any entity except as otherwise provided herein.
- (c) Except for collections on the Financed Student Loans held by the Servicer pursuant to the Servicing Agreement prior to remitting such collections to the Trustee, the funds and other assets of the Issuer shall not be commingled with those of any other individual, corporation, estate, partnership, joint venture, association, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government, or any agency or political subdivision thereof.
- (d) The Issuer shall not be, become or hold itself out as being liable for the debts of any other party.
  - (e) The Issuer shall not form, or cause to be formed, any subsidiaries.
- (f) The Issuer shall act solely in its own name and through its duly authorized officers or agents in the conduct of its business, and shall conduct its business so as not to mislead others as to the identity of the entity with which they are concerned.
- (g) The Issuer shall maintain its records and books of account and shall not commingle its records and books of account with the records and books of account of any other Person. The books of the Issuer may be kept (subject to applicable law) inside or outside the State at such place or places as may be designated from time to time by the provisions of the Trust Agreement.
  - (h) All actions of the Issuer shall be taken by an Authorized Representative.
- (i) The Issuer shall not amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in this Section without the requirements of a Rating Notification having been satisfied with respect to such amendment, alteration, change or repeal.
- (j) All audited financial statements of the Issuer that are consolidated with those of any affiliate thereof will contain detailed notes clearly stating that (i) all of the Issuer's assets are owned by the Issuer, and (ii) the Issuer is a separate entity with creditors who have received ownership and/or security interests in the Issuer's assets.

- (k) The Issuer will strictly observe legal formalities in its dealings with the Depositor, NEF or any Affiliate thereof, and, except for collections on the Financed Student Loans held by the Servicer pursuant to the Servicing Agreement prior to remitting such collections to the Trustee, the funds or other assets of the Issuer will not be commingled with those of the Depositor, NEF or any other Affiliate thereof. The Issuer shall not maintain joint bank accounts or other depository accounts to which the Depositor, NEF or any other Affiliate has independent access. None of the Issuer's funds will at any time be pooled with any funds of the Depositor, NEF or any other Affiliate.
- (l) The Issuer will maintain an arm's-length relationship with NEF and the Depositor (and any respective Affiliates). Any Person that renders or otherwise furnishes services to the Issuer will be compensated by the Issuer at market rates for such services it renders or otherwise furnishes to the Issuer except as otherwise provided in this Indenture. Except as contemplated in this Indenture, the Student Loan Purchase Agreement, Student Loan Sale Agreement and the Servicing Agreement, the Issuer will not hold itself out to be responsible for the debts of the Depositor or NEF or the decisions or actions respecting the daily business and affairs of the Depositor or NEF.

**Section 4.14. Providing of Notice.** The Issuer, upon learning of any failure on its part to observe or perform in any material respect any covenant, representation or warranty of the Issuer set forth in this Indenture, the Student Loan Purchase Agreement or the Student Loan Sale Agreement, or of any failure on the part of the Depositor to observe or perform in any material respect any covenant, representation or warranty of the Depositor set forth in its Student Loan Purchase Agreement or Student Loan Sale Agreement, shall promptly notify the Trustee, the Servicer and each Rating Agency of such failure.

## Section 4.15. Certain Reports.

- (a) Not later than the Determination Date preceding each Monthly Distribution Date, the Issuer will prepare and provide a certificate in the form of Exhibit C hereto (the "Monthly Distribution Date Certificate") to the Trustee. The Trustee shall provide a copy of any Monthly Distribution Date Certificate by posting a copy thereof at <a href="https://www.usbank.com/abs">www.usbank.com/abs</a> or at such other address as the Trustee shall notify the parties to the Indenture from time to time. In connection with providing access to the Trustee's Internet website, the Trustee may require registration and the acceptance of a disclaimer. The Trustee shall not be liable for the dissemination of information in accordance with this Indenture.
- (b) The Trustee may conclusively rely and accept such reports from the Issuer as fulfilling the requirements of this Section, with no further duty to know, determine or examine such reports.

**Section 4.16. Statement as to Compliance.** The Issuer will deliver to the Trustee and the Eligible Lender Trustee, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, a brief certificate from an Authorized Representative including (a) a current list of the Authorized Representatives, and (b) a statement indicating whether or not to the knowledge of the signers thereof the Issuer is in compliance with all conditions and covenants under this Indenture and, in the event of any

noncompliance, specifying such noncompliance and the nature and status thereof. For purposes of this Section, such compliance shall be determined without regard to any period of grace or requirement of notice under this Indenture.

# Section 4.17. Representations of the Issuer Regarding the Trustee's Security Interest. The Issuer hereby represents and warrants for the benefit of the Trustee and the Noteholders as follows:

- (a) This Indenture creates a valid and continuing security interest (as defined in the applicable Uniform Commercial Code in effect in the States of Delaware and South Dakota) in the Financed Eligible Loans in favor of the Trustee, which security interest is prior to all other liens, charges, security interests, mortgages or other encumbrances, and is enforceable as such as against creditors of and purchasers from the Issuer.
- (b) Pursuant to the Higher Education Act, a security interest in student loans is perfected in the same manner as "accounts" within the meaning of the applicable UCC, which applicable UCC is the UCC as in effect in the State of Delaware for the purposes of perfecting a security interest in the Financed Eligible Loans.
- (c) The Issuer (or the Eligible Lender Trustee on behalf of the Issuer) owns and has good and marketable title to the Financed Eligible Loans free and clear of any lien, charge, security interest, mortgage or other encumbrance, claim or encumbrance of any Person, other than those granted pursuant to this Indenture.
- (d) For sale of loan participations, swaps and other "payment intangibles" (within the meaning of the applicable UCC), the Issuer has received all consents and approvals required by the terms of the Financed Eligible Loans for the pledge of the Financed Eligible Loans hereunder to the Trustee.
- (e) The Issuer has caused or will have caused, within ten days, the filing of all appropriate financing statements in the proper filing office in the appropriate jurisdictions under applicable law in order to perfect the security interest in the Financed Eligible Loans granted to the Trustee hereunder.
- (f) The Issuer has received a written acknowledgment from the Servicer and each Subservicer (if any), as custodian for the Trustee, that the Servicer or such Subservicer is holding executed copies of the promissory notes that constitute or evidence the Financed Eligible Loans for which it is acting as Servicer or Subservicer, and that the Servicer or such Subservicer is holding such solely on behalf and for the benefit of the Trustee.
- (g) Other than the security interest granted to the Trustee pursuant to this Indenture, the Issuer has not pledged, assigned, sold, granted a security interest in, or otherwise conveyed any of the Financed Eligible Loans. The Issuer has not authorized the filing of and is not aware of any financing statements against the Issuer that include a description of collateral covering the Financed Eligible Loans other than any financing statement relating to the security interest granted to the Trustee hereunder or that has

been terminated. The Issuer is not aware of any judgment or tax lien filings against the Issuer.

Section 4.18. Further Covenants of the Issuer Regarding the Trustee's Security Interest. The Issuer hereby covenants for the benefit of the Trustee and the Noteholders as follows:

- (a) The representations and warranties set forth in Section 4.17 hereof shall survive the termination of this Indenture.
- (b) The Trustee shall not waive any of the representations and warranties set forth in Section 4.17 hereof.
- (c) The Issuer shall take all steps necessary, and shall cause the Servicer and each other custodian, if any, to take all steps necessary and appropriate, to maintain the perfection and priority of the Trustee's security interest in the Financed Eligible Loans.

Section 4.19. Statements to Noteholders. Two days preceding a Monthly Distribution Date, the Issuer shall provide, or cause to be provided, to the Trustee (with a copy to the Rating Agencies) a report in the form of Exhibit D hereto, with such additional information as the Issuer shall determine; the Trustee shall provide such report on or before the Monthly Distribution Date to the Noteholders by posting a copy thereof at <a href="www.usbank.com/abs">www.usbank.com/abs</a> or at such other address as the Trustee shall notify the parties to the Indenture from time to time. In connection with providing access to the Trustee's Internet website, the Trustee may require registration and the acceptance of a disclaimer. The Trustee shall not be liable for the dissemination of information in accordance with this Indenture.

#### **ARTICLE V**

#### **FUNDS**

**Section 5.01. Creation and Continuation of Funds and Accounts.** There are hereby created and established the following Funds to be held and maintained by the Trustee for the benefit of the Noteholders:

- (a) Acquisition Fund;
- (b) Capitalized Interest Fund;
- (c) Collection Fund;
- (d) Class B Collection Fund;
- (e) Department Rebate Fund;
- (f) Reserve Fund; and
- (g) Trustee Expense Reserve Fund.

The Trustee is hereby authorized for the purpose of facilitating the administration of the Trust Estate and for the administration of any Notes issued hereunder to create further Accounts or Subaccounts in any of the various Funds and Accounts established hereunder which are deemed necessary or desirable.

**Section 5.02. Acquisition Fund.** On the Closing Date, the Trustee shall deposit the following amounts:

- (a) \$1,686,500.00 received from the sale of the Class A Notes to the Reserve Fund;
- (b) \$2,000,000 received from the sale of the Class A Notes to the Capitalized Interest Fund;
- (c) \$670,913,500 received from the Sale of the Class A Notes to the Acquisition Fund;
- (d) \$12,000,000 received from the sale of the Class B Notes to the Acquisition Fund; and
- (e) \$6,442,831.27 received as a cash contribution from NEF to the Acquisition Fund.

The Trustee shall pay or apply the funds deposited to the Acquisition Fund pursuant to the preceding paragraph as follows:

- (x) \$681,065,303.40 to acquire the Financed Eligible Loans;
- (y) \$3,204,350.00 to be paid to RBC Capital Markets, LLC; and
- (z) \$5,086,667.87 to be retained in the Acquisition Fund to pay costs relating to the issuance of the Notes, the remainder of which will be transferred to the Collection Fund on or before the first Monthly Payment Date.

The Trustee shall pay the costs relating to the issuance of the Notes from amounts on deposit in the Acquisition Fund. There shall be deposited into the Acquisition Fund the Student Loans acquired with the proceeds of the Notes. Financed Eligible Loans shall be held by the Trustee or its agent or bailee (including the Servicer and each other custodian) and shall be pledged to the Trust Estate and held as a part of the Acquisition Fund.

While the Issuer will be the beneficial owner of the Financed Eligible Loans, it is understood and agreed that the Eligible Lender Trustee will be the legal owner thereof and the Trustee will have a security interest in the Financed Eligible Loans for and on behalf of the Noteholders. In the case of a single Financed Eligible Loan evidenced by a separate note, each such note will be held in the name of the Eligible Lender Trustee for the account of the Issuer, for the benefit of the Noteholders.

Except (i) as provided in Sections 5.10, 10.03 and 10.04 hereof, (ii) for consolidation or serialization purposes, (iii) for transfers to a Guaranty Agency, (iv) for transfers to the Servicer pursuant to its repurchase obligation under the Servicing Agreement, (v) for transfers to the Depositor pursuant to its repurchase obligation under its Student Loan Sale Agreement, or (vi) as set forth in the following sentence, Financed Eligible Loans shall not be sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of by the Issuer while any of the Notes are Outstanding. If necessary, the Issuer may sell Financed Eligible Loans through the Eligible Lender Trustee free from the lien of this Indenture, so long as (a) the sale price for any Financed Eligible Loan is not less than the Purchase Amount of such Financed Eligible Loan, (b) the collective aggregate principal balance of all such sales does not exceed 2% of the Initial Pool Balance and (c) any sale of Financed Eligible Loans described in this sentence will not cause a material change in the overall composition of the pool of Financed Eligible Loans, and the Issuer hereby certifies the same to the Trustee, upon which the Trustee may conclusively rely. The Issuer hereby certifies, upon which the Trustee may conclusively rely, that any Financed Eligible Loan sold pursuant to this Indenture shall not be sold for a price less than the Purchase Amount of such Financed Eligible Loan.

**Section 5.03.** Capitalized Interest Fund. There shall be deposited into the Capitalized Interest Fund moneys from the cash and investments received in exchange for the Notes in an amount equal to \$2,000,000.

On each Monthly Distribution Date, to the extent there are insufficient Available Funds in the Collection Fund to make one or more of the transfers required by Sections 5.04(b) (other than transfers to repurchase student loans from the Servicer or any Guaranty Agency as described in clause (a)(i) and (ii) of the definition of Available Funds) and 5.04(c)(i) through (iv) hereof and, after the Class A Notes are no longer Outstanding, Section 5.04(c)(vii) hereof, then the Administrator or Sub-Administrator shall instruct the Trustee in writing to withdraw from the Capitalized Interest Fund on such Monthly Distribution Date, an amount equal to such deficiency and to deposit such amount in the Collection Fund. On the September 2013 Monthly Distribution Date, the Administrator or the Sub-Administrator shall instruct the Trustee in writing to transfer all remaining amounts on deposit in the Capitalized Interest Fund to the Collection Fund.

#### Section 5.04. Collection Fund.

(a) Deposits to Collection Fund. There shall be deposited to the Collection Fund (i) all Available Funds, and all other moneys and investments derived from assets on deposit in and transfers from the Capitalized Interest Fund (as described in Section 5.03 hereof), the Reserve Fund (as described in Section 5.06 hereof), the Department Rebate Fund (as described in Section 5.07 hereof) and the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund (as described in Section 5.08 hereof), (ii) amounts deposited pursuant to Sections 10.03 and 10.04 hereof and (iii) any other amounts deposited thereto upon receipt of deposit instructions from the Issuer. Moneys on deposit in the Collection Fund shall be used to make the payments described in this Section. The Trustee may conclusively rely on all written instructions of the Issuer described in this Indenture with no further duty to examine or determine the information contained in any Monthly Distribution Date Certificate, or Issuer Order.

- (b) Payments on Dates other than Monthly Distribution Dates.
- (i) <u>Transfers to Department Rebate Fund</u>. In accordance with Section 5.07 hereof, the Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing on a monthly basis not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> calendar day of each month to withdraw from the Collection Fund and deposit to the Department Rebate Fund the amount expected to be necessary to bring the balance of the Department Rebate Fund to the accrued Department Rebate Interest Amount through the last day of the preceding Collection Period, and the Trustee shall comply with such instructions.
- (ii) <u>Monthly Rebate Fees</u>. Upon written direction from the Issuer to the Trustee, moneys in the Collection Fund shall be used on any date to pay, when due, Monthly Rebate Fees.
- (iii) Other Fees, Expenses, and Amounts. Upon written direction from the Issuer to the Trustee, moneys in the Collection Fund shall be used on any date to pay, when due, Issuer Expenses and amounts described in clause (a)(i) and (ii) of the definition of Available Funds.
- Payments on Monthly Distribution Dates. The Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing no later than the Determination Date preceding each Monthly Distribution Date, beginning with the December 2012 Monthly Distribution Date (based on the information contained in a certificate of the Issuer (in the form set forth as Exhibit C hereto)), to make the following deposits and distributions from the Available Funds in the Collection Fund received during the immediately preceding Collection Period (including any amounts transferred from the Capitalized Interest Fund pursuant to Section 5.03 hereof and the Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 5.05(b) and (c) hereof) to the Persons or to the account specified below on such Monthly Distribution Date (provided that payments required pursuant to clauses (viii) and (ix) shall be made only if such Monthly Distribution Date is also a Quarterly Distribution Date and after payments made pursuant to Section 5.07(b) hereof), in the following order of priority, and the Trustee shall comply with such instructions, provided, however, that if the Available Funds received during the immediately preceding Collection Period are not sufficient to make the payments or deposits required pursuant to clauses (i) through (iv) of this subsection (c) or, after the Class A Notes are no longer Outstanding, clause (vii) of this subesection (c), then, after any required transfers from the Capitalized Interest Fund and the Reserve Fund, any other Available Funds on deposit in the Collection Fund, which the Issuer would have deemed Available Funds for the current Collection Period, may be used to make the payments or deposits required pursuant to clauses (i) through (iv) of this subsection (c) or, after the Class A Notes are no longer Outstanding, clause (vii) of this subesection (c):
  - (i) to (A) deposit to the Department Rebate Fund the amount expected to be necessary to bring the balance of the Department Rebate Fund to the accrued Department Rebate Interest Amount through the last day of the preceding Collection Period; and (B) make any payments required under any applicable Joint Sharing Agreement or to otherwise pay to the appropriate Person, trust

estate or other entity amounts deposited in the Collection Fund which represent amounts that are allocable to Eligible Loans which are not pledged as part of the Trust Estate hereunder;

- (ii) to pay to the Master Servicer, the Servicer, the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Delaware Trustee, pro rata if not sufficient to pay in full, based on amounts owed to each such party, without preference or priority of any kind, the Administration and Servicing Fee, the Servicing Fee, the Trustee Fee, Trustee Expenses (to the extent not paid pursuant to Section 5.08 hereof), the Eligible Lender Trustee Fee and the Delaware Trustee Fee, respectively, due on such Monthly Distribution Date, in each case, together with such fees remaining unpaid from prior Monthly Distribution Dates;
- (iii) to deposit into the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund an amount equal to the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund Deposit;
- (iv) to pay to the Class A Noteholders the Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount payable on such Monthly Distribution Date, pro rata if not sufficient to pay in full, based on amounts owed to each such party, without preference or priority of any kind;
- (v) to deposit to the Reserve Fund, the amount, if any, necessary to reinstate the balance of the Reserve Fund up to the Specified Reserve Fund Balance;
- (vi) to the Class A Noteholders, all remaining amounts to pay principal to the Class A Noteholders, pro rata, until the Class A Notes have been paid in full, provided, however, that \$2,000,000 shall remain in the Collection Fund until the September 2015 Monthly Distribution Date;
- (vii) on a Quarterly Distribution Date only, to pay to the Class B Noteholders, the Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount payable on such Monthly Distribution Date; pro rata if not sufficient to pay in full, based on amounts owed to each such party, without preference or priority of any kind;
- (viii) on a Quarterly Distribution Date only, to pay principal to the Class B Noteholders, pro rata, until the Class B Notes have been paid in full;
- (ix) to pay to the appropriate Person (as identified in the Issuer Order), any unreimbursed fees and expenses or indemnification amounts owed by the Issuer to such Person; and
  - (x) to release to the Issuer any remaining funds.

Amounts properly distributed pursuant to clause (ix) of this subsection (c) shall be deemed released from the Trust Estate and the security interest therein granted to the Trustee, and none of the Depositor, NEF or the Issuer shall in any event thereafter be required to refund any such distributed amounts.

The Issuer shall notify the Rating Agencies, by forwarding a copy of Exhibit C hereto, if the Available Funds received during the immediately preceding Collection Period are not sufficient to make the payments or deposits required pursuant to clauses (i) through (iii) of this subsection (c), after any required transfers from the Capitalized Interest Fund and the Reserve Fund, and such payments or deposits were made with other Available Funds on deposit in the Collection Fund from the current Collection Period.

(d) Optional Redemption From Sale of Financed Eligible Loans. The Notes shall be subject to redemption from the proceeds of a sale of Financed Eligible Loans in accordance with Section 10.03 or 10.04 hereof on any Monthly Distribution Date, at a redemption price equal to the Outstanding Amount thereof, plus accrued interest.

#### Section 5.05. Class B Collection Fund.

- (a) Deposits to Class B Collection Fund. There shall be deposited to the Class B Collection Fund any proceeds from the Residual Interests. Moneys on deposit in the Class B Collection Fund shall be used to make the payments described in this Section and shall not otherwise be available to make payments to the Class A Noteholders. The Trustee may conclusively rely on all written instructions of the Issuer described in this Indenture with no further duty to examine or determine the information contained in any Monthly Distribution Date Certificate, or Issuer Order.
- (b) Payments on Quarterly Distribution Dates. The Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing no later than the Determination Date preceding each Quarterly Distribution Date, beginning with the January 26, 2013 Quarterly Distribution Date (based on the information contained in a certificate of the Issuer (in the form set forth as Exhibit C hereto)), to make the following deposits and distributions from the funds in the Class B Collection Fund (if any) received during the three (3) immediately preceding Collection Periods to the Persons or to the account specified below on such Quarterly Distribution Date, in the following order of priority, and the Trustee shall comply with such instructions:
  - (i) to pay to the Class B Noteholders, the Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount payable on such Quarterly Distribution Date; pro rata if not sufficient to pay in full, based on amounts owed to each such party, without preference or priority of any kind; and
  - (ii) to pay principal to the Class B Noteholders, pro rata, until the Class B Notes have been paid in full.

## Section 5.06. Reserve Fund.

(a) On the Date of Issuance, the Trustee shall deposit \$1,686,500 into the Reserve Fund from the proceeds of the Notes. Thereafter, the Trustee shall transfer to the Reserve Fund from the Collection Fund all amounts designated for transfer thereto pursuant to Section 5.04(c)(v) hereof.

- On each Monthly Distribution Date, to the extent there are insufficient Available Funds in the Collection Fund to make one or more of the transfers required by Sections 5.04(b) (other than transfers to repurchase student loans from the Servicer or any Guaranty Agency as described in clause (a)(i) of the definition of Available Funds) and 5.04(c)(i) through (c)(iv) hereof and, after the Class A Notes are no longer Outstanding, Section 5.04(c)(vii) hereof, then the Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing to withdraw from the Reserve Fund on such Monthly Distribution Date an amount equal to such deficiency and to deposit such amount in the Collection Fund to the extent moneys are not available to make such transfers from the Capitalized Interest Fund pursuant to Section 5.03 hereof. Additionally, if on the Note Final Maturity Date for a Class of Notes, and after giving effect to the distribution of the Available Funds on such Note Final Maturity Date, the principal amount of such Class of Notes will not be reduced to zero, the Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing to withdraw from the Reserve Fund on such Note Final Maturity Date an amount equal to the amount needed to reduce the principal amount of such Class of Notes to zero and to deposit such amount in the Collection Fund for application to payment of the Outstanding Amount of such Class of Notes.
- (c) After giving effect to subsection (b) of this Section, if the amount on deposit in the Reserve Fund on any Monthly Distribution Date is greater than the Specified Reserve Fund Balance for such Monthly Distribution Date, the Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing to withdraw from the Reserve Fund on such Monthly Distribution Date an amount equal to such excess and to deposit such amount in the Collection Fund.
- (d) Anything in this Section to the contrary notwithstanding, if the market value of securities and cash in the Reserve Fund is on any Monthly Distribution Date sufficient to pay the remaining principal amount of and interest accrued on the Notes, such amount will be so applied on such Monthly Distribution Date and the Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing to make such payments.

Section 5.07. Department Rebate Fund. On or before the 10<sup>th</sup> calendar day of each month (or, if such date is not a Business Day, the next Business Day), the Issuer shall instruct the Trustee in writing to deposit into the Department Rebate Fund from the Collection Fund, pursuant to Section 5.04(b)(i) hereof, the amount expected to be necessary to bring the balance of the Department Rebate Fund to the accrued Department Rebate Interest Amount through the last day of the preceding Collection Period, and the Trustee shall comply with such instructions. Upon written instructions from the Issuer to the Trustee, the Trustee shall (a) pay to the Department an amount equal to the Department Rebate Interest Amount due on each Department Rebate Payment Date, first, from amounts on deposit in the Department Rebate Fund and, second, from the Collection Fund pursuant to Section 5.04(b) hereof, (b) if the Department has deducted the Department Rebate Interest Amount from Interest Subsidy Payments or Special Allowance Payments due to the Issuer, transfer amounts on deposit in the Department Rebate Fund to the Collection Fund in an amount sufficient to reimburse the Collection Fund for the amount so deducted or (c) if the Department has deducted the Department Rebate Interest Amount from Interest Subsidy Payments or Special Allowance Payments due to the Issuer (other than with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans) or to another Person, trust estate or other entity,

transfer amounts on deposit in the Department Rebate Fund pursuant to any applicable Joint Sharing Agreement or otherwise transfer amounts on deposit in the Department Rebate Fund to the Issuer or such other Person, trust estate or other entity to reimburse it for the amount so deducted.

**Section 5.08. Trustee Expense Reserve Fund.** The Trustee shall transfer to the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund from the Collection Fund all amounts designated for transfer thereto pursuant to Section 5.04(c)(iii) hereof. Amounts on deposit in the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund shall be used by the Trustee, upon written notice to the Issuer and the Administrator, to pay Trustee Expenses. Amounts in excess of \$150,000 in the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund shall be transferred to the Collection Fund for application in accordance with the provisions of Section 5.04 or Section 6.02 hereof.

Section 5.09. Investment of Funds Held by Trustee. The Trustee shall invest money held for the credit of any Fund or Account or Subaccount held by the Trustee hereunder as directed in writing by an Authorized Representative, to the fullest extent practicable and reasonable, in Investment Securities which shall mature or be redeemed on the Business Day prior to the respective dates when the money held for the credit of such Fund or Account will be required for the purposes intended. In the absence of any such direction and to the extent practicable, the Trustee shall invest amounts held hereunder in those Investment Securities described in clause (k) of the definition of Investment Securities. All such investments shall be held by (or by any custodian on behalf of) the Trustee for the benefit of the Issuer; provided that all interest and other investment income collected (net of losses and investment expenses) on funds on deposit in any Fund or Account or Subaccount shall be deposited into the Collection Fund and shall be deemed to constitute a portion of the Available Funds. The Trustee and the Issuer hereby agree that unless an Event of Default shall have occurred hereunder, the Issuer acting by and through an Authorized Representative shall be entitled to, and shall, provide written direction to the Trustee as to the Investment Securities to be acquired.

The Investment Securities purchased shall be held by the Trustee and shall be deemed at all times to be part of such Fund or Account or Subaccounts or combination thereof, and the Trustee shall, upon request, inform the Issuer of the details of all such investments. Upon direction in writing from an Authorized Representative, the Trustee shall present for redemption any Investment Securities purchased by it as an investment whenever it shall be necessary to provide money to meet any payment from the applicable Fund. The Trustee shall, upon request, advise the Issuer in writing of all investments held for the credit of each Fund in its custody under the provisions of this Indenture as of the end of the preceding month and the value thereof, and shall list any investments which were sold or liquidated for less than the par value thereof, plus accrued but unpaid interest at the time thereof.

Money in any Fund constituting a part of the Trust Estate may be pooled for the purpose of making investments and may be used to pay accrued interest on Investment Securities purchased. The Trustee and its affiliates may act as principal or agent in the acquisition or disposition of any Investment Securities.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Trustee shall not be responsible or liable for any losses of either principal or interest on investments made by it hereunder or for keeping all Funds

held by it, fully invested at all times, its only responsibility being to comply with the investment instructions of the Issuer or its designee in a non-negligent manner.

The Issuer acknowledges that to the extent the regulations of the Comptroller of the Currency or other applicable regulatory agency grant the Issuer the right to receive brokerage confirmations of security transactions, the Issuer waives receipt of such confirmations.

#### Section 5.10. Release.

- (a) The Trustee shall, upon Issuer Order and subject to the provisions of this Indenture, take all actions reasonably necessary to effect the release of any Financed Eligible Loans from the lien of this Indenture to the extent the terms hereof permit the sale, disposition or transfer of such Financed Eligible Loans.
- (b) Subject to the payment of its fees and expenses pursuant to Sections 7.05 and 7.07 hereof, the Trustee may, and when required by the provisions of this Indenture shall, execute instruments to release property from the lien of this Indenture, or convey the Trustee's interest in the same, in a manner and under circumstances that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Indenture. No party relying upon an instrument executed by the Trustee as provided in this Article shall be bound to ascertain the Trustee's authority, inquire into the satisfaction of any conditions precedent or see to the application of any moneys.
- (c) The Trustee shall, at such time as there are no Notes Outstanding and all sums due the Trustee pursuant to Sections 7.05 and 7.07 hereof and all amounts payable to the Servicer, the Administrator, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Delaware Trustee have been paid, release any remaining portion of the Trust Estate that secured the Notes from the lien of this Indenture and release to the Issuer or any other Person entitled thereto any funds then on deposit in the Funds and Accounts. The Trustee shall release property from the lien of this Indenture pursuant to this subsection (c) only upon receipt of an Issuer Order and an Opinion of Counsel.
- (d) Each Noteholder, by the acceptance of a Note, acknowledges that from time to time the Trustee shall release the lien of this Indenture on any Financed Eligible Loan to be sold or transferred pursuant to Section 5.02 hereof, and each Noteholder, by the acceptance of a Note, consents to any such release.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### **DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES**

**Section 6.01. Events of Default Defined.** For the purpose of this Indenture, the following events are hereby defined as, and are declared to be, "Events of Default":

(a) default in the due and punctual payment of any interest on any Note when the same becomes due and payable, and such default shall continue for a period of five (5) days; provided, however, that a default in the due and punctual payment of any Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount shall not be an Event of Default hereunder if any Class A Notes are Outstanding;

- (b) default in the due and punctual payment of the principal of any Note when the same becomes due and payable on the related Note Final Maturity Date; provided, however, that a default in the due and punctual payment of principal on any Class B Note shall not be an Event of Default if any Class A Notes are Outstanding;
- (c) default in the performance or observance of any other of the covenants, agreements or conditions on the part of the Issuer to be kept, observed and performed contained in this Indenture or in the Notes occurs for a period of 30 days, and continuation of such default for a period of 90 days after written notice thereof by the Trustee to the Issuer; and
  - (d) the occurrence of an Event of Bankruptcy.

Any notice herein provided to be given to the Issuer with respect to any default shall be deemed sufficiently given if sent by registered mail with postage prepaid to the Person to be notified, addressed to such Person at the post office address as shown in Section 9.01 hereof or such other address as may hereafter be given as the principal office of the Issuer in writing to a Responsible Officer of the Trustee by an Authorized Representative. The Trustee may give any such notice in its discretion and shall give such notice if requested to do so in writing by the Noteholders of at least 51% of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes at the time Outstanding.

Section 6.02. Remedy on Default; Possession of Trust Estate. Subject to Sections 6.08, 7.05 and 7.07 hereof, upon the happening and continuance of any Event of Default, the Trustee or by its attorneys or agents may enter into and upon and take possession of such portion of the Trust Estate as shall be in the custody of others, and all property comprising the Trust Estate, and each and every part thereof, and exclude the Issuer and its agents, servants and employees wholly therefrom, and have, hold, use, operate, manage, and control the same and each and every part thereof, and in the name of the Issuer or otherwise, as they shall deem best, conduct the business thereof and exercise the privileges pertaining thereto and all the rights and powers of the Issuer and use all of the then existing Trust Estate for that purpose, and collect and receive all charges, income and Available Funds of the same and of every part thereof, and after deducting therefrom all costs and expenses incurred by the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee and the Delaware Trustee hereunder or to which they are entitled and all other proper outlays herein authorized, and all payments which may be made as just and reasonable compensation for its own services, and for the services of its attorneys, agents, and assistants, the Trustee shall apply the rest and residue of the money received by the Trustee, other any the proceeds from the Residual Interests which shall be used solely to pay principal and interest on the Class B Notes, as follows:

FIRST, to the Department, any Guaranty Agency and, pursuant to the Joint Sharing Agreement, any Affiliate of NEF, amounts due and owing thereto;

SECOND, to the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee, the Delaware Trustee, the Master Servicer and the Servicer, pro rata, any Trustee Fee, any Eligible Lender Trustee Fee, any Delaware Trustee Fee, any Administration and Servicing Fee or any Servicing Fee, respectively, due and owing;

THIRD, to the Class A Noteholders for due and unpaid Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on the Class A Notes for such Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount;

FOURTH, to the Class A Noteholders for amounts due and unpaid on the Class A Notes for principal, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on the Class A Notes for principal;

FIFTH, to the Class B Noteholders for due and unpaid Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on the Class B Notes for such Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount;

SIXTH, to the Class B Noteholders for amounts due and unpaid on the Class B Notes for principal, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on the Class B Notes for principal;

SEVENTH, to pay to the appropriate Person, any unreimbursed fees and expenses or indemnification amounts owed by the Issuer to such Person; and

EIGHTH, to the Issuer.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, with respect to an Event of Default under Section 6.01(c) hereof, the Trustee shall seek direction from Noteholders holding at least 51% of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes at the time Outstanding with respect to any action that would incur expenses payable under this Section 6.02 in excess of the amount then on deposit in the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund; *provided, however*, that nothing in this Section 6.02 shall require the Trustee to act or to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur individual financial liability in the performance of any of its duties or in the exercise of any of its rights or powers if the Noteholders shall not have offered security and indemnity acceptable to it or if it shall have reasonable grounds for believing that prompt repayment of such funds or adequate indemnity against such risk or liability is not reasonably assured to it.

The Trustee may fix a record date and payment date for any payment to Noteholders pursuant to this Section. At least 15 days before such record date, the Trustee shall mail to each Noteholder and the Issuer a notice that states the record date, the payment date and the amount to be paid.

Section 6.03. Remedies on Default; Advice of Counsel. Upon the happening of any Event of Default, the Trustee may proceed to protect and enforce the rights of the Trustee and the Noteholders in such manner as counsel or any other agent for the Trustee may advise, whether for the specific performance of any covenant, condition, agreement or undertaking herein

contained, or in aid of the execution of any power herein granted, or for the enforcement of such other appropriate legal or equitable remedies as, in the opinion of such counsel, may be more effectual to protect and enforce the rights aforesaid.

Section 6.04. Remedies on Default; Sale of Trust Estate. Upon the happening of any Event of Default and if the principal of all of the Outstanding Notes shall have been declared due and payable, then and in every such case, and irrespective of whether other remedies authorized shall have been pursued in whole or in part, the Trustee may sell, with or without entry, to the highest bidder the Trust Estate, and all right, title, interest, claim and demand thereto and the right of redemption thereof, at any such place or places, and at such time or times and upon such notice and terms as may be required by law. Upon such sale the Trustee may make and deliver to the purchaser or purchasers a good and sufficient assignment or conveyance for the same, which sale shall be a perpetual bar both at law and in equity against the Issuer and all Persons claiming such properties. No purchaser at any sale shall be bound to see to the application of the purchase money or to inquire as to the authorization, necessity, expediency or regularity of any such sale. The Trustee is hereby irrevocably appointed the true and lawful attorney-in-fact of the Issuer, in its name and stead, to make and execute all bills of sale, instruments of assignment and transfer and such other documents of transfer as may be necessary or advisable in connection with a sale of all or part of the Trust Estate, but the Issuer, if so requested by the Trustee, shall ratify and confirm any sale or sales by executing and delivering to the Trustee or to such purchaser or purchasers all such instruments as may be necessary, or in the judgment of the Trustee, proper for the purpose which may be designated in such request. In addition, the Trustee may proceed to protect and enforce the rights of the Trustee and the Noteholders of the Notes in such manner as counsel or other agent for the Trustee may advise, whether for the specific performance of any covenant, condition, agreement or undertaking herein contained, or in aid of the execution of any power herein granted, or for the enforcement of such other appropriate legal or equitable remedies as may in the opinion of such counsel, be more effectual to protect and enforce the rights aforesaid. The Trustee shall, upon receipt of indemnity satisfactory to it, take any such action or actions if requested to do so in writing by the Noteholders of at least a majority of the principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes at the time Outstanding.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Trustee is prohibited from selling the Financed Eligible Loans following an Event of Default, other than a default in the payment of any principal or interest on any Note, unless:

- (a) The Noteholders of all of the Highest Priority Notes at the time Outstanding consent to such a sale;
- (b) The proceeds of such a sale will be sufficient to discharge all the Outstanding Notes pursuant to Article X hereof at the date of such a sale; or
- (c) The Issuer determines that the collections on the Financed Eligible Loans would not be sufficient on an ongoing basis to make all payments on such Notes as such payments would have become due if such Notes had not been declared due and payable, and the Trustee obtains the consent of the Noteholders of at least 66-2/3% of the aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes at the time Outstanding.

Such a sale shall also require the consent of all the Noteholders of the Class B Notes unless the proceeds of such a sale would be sufficient to discharge the Class B Notes pursuant to Article X hereof at the date of such a sale.

**Section 6.05. Appointment of Receiver.** In case an Event of Default occurs, and if all of the Outstanding Notes shall have been declared due and payable and in case any judicial proceedings are commenced to enforce any right of the Trustee or of the Noteholders under this Indenture or otherwise, then as a matter of right, the Trustee shall be entitled to the appointment of a receiver of the Trust Estate and of the earnings, income or revenue, rents, issues and profits thereof with such powers as the court making such appointments may confer.

**Section 6.06. Restoration of Position.** In case the Trustee shall have proceeded to enforce any rights under this Indenture by sale or otherwise, and such proceedings shall have been discontinued, or shall have been determined adversely to the Trustee, then and in every such case to the extent not inconsistent with such adverse decree, the Issuer, the Trustee and the Noteholders shall be restored to their former respective positions and the rights hereunder in respect to the Trust Estate, and all rights, remedies and powers of the Trustee and of the Noteholders shall continue as though no such proceeding had been taken.

**Section 6.07. Application of Sale Proceeds.** The proceeds of any sale of the Trust Estate, together with any funds at the time held by the Trustee and not otherwise appropriated, shall be applied by the Trustee as set forth in Section 6.02 hereof, and then to the Issuer or whomsoever shall be lawfully entitled thereto.

Section 6.08. Acceleration of Maturity; Rescission and Annulment. If an Event of Default should occur and be continuing, then and in every such case the Trustee at the direction of the Noteholders representing not less than a majority of the Outstanding Amount of the Highest Priority Notes will declare all the Outstanding Notes to be immediately due and payable, by a notice in writing to the Issuer (and to the Trustee if given by the Noteholders), and upon any such declaration the unpaid principal amount of such Outstanding Notes, together with accrued and unpaid interest thereon through the date of acceleration, shall become immediately due and payable, subject, however, to Section 6.04 hereof.

At any time after such declaration of acceleration of maturity has been made and before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the Trustee as hereinafter in this Article provided, the Noteholders representing a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes then Outstanding, by written notice to the Issuer and the Trustee, may rescind and annul such declaration and its consequences if:

- (a) the Issuer has paid or deposited with the Trustee a sum sufficient to pay:
- (i) all payments of principal of and interest on all Notes and all other amounts that would then be due hereunder or upon such Notes if the Event of Default giving rise to such acceleration had not occurred; and
- (ii) all sums paid or advanced by the Trustee hereunder and the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee,

the Eligible Lender Trustee, the Servicer and the Delaware Trustee and their agents and counsel; and

(b) all Events of Default, other than the nonpayment of the principal of the Notes that has become due solely by such acceleration, have been cured or waived as provided in Section 6.14 hereof.

No such rescission shall affect any subsequent default or impair any right consequent thereto.

**Section 6.09. Remedies Not Exclusive.** The remedies herein conferred upon or reserved to the Trustee or the Noteholders are not intended to be exclusive of any other remedy, but each remedy herein provided shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to every other remedy given hereunder or now or hereafter existing, and every power and remedy hereby given to the Trustee or to the Noteholders, or any supplement hereto, may be exercised from time to time as often as may be deemed expedient. No delay or omission of the Trustee or of any Noteholder of Notes to exercise any power or right arising from any default hereunder shall impair any such right or power or shall be construed to be a waiver of any such default or to be acquiescence therein.

# Section 6.10. Collection of Indebtedness and Suits for Enforcement by Trustee. The Issuer covenants that if:

- (a) default is made in the payment of any installment of interest, if any, on any Notes when such interest becomes due and payable and such default continues for a period of five (5) days; or
- (b) default is made in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any, on) any Notes at their Note Final Maturity Date,

then the Issuer will, upon demand of the Trustee but solely from the Trust Estate, pay to the Trustee, for the benefit of the Noteholders, the whole amount then due and payable on such Notes for principal (and premium, if any) and interest, with interest upon any overdue principal (and premium, if any) and, to the extent that payment of such interest shall be legally enforceable, upon any overdue installments of interest, if any, at the rate or rates borne by or provided for in such Notes, and, in addition thereto, such further amount as shall be sufficient to cover the costs and expenses of collection, including the reasonable compensation, fees, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee and its agents and counsel.

If the Issuer fails to pay such amounts forthwith upon such demand, the Trustee, in its own name and as Trustee of an express trust, may upon receiving from the Noteholders indemnification satisfactory to the Trustee, institute a judicial proceeding for the collection of the sums so due and unpaid, may prosecute such proceeding to judgment or final decree, and may enforce the same against the Issuer or any other obligor upon such Notes of such Class and collect the moneys adjudged or decreed to be payable in the manner provided by law out of the property of the Issuer or any other obligor upon such Notes, wherever situated.

If an Event of Default with respect to the Notes occurs and is continuing, the Trustee may, after being indemnified to its satisfaction by the Noteholders and in its discretion, proceed to protect and enforce its rights and the rights of the Noteholders by such appropriate judicial proceedings as the Trustee shall deem most effectual to protect and enforce any such rights, whether for the specific enforcement of any covenant or agreement in this Indenture or in aid of the exercise of any power granted herein, or to enforce any other proper remedy.

Section 6.11. Direction of Trustee. Upon the happening of any Event of Default, the Noteholders of at least a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes then Outstanding, shall have the right by an instrument or instruments in writing delivered to the Trustee to direct and control the Trustee as to the method of taking any and all proceedings for any sale of any or all of the Trust Estate, or for the appointment of a receiver, if permitted by law, and may at any time cause any proceedings authorized by the terms hereof to be so taken or to be discontinued or delayed; provided, however, that such Noteholders shall not be entitled to cause the Trustee to take any proceedings which in the Trustee's opinion based upon an Opinion of Counsel would be unjustly prejudicial to non-assenting Noteholders, but the Trustee shall be entitled to assume that the action requested by the Noteholders of at least 51% of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes then Outstanding will not be prejudicial to any non-assenting Noteholders unless the Noteholders of more than 50% of the collective aggregate principal amount of the non-assenting Noteholders, in writing, show the Trustee how they will be prejudiced. Provided, however, that anything in this Indenture to the contrary notwithstanding, the Noteholders of a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes then Outstanding together with the Noteholders of a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of all other Notes then Outstanding shall have the right, at any time, by an instrument or instruments in writing executed and delivered to the Trustee, to direct the method and place of conducting all proceedings to be taken in connection with the enforcement of the terms and conditions of this Indenture, or for the appointment of a receiver or any other proceedings hereunder, provided that such direction shall not be otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of law and of this Indenture. The provisions of this Section shall be expressly subject to the provisions of Sections 7.01(c), 7.05 and 7.07 hereof.

Section 6.12. Right to Enforce in Trustee. No Noteholder of any Note shall have any right as such Noteholder to institute any suit, action or proceedings for the enforcement of the provisions of this Indenture or for the execution of any trust hereunder or for the appointment of a receiver or for any other remedy hereunder, all rights of action hereunder being vested exclusively in the Trustee, unless and until such Noteholder shall have previously given to a Responsible Officer of the Trustee written notice of a default hereunder, and of the continuance thereof, and also unless the Noteholders of the requisite principal amount of the Notes then Outstanding shall have made written request upon a Responsible Officer of the Trustee and the Trustee shall have been afforded reasonable opportunity to institute such action, suit or proceeding in its own name, and unless the Trustee shall have been offered indemnity and security satisfactory to it against the fees, costs, expenses and liabilities (including those of its counsel and agents) to be incurred therein or thereby, which offer of indemnity shall be an express condition precedent hereunder to any obligation of the Trustee to take any such action hereunder, and the Trustee for 30 days after receipt of such notification, request and offer of indemnity, shall have failed to institute any such action, suit or proceeding. It is understood and

intended that no one or more Noteholders of the Notes shall have the right in any manner whatever by his or their action to affect, disturb or prejudice (it being understood that the Trustee does not have an affirmative duty to ascertain whether or not such actions or forbearances are unduly prejudicial) the lien of this Indenture or to enforce any right hereunder except in the manner herein provided and for the equal benefit of the Noteholders of not less than a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Notes then Outstanding.

**Section 6.13. Physical Possession of Notes Not Required.** In any suit or action by the Trustee arising under this Indenture or on all or any of the Notes issued hereunder, or any supplement hereto, the Trustee shall not be required to produce such Notes, but shall be entitled in all things to maintain such suit or action without their production.

Section 6.14. Waivers of Events of Default. The Trustee shall waive any Event of Default hereunder and its consequences and rescind any declaration of acceleration of Notes upon the written request of the Noteholders of at least a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Highest Priority Notes then Outstanding; provided, however, that there shall not be waived (a) any Event of Default in the payment of the principal of or premium on any Outstanding Notes at the date of maturity thereof, or any default in the payment when due of the interest on any such Notes, unless prior to such waiver or rescission, all arrears of interest or all arrears of payments of principal and all expenses of the Trustee, in connection with such default shall have been paid or provided for; or (b) any default in the payment of amounts set forth in Sections 7.05 and 7.07 hereof. In case of any such waiver or rescission, or in case any proceedings taken by the Trustee on account of any such default shall have been discontinued or abandoned or determined adversely to the Trustee, then and in every such case the Issuer, the Trustee and the Noteholders shall be restored to their former positions and rights hereunder respectively, but no such waiver or rescission shall extend to or affect any subsequent or other default, or impair any rights or remedies consequent thereon. The Trustee shall give written notice to each Rating Agency of any waiver of an Event of Default pursuant to this Section.

Section 6.15. Notice of Defaults. As soon as practicable after the occurrence of any default hereunder with respect to the Notes, the Trustee shall transmit notice of such default hereunder actually known to a Responsible Officer of the Trustee to each Noteholder and to the Rating Agencies, unless such default shall have been cured or waived; provided, however, that, except in the case of a default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any) or interest with respect to any Note, or in the payment of any sinking fund installment with respect to the Notes, the Trustee shall be protected in withholding such notice if and so long as the board of directors or the Responsible Officer or Officers of the Trustee in good faith determines that the withholding of such notice is in the interest of the Noteholders. The Trustee shall not be deemed to have actual knowledge of a default under Section 6.01(c) and 6.01(d) hereof unless written notice of such default shall have been received by a Responsible Officer. Each such notice of a default shall be given by the Trustee by mailing written notice thereof to all owners of Notes, as the names and addresses of such owners appear upon the books kept by the Trustee for the registration and transfer of Notes as kept by the Trustee. For the purpose of this Section, the term "default" means any event which is, or after notice or lapse of time or both would become, an Event of Default with respect to the Notes.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

#### THE TRUSTEE

**Section 7.01. Acceptance of Trust.** The Trustee hereby accepts the trusts imposed upon it by this Indenture, and agrees to perform said trusts, but only upon and subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Except during the continuance of an Event of Default,
- (i) the Trustee undertakes to perform such duties and only such duties as are specifically set forth in this Indenture, and no implied covenants or obligations shall be read into this Indenture against the Trustee; and
- (ii) in the absence of bad faith on its part, the Trustee may conclusively rely, as to the truth of the statements and the correctness of the opinions expressed therein, upon certificates or opinions furnished to the Trustee and conforming to the requirements of this Indenture; but in the case of any such certificates or opinions which by any provisions hereof are specifically required to be furnished to the Trustee, the Trustee shall be under a duty to examine the same to determine whether or not they conform as to form with the requirements of this Indenture and whether or not they contain the statements required under this Indenture.
- (b) In case an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Trustee, in exercising the rights and powers vested in it by this Indenture, shall use the same degree of care and skill in their exercise as a prudent person would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct of his or her own affairs.
- (c) Before taking any action hereunder requested by the Noteholders, the Trustee may require that it be furnished an indemnity bond or other indemnity and security satisfactory to it by the Noteholders, as applicable, for the reimbursement of all fees and expenses (including those of its counsel and agents) to which it may be put and to protect it against all liability.
- (d) No provision of this Indenture shall be construed to relieve the Trustee from liability for its own negligent action, its own negligent failure to act, or its own willful misconduct, except that
  - (i) this subsection (d) shall not be construed to limit the effect of subsection (a) of this Section;
  - (ii) the Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith by a Responsible Officer, unless it shall be proved that the Trustee was negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts;
  - (iii) the Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action taken or omitted to be taken in good faith in accordance with the directions of the

Noteholders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the Notes then Outstanding relating to the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the Trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred upon the Trustee, under this Indenture with respect to the Notes; and

- (iv) no provision of this Indenture shall require the Trustee to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur any financial liability in the performance of any of its duties hereunder, or in the exercise of any of its rights or powers.
- (e) Whether or not therein expressly so provided, every provision of this Indenture relating to the conduct or affecting the liability of or affording protection to the Trustee shall be subject to the provisions of this Section.

**Section 7.02. Recitals of Others.** The recitals, statements and representations set forth herein and in the Notes shall be taken as the statements of the Issuer, and the Trustee assumes no responsibility for the correctness of the same. The Trustee makes no representations as to the title of the Issuer in the Trust Estate or as to the security afforded thereby and hereby, or as to the validity or sufficiency of this Indenture or of the Notes issued hereunder, and the Trustee shall incur no responsibility in respect of such matters. The Trustee makes no representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any offering materials used in connection with the sale of the Notes and assumes no responsibility therefor. The Trustee shall not be accountable for the use or application by the Issuer of any of the Notes or of the proceeds of such Notes, or for the use or application of any funds paid to the Issuer in respect of the Financed Eligible Loans or deposited in or withdrawn from any accounts hereafter established to effectuate the transactions contemplated by this Indenture and in accordance with the terms of this Indenture.

**Section 7.03.** As to Filing of Indenture. The Trustee shall be under no duty (a) to file or record, or cause to be filed or recorded, this Indenture or any instrument supplemental hereto, (b) to procure any further order or additional instruments of further assurance, (c) to see to the delivery to it of any personal property intended to be mortgaged or pledged hereunder or thereunder, (d) to do any act which may be suitable to be done for the better maintenance of the lien or security hereof (other than the filing of any continuation (but not initial) statements), or (e) to give notice of the existence of such lien, or for extending or supplementing the same or to see that any rights to the Trust Estate and Funds intended now or hereafter to be transferred in trust hereunder are subject to the lien hereof. The Trustee shall not be liable for failure of the Issuer to pay any tax or taxes in respect of such property, or any part thereof, or the income therefrom or otherwise, nor shall the Trustee be under any duty in respect of any tax which may be assessed against it or the Noteholders in respect of such property or pledged to the Trust Estate. The Trustee agrees to prepare, request that the Issuer execute (if such execution is necessary for any such filing) and file in a timely manner (if received from the Issuer in a timely manner) with any necessary execution by the Issuer, the continuation statements referred to herein; provided, that the Trustee shall have no responsibility for the sufficiency, adequacy or priority of any initial filing and in the absence of written notice to the contrary by the Issuer or other Authorized Representative, may conclusively rely and shall be protected in relying on all information and exhibits in such initial filings for the purposes of any continuation statements.

**Section 7.04. Trustee May Act Through Agents.** The Trustee may execute any of the trusts or powers hereof and perform any duty hereunder, either itself or by or through independent agents appointed by it; provided, however, the Trustee shall not be answerable and accountable for any default, negligence or willful misconduct of any such agents appointed by the Trustee in good faith. All reasonable costs incurred by the Trustee and all reasonable compensation to all such persons as may be appointed by the Trustee in connection with the trusts hereof shall be paid by the Issuer.

Section 7.05. Indemnification of Trustee. The Trustee shall be under no obligation or duty to perform any act at the request of Noteholders or to institute or defend any suit in respect thereof unless properly indemnified and provided with security to its satisfaction as provided in Section 7.01(c) hereof. The Trustee shall not be required to take notice, or be deemed to have knowledge, of any default or Event of Default of the Issuer hereunder and may conclusively assume that there has been no such default or Event of Default (other than an Event of Default described in Section 6.01(a) or (b) hereof) unless and until a Responsible Officer shall have been specifically notified in writing at the address in Section 9.01 hereof of such default or Event of Default by (a) the Noteholders of the required percentages in principal amount of the Notes then Outstanding hereinabove specified or (b) an Authorized Representative. However, the Trustee may begin suit, or appear in and defend suit, execute any of the trusts hereby created, enforce any of its rights or powers hereunder, or do anything else in its judgment proper to be done by it as Trustee, without assurance of reimbursement or indemnity, and in such case the Trustee shall be reimbursed or indemnified by the Noteholders requesting such action, if any, or the Issuer in all other cases, for all fees, costs and expenses, liabilities, outlays and counsel and agent fees and other reasonable disbursements properly incurred in connection therewith, unless such costs and expenses, liabilities, outlays and attorneys' fees and other reasonable disbursements properly incurred in connection therewith are adjudicated to have resulted from the negligence or willful misconduct of the Trustee. In furtherance and not in limitation of this Section, the Trustee shall not be liable for, and shall be held harmless by the Issuer from, following any Issuer Orders, instructions or other directions upon which the Trustee is authorized to conclusively rely pursuant to this Indenture or any other agreement to which it is a party. If the Issuer or the Noteholders, as appropriate, shall fail to make such reimbursement or indemnification, the Trustee may reimburse itself from any money in its possession under the provisions of this Indenture, subject, unless otherwise provided herein, only to the prior lien of the Notes for the payment of the principal thereof, premium, if any, and interest thereon from the Collection Fund. None of the provisions contained in this Indenture or any other agreement to which it is a party shall require the Trustee to act or to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur individual financial liability in the performance of any of its duties or in the exercise of any of its rights or powers if the Noteholders shall not have offered security and indemnity acceptable to it or if it shall have reasonable grounds for believing that prompt repayment of such funds or adequate indemnity against such risk or liability is not reasonably assured to it.

The Issuer agrees to indemnify the Trustee for, and to hold it and its directors and officers harmless against, any loss, liability, damages, claims or expenses incurred without negligence or bad faith on its part, arising out of or in connection with the acceptance or administration of the trust or trusts hereunder, including the costs and expenses of defending itself against any claim or liability in connection with the exercise or performance of any of its powers or duties hereunder arising from the Trust Estate. The Issuer agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Trustee and

its agents, directors and officers against any and all claims, demands, suits, actions or other proceedings and all liabilities, costs and expenses whatsoever caused by any untrue statement or misleading statement or alleged untrue statement or alleged misleading statement of a material fact contained in any offering document distributed in connection with the issuance of the Notes or caused by any omission or alleged omission from such offering document of any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements made therein in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

In no event shall the Trustee be responsible or liable for any special, indirect, punitive or consequential loss or damages of any kind whatsoever (including, but not limited to, loss of profit) irrespective of whether the Trustee has been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage and regardless of the form of such action.

The rights, privileges, protections, immunities and benefits given to the Trustee, including, without limitation, its right to be indemnified, are extended to, and shall be enforceable by, the Trustee in each of its capacities hereunder, including, without limitation, as Eligible Lender Trustee. The provisions of this Section shall survive the resignation or removal of the Trustee and the termination of this Indenture.

**Section 7.06. Trustee's Right to Reliance.** The Trustee shall be protected in acting upon any notice, resolution, request, consent, order, certificate, report, appraisal, opinion, report or document of the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator or the Servicer or other paper or document believed by it to be genuine and to have been signed or presented by the proper party or parties. The Trustee may consult with experts and with counsel (who may but need not be counsel for the Issuer, the Trustee, or a Noteholder), and the opinion of such counsel shall be full and complete authorization and protection in respect of any action taken or suffered, and in respect of any determination made by it hereunder in good faith and in accordance with the opinion of such counsel.

Whenever in the administration hereof the Trustee shall reasonably deem it desirable that a matter be proved or established prior to taking, suffering or omitting any action hereunder, the Trustee (unless other evidence be herein specifically prescribed) may, in the absence of bad faith on its part, rely upon a certificate signed by an Authorized Representative or an authorized officer of the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator or the Servicer.

The Trustee shall not be liable for any action taken, suffered or omitted by it in good faith and believed by it to be authorized or within the discretion or rights or powers conferred upon it hereby; provided, however, that the Trustee shall be liable for its negligence or willful misconduct in taking such action.

The Trustee is authorized to enter into agreements with other Persons, in its capacity as Trustee, in order to carry out or implement the terms and provisions of this Indenture. The Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken in good faith in accordance with this Indenture or any other transaction document or at the direction of the Noteholders evidencing the appropriate percentage of the aggregate principal amount of the Outstanding Notes relating to the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for

any remedy available to the Trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred upon the Trustee, under this Indenture or any other transaction document.

**Section 7.07. Compensation of Trustee.** Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, all disbursements (other than as provided herein), advances, counsel fees (including without limitation allocated fees of in-house counsel) and other expenses reasonably made or incurred by the Trustee in and about the execution and administration of the trust hereby created and reasonable compensation to the Trustee for its services in the premises shall be paid by the Issuer. The compensation of the Trustee shall not be limited to or by any provision of law in regard to the compensation of trustees of an express trust. The Trustee shall not materially increase the Trustee Fee without giving the Issuer and each Rating Agency at least 90 days' written notice prior to the beginning of a Fiscal Year. If not paid by the Issuer, the Trustee shall have a lien against all money held pursuant to this Indenture, subject, unless otherwise provided herein, only to the prior lien of the Notes against the money and investments in the Collection Fund for the payment of the principal thereof, premium, if any, and interest thereon, for such reasonable compensation, expenses, advances and counsel fees incurred in and about the execution of the trusts hereby created and the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of the Trustee hereunder and the cost and expense incurred in defending against any liability in the premises of any character whatsoever (unless such liability is adjudicated to have resulted from the negligence or willful misconduct of the Trustee).

**Section 7.08. Creditor Relationships.** The Trustee may act as depository for, and permit any of its officers or directors to act as a member of, or act in any other capacity in respect to, any committee formed to protect the rights of the Noteholders or to effect or aid in any reorganization growing out of the enforcement of the Notes or of this Indenture, whether or not any such committee shall represent the Noteholders of more than 60% of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Outstanding Notes.

Section 7.09. Resignation of Trustee. The Trustee and any successor to the Trustee may resign and be discharged from the trust created by this Indenture by giving to the Issuer notice in writing which notice shall specify the date on which such resignation is to take effect; provided, however, that such resignation shall only take effect on the day specified in such notice if a successor Trustee shall have been appointed pursuant to Section 7.11 hereof (and is qualified to be the Trustee under the requirements of Section 7.11 hereof). If no successor Trustee has been appointed by the date specified or within a period of 90 days from the receipt of the notice by the Issuer, whichever period is the longer, the Trustee may (a) appoint a temporary successor Trustee having the qualifications provided in Section 7.11 hereof or (b) request a court of competent jurisdiction, at the expense of the Issuer, to (i) require the Issuer to appoint a successor, as provided in Section 7.11 hereof, within three days of the receipt of citation or notice by the court, or (ii) appoint a Trustee having the qualifications provided in Section 7.11 hereof. In no event may the resignation of the Trustee be effective until a qualified successor Trustee shall have been selected and appointed. In the event a temporary successor Trustee is appointed pursuant to clause (a) above, the Issuer may remove such temporary successor Trustee and appoint a successor thereto pursuant to Section 7.11 hereof.

**Section 7.10. Removal of Trustee.** The Trustee or any successor Trustee may be removed (a) at any time by the Noteholders of a majority of the collective aggregate principal

amount of the Highest Priority Notes then Outstanding, (b) by the Issuer for cause or upon the sale or other disposition of the Trustee or its corporate trust functions or (c) by the Issuer without cause so long as no Event of Default exists or has existed within the last 30 days, upon payment to the Trustee so removed of all money then due to it hereunder and appointment of a successor thereto by the Issuer and acceptance thereof by said successor. One copy of any such order of removal shall be filed with the Delaware Trustee and the other with the Trustee so removed.

In the event a Trustee (or successor Trustee) is removed, by any person or for any reason permitted hereunder, such removal shall not become effective until (a) in the case of removal by the Noteholders, such Noteholders by instrument or concurrent instruments in writing (signed and acknowledged by such Noteholders or their attorneys-in-fact) filed with the Trustee removed have appointed a successor Trustee or otherwise the Issuer shall have appointed a successor, and (b) the successor Trustee has accepted appointment as such.

**Section 7.11. Successor Trustee.** In case at any time the Trustee or any successor Trustee shall resign, be dissolved, or otherwise shall be disqualified to act or be incapable of acting, or in case control of the Trustee or of any successor Trustee or of its officers shall be taken over by any public officer or officers, a successor Trustee may be appointed by the Issuer by an instrument in writing duly authorized by the Issuer. In the case of any such appointment by the Issuer of a successor to the Trustee, the Issuer shall forthwith cause notice thereof to be mailed to the Noteholders at the address of each Noteholder appearing on the note registration books maintained by the Trustee, as registrar.

Every successor Trustee appointed by the Noteholders, by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by the Issuer shall be a bank or trust company in good standing, organized and doing business under the laws of the United States or of a state therein, which has a reported capital and surplus of not less than \$50,000,000, be authorized under the law to exercise corporate trust powers, be subject to supervision or examination by a federal or state authority, and be an Eligible Lender so long as such designation is necessary to maintain guarantees and federal benefits under the Higher Education Act with respect to the Financed Eligible Loans originated under the Higher Education Act.

Section 7.12. Manner of Vesting Title in Trustee. Any successor Trustee appointed hereunder shall execute, acknowledge and deliver to its predecessor Trustee, and also to the Issuer, an instrument accepting such appointment hereunder, and thereupon such successor Trustee, without any further act, deed or conveyance shall become fully vested with all the estate, properties, rights, powers, trusts, duties and obligations of its predecessors in trust hereunder (except that the predecessor Trustee shall continue to have the benefits to indemnification hereunder together with the successor Trustee), with like effect as if originally named as Trustee herein; but, the Trustee ceasing to act shall nevertheless, on the written request of an Authorized Representative, or an authorized officer of the successor Trustee, execute, acknowledge and deliver such instruments of conveyance and further assurance and do such other things as may reasonably be required for more fully and certainly vesting and confirming in such successor Trustee all the right, title and interest of the Trustee which it succeeds, in and to the Trust Estate and such rights, powers, trusts, duties and obligations, and the Trustee ceasing to act also, upon like request, shall pay over, assign and deliver to the successor Trustee any money or other property or rights subject to the lien of this Indenture, including any pledged

securities which may then be in its possession. Should any deed or instrument in writing from the Issuer be required by the successor Trustee for more fully and certainly vesting in and confirming to such new Trustee such estate, properties, rights, powers and duties, any and all such deeds and instruments in writing shall on request be executed, acknowledged and delivered by the Issuer.

In case any of the Notes to be issued hereunder shall have been authenticated but not delivered, any successor Trustee may adopt the certificate of authentication of the Trustee or of any successor to the Trustee; and in case any of the Notes shall not have been authenticated, any successor to the Trustee may authenticate such Notes in its own name; and in all such cases such certificate shall have the full force which it has anywhere in the Notes or in this Indenture.

Section 7.13. Additional Covenants by the Trustee to Conform to the Higher Education Act. The Trustee covenants that it will at all times (a) be an Eligible Lender under the Higher Education Act so long as such designation is necessary, as determined by the Issuer, and (b) not knowingly dispose of or deliver any Financed Eligible Loans originated under the Higher Education Act or any security interest in any such Financed Eligible Loans to any party who is not an Eligible Lender so long as the Higher Education Act or Regulations adopted thereunder require an Eligible Lender to be the owner or holder of such Financed Eligible Loans; provided, however, that nothing above shall prevent the Trustee from delivering the Eligible Loans to the Servicer or a Guaranty Agency.

**Section 7.14. Right of Inspection.** A Noteholder shall be permitted at reasonable times during regular business hours and in accordance with reasonable regulations prescribed by the Trustee to examine at the principal office of the Trustee a copy of any report or instrument theretofore filed with the Trustee relating to the condition of the Trust Estate.

**Section 7.15. Limitation with Respect to Examination of Reports.** Except as provided in this Indenture, the Trustee shall be under no duty to examine any report or statement or other document required or permitted to be filed with it by the Issuer.

**Section 7.16. Servicing Agreements.** The Trustee acknowledges the receipt of copies of the Servicing Agreements.

**Section 7.17. Additional Covenant of Trustee.** The Trustee, by the execution hereof, covenants, represents and agrees that it will not exercise any of the rights, duties or privileges under this Indenture in such manner as would cause the Eligible Loans held or acquired under the terms hereof to be transferred, assigned or pledged as security to any person or entity other than as permitted by this Indenture.

**Section 7.18. Notices to Rating Agencies.** It shall be the duty of the Issuer to notify each Rating Agency then rating any of the Notes of (a) any amendment, change, expiration, extension or renewal of this Indenture, (b) prepayment of all the Notes, (c) any change in the Trustee, (d) any increase in fees and (e) any other information reasonably required to be reported to each Rating Agency under any Supplemental Indenture. All notices required to be forwarded to the Rating Agencies under this Section shall be sent in writing at the following addresses:

Via electronic delivery to <u>notifications.abs@fitchratings.com</u> For any information not available in electronic format:

Fitch, Inc.

One State Street Plaza

New York, New York 10004

Attention: ABS Surveillance

Via electronic delivery to <u>Servicer\_reports@sandp.com</u> For any information not available in electronic format: Standard and Poor's Financial Services, LLC a Division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. 55 Water Street, 41<sup>st</sup> Floor

New York, New York 10041-0003

Attention: ABS Surveillance Group

The Issuer shall satisfy the requirements of a Rating Notification prior to taking any Proposed Action. It shall be the duty of the Issuer to provide any information reasonably requested by a Rating Agency in connection with a Rating Notification. The Issuer shall promptly provide a copy of each Rating Notification to the Trustee.

**Section 7.19. Merger of the Trustee.** Any corporation into which the Trustee may be merged or with which it may be consolidated, or any corporation resulting from any merger or consolidation to which the Trustee shall be a party, or any corporation succeeding to all or substantially all of the corporate trust business of the Trustee, shall be the successor of the Trustee hereunder, provided such corporation shall be otherwise qualified and eligible under this Indenture, without the execution or filing of any paper or any further act on the part of any other parties hereto.

Section 7.20. Receipt of Funds from Servicer or a Subservicer. The Trustee shall not be accountable or responsible in any manner whatsoever (a) for any action of the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator, the depository bank of any funds of the Issuer, or the Servicer or a Subservicer while such Servicer or Subservicer is acting as bailee or agent of the Trustee with respect to the Eligible Loans, (b) for actions taken in compliance with any instruction or direction given to the Trustee, or (c) for the application of funds or moneys by the Servicer or a Subservicer until such time as funds are received by the Trustee.

Section 7.21. Survival of Trustee's Rights to Receive Compensation, Reimbursement and Indemnification. The Trustee's rights to receive compensation, reimbursement and indemnification of money due and owing hereunder at the time of the Trustee's resignation or removal shall survive the Trustee's resignation or removal.

Section 7.22. Corporate Trustee Required; Eligibility; Conflicting Interests. There shall at all times be a Trustee hereunder which shall have a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000. If such corporation publishes reports of condition at least annually, pursuant to law or the requirements of federal, state, territorial or District of Columbia supervising or examining authority, then for the purposes of this Section, the combined capital and surplus of such corporation shall be deemed to be its combined capital and surplus as set forth in its most

recent report of condition so published. So long as the Notes are rated by S&P, the Trustee (or any custodian holding investments on behalf of the Trustee pursuant to Section 5.09) shall also be a federal or state-chartered depository institution or trust company that has an S&P short-term debt rating of at least 'A-2' (or, if no short-term debt rating, a long-term debt rating of at least 'BBB'). If at any time the Trustee shall cease to be eligible in accordance with the provisions of this Section, it shall resign immediately in the manner and with the effect hereinafter specified in this Article and the Issuer shall promptly, at the direction of the Administrator or the Sub-Administrator, (and, in any case, within not more than 30 calendar days) appoint a new Trustee. The parties (including the Noteholders) expressly acknowledge and consent to U.S. Bank National Association, acting in the respective capacities of Eligible Lender Trustee and Trustee, as applicable. U.S. Bank National Association may, in such respective capacities, discharge its separate functions fully, without hindrance or regard to conflict of interest principles, duty of loyalty principles or other breach of fiduciary duties to the extent that any such conflict or breach arises from the performance by U.S. Bank National Association of express duties or exercise of its rights set forth in this Indenture in the capacities of Eligible Lender Trustee or Trustee, all of which defenses, claims or assertions are hereby expressly waived by the other parties hereto (including the Noteholders) except, in the case of U.S. Bank National Association, negligence (other than errors in judgment) and willful misconduct by U.S. Bank National Association.

Section 7.23. Trustee May File Proofs of Claim. In case of the pendency of any receivership, insolvency, liquidation, bankruptcy, reorganization, arrangement, adjustment, composition or other judicial proceeding relative to the Issuer or any other obligor upon the Notes or the property of the Issuer or of such other obligor or their creditors, the Trustee (irrespective of whether the principal of the Notes shall then be due and payable as therein expressed or by declaration or otherwise and irrespective of whether the Trustee shall have made any demand on the Issuer for the payment of overdue principal, premium, if any, or interest) shall be entitled and empowered, by intervention in such proceeding or otherwise:

- (a) to file and prove a claim for the whole amount, or such lesser amount as may be provided for in the Notes, of principal (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, owing and unpaid in respect of the Notes and to file such other papers or documents as may be necessary or advisable in order to have the claims of the Trustee (including any claim for the reasonable fees, compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee and its agents and counsel) and of the Noteholders allowed in such judicial proceeding; and
- (b) to collect and receive any money or other property payable or deliverable on any such claims and to distribute the same; and any custodian, receiver, assignee, trustee, liquidator, sequestrator (or other similar official) in any such judicial proceeding is hereby authorized by each Noteholder of Notes to make such payments to the Trustee, and if the Trustee shall consent to the making of such payments directly to the Noteholders, to pay to the Trustee any amount due to it for the reasonable fees, compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee and any predecessor Trustee, their agents and counsel, and any other amounts due the Trustee or any predecessor Trustee.

Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize the Trustee to authorize or consent to or accept or adopt on behalf of any Noteholder any plan of reorganization, arrangement, adjustment or composition affecting the Notes or the rights of any Noteholder thereof, or to authorize the Trustee to vote in respect of the claim of any Noteholder in any such proceeding.

In any proceedings brought by the Trustee (and also any proceedings involving the interpretation of any provision of this Indenture to which the Trustee shall be a party), the Trustee shall be held to represent all the Noteholders, and it shall not be necessary to make any Noteholders parties to any such proceedings.

**Section 7.24. No Petition.** The Trustee will not at any time institute against the Issuer any bankruptcy proceeding under any United States federal or state bankruptcy or similar law in connection with any obligations of the Issuer under this Indenture.

**Section 7.25. Obligor Claims.** In connection with any offset defenses, or affirmative claims for recovery, asserted in legal actions brought by obligors under one or more Financed Eligible Loans based upon provisions therein complying with, or upon other rights or remedies arising from, any legal requirements applicable to the Financed Eligible Loans, including, without limitation, the Federal Trade Commission's Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Preservation of Consumers' Claims and Defenses (16 C.F.R. § 433) as amended from time to time:

- (a) The Trustee is not, and shall not be deemed to be, either in any individual capacity, as trustee hereunder or otherwise, a creditor, or a joint venturer with or an Affiliate of, or acting in concert or cooperation with, any lender, in the arrangement, origination or making of Financed Eligible Loans. The Trustee is the pledgee of the Financed Eligible Loans only as trustee on behalf of the Noteholders, and not as a principal or in any individual or personal capacity;
- (b) The Trustee shall not be personally liable for or obligated to pay obligors any affirmative claims asserted thereby, or responsible to Noteholders for any offset defense amounts applied against Financed Eligible Loan payments, pursuant to such legal actions; and
- (c) The Trustee will pay, solely from available Trust Estate monies, affirmative claims for recovery by obligors only pursuant to final judicial orders or judgments, or judicially approved settlement agreements, resulting from such legal actions.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURES

**Section 8.01. Supplemental Indentures Not Requiring Consent of Noteholders.** The Issuer and the Trustee may, without the consent of or notice to any of the Noteholders enter into any indenture or indentures supplemental to this Indenture for any one or more of the following purposes:

- (a) to cure any ambiguity or formal defect or omission in this Indenture;
- (b) to grant to or confer upon the Trustee for the benefit of the Noteholders any additional benefits, rights, remedies, powers or authorities that may lawfully be granted to or conferred upon the Noteholders or the Trustee;
  - (c) to subject to this Indenture additional revenues, properties or collateral;
- (d) to modify, amend or supplement this Indenture or any indenture supplemental hereto in such manner as to permit the qualification hereof and thereof under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 or any similar federal statute hereafter in effect or to permit the qualification of the Notes for sale under the securities laws of the United States of America or of any of the states of the United States of America, and, if they so determine, to add to this Indenture or any indenture supplemental hereto such other terms, conditions and provisions as may be permitted by said Trust Indenture Act of 1939 or similar federal statute;
- (e) to evidence the appointment of a separate or co-Trustee or a co-registrar or transfer agent or the succession of a new Trustee hereunder, or any additional or substitute Guaranty Agency or Servicer;
- (f) to add such provisions to or to amend such provisions of this Indenture as may be necessary or desirable to assure implementation of the Program in conformance with the Higher Education Act if along with such Supplemental Indenture there is filed an Opinion of Counsel to the effect that the addition or amendment of such provisions will in no way impair the existing security of the Noteholders of any Outstanding Notes;
- (g) to make any change as shall be necessary in order to obtain and maintain for any of the Notes an investment grade Rating from a nationally recognized rating service, which changes, in the opinion of the Trustee, will not materially adversely impact the Noteholders;
- (h) to make any changes necessary to comply with or obtain more favorable treatment under any current or future law, rule or regulation, including but not limited to the Higher Education Act, the Regulations or the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder;
- (i) to create any additional Funds or Accounts or Subaccounts under this Indenture deemed by the Trustee to be necessary or desirable; or
- (j) to make any other change which, in the judgment of the Trustee, will not materially adversely impact the Noteholders;

provided, however, that nothing in this Section shall permit, or be construed as permitting, any modification of the trusts, powers, rights, duties, remedies, immunities and privileges of the Trustee without the prior written approval of the Trustee, which approval shall be evidenced by execution of a Supplemental Indenture. In making opinions or judgments hereunder, the Trustee is entitled to receive and may conclusively rely upon opinions and certificates.

Section 8.02. Supplemental Indentures Requiring Consent of Noteholders. Exclusive of Supplemental Indentures covered by Section 8.01 hereof and subject to the terms and provisions contained in this Section, and not otherwise, the Noteholders of not less than a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Notes then Outstanding shall have the right, from time to time, to consent to and approve the execution by the Issuer and the Trustee of such other indenture or indentures supplemental hereto as shall be deemed necessary and desirable by the Issuer for the purpose of modifying, altering, amending, adding to or rescinding, in any particular, any of the terms or provisions contained in this Indenture or in any Supplemental Indenture; provided, however, that nothing in this Section shall permit, or be construed as permitting (a) without the consent of the Noteholders of each affected Note then Outstanding, (i) an extension of the maturity date of the principal of or the interest on any Note, or (ii) a reduction in the principal amount of any Note or the rate of interest thereon, or (iii) a privilege or priority of any Note or Notes over any other Note or Notes except as otherwise provided herein, or (iv) a reduction in the aggregate principal amount of the Notes required for consent to such Supplemental Indenture, or (v) the creation of any lien other than a lien ratably securing all of the Notes at any time Outstanding hereunder except as otherwise provided herein; or (b) any modification of the trusts, powers, rights, obligations, duties, remedies, immunities and privileges of the Trustee without the prior written approval of the Trustee.

If at any time the Issuer shall request the Trustee to enter into any such Supplemental Indenture for any of the purposes of this Section, the Trustee shall, upon being satisfactorily indemnified with respect to expenses, cause notice of the proposed execution of such Supplemental Indenture to be mailed by registered or certified mail to each Noteholder at the address shown on the registration books. Such notice (which shall be prepared by the Issuer) shall briefly set forth the nature of the proposed Supplemental Indenture and shall state that copies thereof are on file at the principal corporate trust office of the Trustee for inspection by all Noteholders. If, within 60 days, or such longer period as shall be prescribed by the Issuer, following the mailing of such notice, the Noteholders of not less than a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Notes Outstanding at the time of the execution of any such Supplemental Indenture shall have consented in writing to and approved the execution thereof as herein provided, no Noteholder shall have any right to object to any of the terms and provisions contained therein, or the operation thereof, or in any manner to question the propriety of the execution thereof, or to enjoin or restrain the Trustee or the Issuer from executing the same or from taking any action pursuant to the provisions thereof. Upon the execution of any such Supplemental Indenture as in this Section permitted and provided, this Indenture shall be and be deemed to be modified and amended in accordance therewith.

Section 8.03. Additional Limitation on Modification of Indenture. None of the provisions of this Indenture (including Sections 8.01 and 8.02 hereof) shall permit an amendment to the provisions of the Indenture which permits the transfer of all or part of the Financed Eligible Loans originated under the Higher Education Act or granting of a security interest therein to any Person other than an Eligible Lender, the Servicer or a Subservicer, unless the Higher Education Act or Regulations are hereafter modified so as to permit the same. The Trustee may request an Opinion of Counsel to the effect that an amendment or supplement to this Indenture was adopted in conformance with this Indenture.

**Section 8.04.** Execution of Supplemental Indentures. In executing, or accepting the additional trusts created by, any supplemental indenture permitted by this Article or any modification thereby of the trusts created by this Indenture, the Trustee shall receive, and be fully protected in relying upon, an Opinion of Counsel and an Officer's Certificate stating that the execution of such supplemental indenture is authorized or permitted by this Indenture. The Trustee may, but shall not be obligated to, enter into any such supplemental indenture which affects the Trustee's own rights, duties or immunities under this Indenture or otherwise. Any supplemental indenture which affects the rights, duties, immunities or liabilities of the Delaware Trustee shall require the Delaware Trustee's written consent.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 9.01. Notices.** Any notice, request or other instrument required by this Indenture to be signed or executed by the Noteholders may be executed by the execution of any number of concurrent instruments of similar tenor, and may be signed or executed by such Noteholders in person or by agent appointed in writing. As a condition for acting thereunder the Trustee may demand proof of the execution of any such instrument and of the fact that any person claiming to be the owner of any of said Notes is such owner and may further require the actual deposit of such Note or Notes with the Trustee. The fact and date of the execution of such instrument may be proved by the certificate of any officer in any jurisdiction who by the laws thereof is authorized to take acknowledgments of deeds within such jurisdiction, that the person signing such instrument acknowledged before him the execution thereof, or may be proved by any affidavit of a witness to such execution sworn to before such officer.

The amount of Notes held by any person executing such instrument as a Noteholder and the fact, amount and numbers of the Notes held by such person and the date of his holding the same may be proved by a certificate executed by any responsible trust company, bank, banker or other depository in a form approved by the Trustee, showing that at the date therein mentioned such person had on deposit with such depository the Notes described in such certificate; provided, however, that at all times the Trustee may require the actual deposit of such Note or Notes with the Trustee.

All notices, requests and other communications to any party hereunder shall be in writing (including bank wire, telecopy, electronic communication, facsimile or similar writing) at the following addresses, and each address shall constitute each party's respective "Principal Office" for purposes of this Indenture:

#### If intended for the Issuer:

NorthStar Student Loan Trust I c/o Wilmington Trust, National Association Rodney Square North 1100 North Market Street Wilmington, DE 19890

Attention: Corporate Trust Administration

Telephone: (302) 636-6194 Facsimile: (302) 636-4140

#### With a copy to the Sub-Administrator:

Northstar Education Services LLC Suite 800 444 Cedar Street St. Paul, MN 55101-2133 Attention: President

Telephone: (651) 290-8784 Facsimile: (651) 290-8799

Email: taige.thornton@nseds.com

### If intended for the Trustee:

U.S. Bank National Association Global Structured Finance 425 Walnut Street CN-OH-W6CT Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Attention: Chris McKim

Telephone: (513) 632-4582 Facsimile: (513) 632-5511

#### If intended for the Eligible Lender Trustee:

U.S. Bank National Association Global Structured Finance 425 Walnut Street CN-OH-W6CT Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Attention: Chris McKim Telephone: (513) 632-4582 Facsimile: (513) 632-5511

Any party may change the address to which subsequent notices to such party are to be sent, or may change the address of its Principal Office, by notice to the others, delivered by hand or received by facsimile or registered first-class mail, postage prepaid. Each such notice, request

or other communication shall be effective when delivered by hand or received by facsimile or registered first-class mail, postage prepaid.

**Section 9.02. Covenants Bind Issuer.** The covenants, agreements, conditions, promises, and undertakings in this Indenture shall extend to and be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Issuer, and all of the covenants hereof shall bind such successors and assigns, and each of them, jointly and severally. All the covenants, conditions and provisions hereof shall be held to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the parties hereto and their successors and assigns and of the Noteholders from time to time of the Notes.

No extension of time of payment of any of the Notes shall operate to release or discharge the Issuer, it being agreed that the liability of the Issuer, to the extent permitted by law, shall continue until all of the Notes are paid in full, notwithstanding any transfer of Financed Eligible Loans or extension of time for payment.

**Section 9.03. Lien Created.** This Indenture shall operate effectually as (a) a grant of a lien on and security interest in, and (b) an assignment of, the Trust Estate.

**Section 9.04. Severability of Lien.** If the lien of this Indenture shall be or shall ever become ineffectual, invalid or unenforceable against any part of the Trust Estate, which is not subject to the lien, because of want of power or title in the Issuer, the inclusion of any such part shall not in any way affect or invalidate the pledge and lien hereof against such part of the Trust Estate as to which the Issuer in fact had the right to pledge.

**Section 9.05. Consent of Noteholders Binds Successors.** Any request or consent of a Noteholder of any Notes given for any of the purposes of this Indenture shall bind all future Noteholders of the same Note or any Notes issued in exchange therefor or in substitution thereof in respect of anything done or suffered by the Issuer or the Trustee in pursuance of such request or consent.

Section 9.06. Nonliability of Persons; No General Obligation. It is hereby expressly made a condition of this Indenture that any agreements, covenants or representations herein contained or contained in the Notes do not and shall never constitute or give rise to a personal or pecuniary liability or charge against the organizers, officers, employees, agents or trustees of the Issuer, the Administrator or the Sub-Administrator, or against the general credit of the Issuer, and in the event of a breach of any such agreement, covenant or representation, no personal or pecuniary liability or charge payable directly or indirectly from the general revenues of the Issuer shall arise therefrom. Nothing contained in this Section, however, shall relieve the Issuer from the observance and performance of the several covenants and agreements on its part herein contained.

**Section 9.07. Nonpresentment of Notes or Interest Checks.** Should any of the Notes or interest checks not be presented for payment when due, the Trustee shall retain from any money transferred to it for the purpose of paying the Notes or interest checks so due, for the benefit of the Noteholders thereof, a sum of money sufficient to pay such Notes or interest checks when the same are presented by the Noteholders thereof for payment. Such money shall not be required to be invested. All liability of the Issuer to the Noteholders of such Notes or

interest checks and all rights of such Noteholders against the Issuer under the Notes or interest checks or under this Indenture shall thereupon cease and determine, and the sole right of such Noteholders shall thereafter be against such deposit. If any Note or interest check shall not be presented for payment within the period of two years following its payment or prepayment date, the Trustee shall, subject to applicable escheat laws, return to the Issuer the money theretofore held by it for payment of such Note or interest check, and such Note or interest check shall (subject to the defense of any applicable statute of limitation) thereafter be an unsecured obligation of the Issuer. The Trustee's responsibility for any such money shall cease upon remittance thereof to the Issuer.

- **Section 9.08. Security Agreement.** This Indenture constitutes a Financing Statement and a Security Agreement under the Delaware Uniform Commercial Code and the South Dakota Uniform Commercial Code.
- **Section 9.09.** Laws Governing. It is the intent of the parties hereto that this Indenture shall in all respects be governed by the internal laws (other than Sections 5-1401 and 5-1402 of the New York General Obligations Law) of the State of New York.
- **Section 9.10. Severability.** If any covenant, agreement, waiver, or part thereof contained in this Indenture shall be forbidden by any pertinent law or under any pertinent law be effective to render this Indenture invalid or unenforceable or to impair the lien hereof, then each such covenant, agreement, waiver, or part thereof shall itself be and is hereby declared to be wholly ineffective, and this Indenture shall be construed as if the same were not included herein.
- **Section 9.11. Exhibits.** The terms of the Schedules and Exhibits, if any, attached to this Indenture are incorporated herein in all particulars.
- **Section 9.12. Non-Business Days.** Except as may otherwise be provided herein, if the date for making payment of any amount hereunder or on any Note, or if the date for taking any action hereunder, is not a Business Day, then such payment can be made without accruing further interest or action can be taken on the next succeeding Business Day, with the same force and effect as if such payment were made when due or action taken on such required date.
- **Section 9.13. Parties Interested Herein.** Nothing in this Indenture expressed or implied is intended or shall be construed to confer upon, or to give to, any person or entity, other than the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee, the Delaware Trustee, the paying agent, if any, and the Noteholders, any right, remedy or claim under or by reason of this Indenture or any covenant, condition or stipulation hereof, and all covenants, stipulations, promises and agreements in this Indenture contained by and on behalf of the Issuer shall be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Trustee, the Eligible Lender Trustee, the Delaware Trustee, the paying agent, if any, and the Noteholders. The Delaware Trustee shall be an express third party beneficiary of the provisions of this Indenture, and have the right to enforce any rights provided to it hereunder.
- **Section 9.14. Notes Are Limited Obligations.** The Notes and the obligations of the Issuer contained in this Indenture are special, limited obligations of the Issuer, secured by and payable solely from the Trust Estate herein provided. The Issuer shall not be obligated to pay the

Notes, the interest thereon, or any other obligation created by or arising from this Indenture from any other source.

**Section 9.15. Aggregate Principal Amount of Notes.** Whenever in this Indenture reference is made to the aggregate principal amount of any Notes, such phrase shall mean, at any time, the principal amount of any Notes.

**Section 9.16. Financed Eligible Loans.** The Issuer expects to acquire Eligible Loans and to pledge Eligible Loans to the Trustee, in accordance with this Indenture, which Eligible Loans, upon becoming subject to the lien of this Indenture, constitute Financed Eligible Loans, as defined herein. If for any reason a Financed Eligible Loan does not constitute an Eligible Loan, or ceases to constitute an Eligible Loan, such loan shall continue to be subject to the lien of this Indenture as a Financed Eligible Loan.

Section 9.17. Concerning the Delaware Trustee. It is expressly understood and agreed by the parties to this Indenture and the Noteholders that (a) this Indenture is executed and delivered by the Delaware Trustee not in its individual or personal capacity but solely in its capacity as Delaware Trustee under the Trust Agreement on behalf of the Issuer, in the exercise of the powers and authority conferred and vested in it as Delaware Trustee under the Trust Agreement, subject to the protections, indemnities and limitations from liability afforded to the Delaware Trustee thereunder; (b) in no event shall Wilmington Trust, in its individual capacity have any liability for the representations, warranties, covenants, agreements or other obligations of the Issuer hereunder, as to all of which recourse shall be had solely to the Trust Estate of the Issuer; (c) nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating any liability on Wilmington Trust, individually or personally, to perform any expressed or implied covenant, duty or obligation of any kind whatsoever contained herein; and (d) under no circumstances shall Wilmington Trust, be personally liable for the payment of any fees, costs, indebtedness or expenses of any kind whatsoever or be personally liable for the breach or failure of any obligation, representation, agreement, warranty or covenant whatsoever made or undertaken by the Delaware Trustee or Issuer hereunder.

**Section 9.18. Consent of Registered Owners.** Anything in this Indenture to the contrary notwithstanding, whenever in this Indenture a Rating Notification is required with respect to any Proposed Action, to the extent that the Notes no longer carry a Rating from Fitch or S&P, the Proposed Action will require the written consent of the Registered Owners of not less than a majority of the collective aggregate principal amount of the Notes then Outstanding.

#### **ARTICLE X**

# PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION OF NOTES AND SATISFACTION OF INDENTURE

**Section 10.01. Trust Irrevocable.** The trust created by the terms and provisions of this Indenture is irrevocable until the indebtedness secured hereby (the Notes and interest thereon) are fully paid or provision is made for its payment as provided in this Article.

#### Section 10.02. Satisfaction of Indenture.

- (a) If the Issuer shall pay, or cause to be paid, or there shall otherwise be paid (i) to the Noteholders, the principal of and interest on the Notes, at the times and in the manner stipulated in this Indenture; and (ii) all other obligations due and outstanding, then this Indenture and the pledge of the Trust Estate shall thereupon cease, terminate and become void and be discharged and satisfied. In such event, the Trustee shall execute and deliver to the Issuer all such instruments as may be desirable to evidence such discharge and satisfaction, and the Trustee shall pay over or deliver all money held by it under this Indenture to the party entitled to receive the same under this Indenture. If the Issuer shall pay or cause to be paid, or there shall otherwise be paid, to the Noteholders of any Outstanding Notes the principal of and interest on such Notes then due, at the times and in the manner stipulated in this Indenture, such Notes shall cease to be entitled to any lien, benefit or security under this Indenture, and all covenants, agreements and obligations of the Issuer to the Noteholders thereof shall thereupon cease, terminate and become void and be discharged and satisfied.
- Notes or interest installments shall be deemed to have been paid within the meaning of subsection (a) of this Section if money for the payment thereof has been set aside and is being held in trust by the Trustee at the respective Note Final Maturity Date or earlier prepayment date thereof. Any Outstanding Note shall, prior to its Note Final Maturity Date or earlier prepayment thereof, be deemed to have been paid within the meaning and with the effect expressed in subsection (a) of this Section if (i) such Note is to be prepaid on any date prior to its Note Final Maturity Date and (ii) the Issuer shall have given notice of prepayment as provided herein on said date, there shall have been deposited with the Trustee either money (fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or fully collateralized by Governmental Obligations) in an amount which shall be sufficient, or Governmental Obligations (including any Governmental Obligations issued or held in book-entry form on the books of the Department of Treasury of the United States of America) the principal of and the interest on which when due will provide money which, together with the money, if any, deposited with the Trustee at the same time, shall be sufficient, to pay when due the principal of and interest to become due on such Note on and prior to the prepayment date or Note Final Maturity Date thereof, and all other obligations due and outstanding, as the case may be. If moneys and/or Governmental Obligations are deposited with and held by the Trustee as provided in this subsection (b), such moneys and/or Governmental Obligations shall be accompanied by a report of a nationally recognized independent certified public accountant firm or other financial services firm verifying that the amount of such moneys and/or Governmental Obligations deposited will be sufficient, together with interest to accrue thereon, to pay all the Notes at or before their Maturity. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, however, no such deposit shall have the effect specified in this subsection (b) if made during the existence of an Event of Default, unless made with respect to all of the Notes then Outstanding. Neither Governmental Obligations nor money deposited with the Trustee pursuant to this subsection (b) nor principal or interest payments on any such Governmental Obligations shall be withdrawn or used for any purpose other than, and shall be held irrevocably in trust in an escrow account for, the payment of the principal of and interest on such Notes. Any cash received from such

principal of and interest on such Governmental Obligations deposited with the Trustee, if not needed for such purpose, shall, to the extent practicable, be reinvested in Governmental Obligations maturing at times and in amounts sufficient to pay when due the principal of and interest on such Notes and all other obligations due and outstanding on and prior to such prepayment date or Note Final Maturity Date thereof, as the case may be, and interest earned from such reinvestments shall be paid over to the Issuer, as received by the Trustee, free and clear of any trust, lien or pledge. Any payment for Governmental Obligations purchased for the purpose of reinvesting cash as aforesaid shall be made only against delivery of such Governmental Obligations. For the purposes of this Section, "Governmental Obligations" shall mean and include only non-callable direct obligations of the Department of the Treasury of the United States of America or portions thereof (including interest or principal portions thereof), and such Governmental Obligations shall be of such amounts, maturities and interest payment dates and bear such interest as will, without further investment or reinvestment of either the principal amount thereof or the interest earnings therefrom, be sufficient to make the payments required herein, and which obligations have been deposited in an escrow account which is irrevocably pledged as security for the Notes. Such term shall not include mutual funds and unit investment trusts.

(c) In no event shall the Trustee deliver over to the Issuer any Financed Eligible Loans originated under the Higher Education Act unless the Issuer is an Eligible Lender, if the Higher Education Act or Regulations then in effect require the owner or holder of such Financed Eligible Loans to be an Eligible Lender.

Section 10.03. Optional Purchase of All Financed Eligible Loans. The Issuer shall certify to and notify the Depositor, or any assignee of its rights hereunder, and the Trustee in writing, within 15 days after each Monthly Distribution Date on which the then Pool Balance is 12% or less of the Initial Pool Balance, of the percentage that the then Pool Balance bears to the Initial Pool Balance. The Depositor or its assignee shall have the option to purchase all of the Financed Eligible Loans on the date that is the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) Business Day preceding the Monthly Distribution Date on which the then Pool Balance will be 10% or less of the Initial Pool Balance (the "Optional Purchase Date"). To exercise the option described in this Section, the Depositor or its assignee shall deposit in the Collection Fund on the Optional Purchase Date, an amount equal to the fair market value of property held in the Trust Estate other than the Funds and Accounts, such fair market value to be determined by an appraiser mutually agreed upon by the Depositor or its assignee and the Issuer; provided, however, that the Depositor or its assignee may not effect such purchase if such aggregate Purchase Amount and the appraised value of such other property do not equal or exceed the Minimum Purchase Amount, less any amounts on deposit in the Funds and Accounts.

Section 10.04. Auction of Financed Eligible Loans. If the Depositor, or any assignee of its rights under Section 10.03 hereof, does not exercise its option to purchase Financed Eligible Loans pursuant to Section 10.03 hereof, the Trustee (or its designated agent) shall, promptly after the Business Day next succeeding the Optional Purchase Date, offer for sale Financed Eligible Loans in an amount sufficient to redeem all Notes Outstanding on such Monthly Distribution Date, and any such sale shall be consummated on or before such Monthly Distribution Date (the "Trust Auction Date"). The Depositor or its Affiliates (other than a Seller)

and unrelated third parties may bid to purchase the Financed Eligible Loans. The Trustee shall provide written notice to the Depositor of any such offer for sale at least three Business Days in advance of the Trust Auction Date. If at least two independent bids are received, the Trustee (or its designated agent) shall solicit and resolicit new bids from all participating bidders until only one bid remains or the remaining bidders decline to resubmit bids. The Trustee shall accept the highest of the remaining bids if it is equal to or in excess of both (i) the Minimum Purchase Amount, less any amounts on deposit in the Funds and Accounts and (ii) the fair market value of such Financed Eligible Loans as determined by a designated agent as of the end of the Collection Period immediately preceding the Trust Auction Date. If at least two bids are not received or the highest bid after the resolicitation process is completed is not equal to or in excess of the higher of the amounts described in the preceding sentences, the Trustee shall not consummate such sale. The Trustee may consult, and, at the direction of the Depositor, shall consult, with a financial advisor, including an underwriter of the Notes or the Issuer, to determine if the fair market value of the Financed Eligible Loans has been offered. The proceeds of any such sale shall be deposited to the Collection Fund and applied to the redemption of all Notes Outstanding in accordance with Section 5.04(d) hereof. If the sale is not completed, the Trustee shall, at the direction of the Issuer, solicit bids for sale of the Financed Eligible Loans with respect to future Monthly Distribution Dates upon terms similar to those described above. Notice of the prepayment of any Notes resulting from a purchase of the Financed Eligible Loans on the Optional Purchase Date or the auction of the Financed Eligible Loans on the Trust Auction Date, shall be given by the Trustee to the Noteholders by first-class mail within five Business Days of such Optional Purchase Date or Trust Auction Date. The Trustee shall not be responsible for any costs or expenses of the bid process described in this Section, all of which shall be the responsibility of the Issuer.

**Section 10.05. Cancellation of Paid Notes.** Any Notes which have been paid or purchased by the Issuer, mutilated Notes replaced by new Notes, and any temporary Note for which definitive Notes have been delivered shall (unless otherwise directed by the Issuer by Issuer Order) forthwith be cancelled and destroyed by the Trustee pursuant to Section 2.06 hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer has caused this Indenture to be executed in its organizational name and on its behalf, the Trustee, to evidence its acceptance of the trusts hereby created, has caused this Indenture to be executed in its organizational name and on its behalf, and the Eligible Lender Trustee has caused this Indenture to be executed in its organizational name and on its behalf, all in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and the Issuer and the Trustee have caused this Indenture to be dated as of the date herein above first shown.

NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I, a Delaware statutory trust

By: Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity or personal capacity but solely in its capacity as Delaware Trustee

By
Name:
Title:
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee
By
ByName:
Title:
Acknowledged and accepted as to clauses "C" and "D" of the Granting Clauses as of the day and year first written above:
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as
Eligible Lender Trustee
By
Name:
Title:

#### **EXHIBIT A**

#### FORM OF CLASS A NOTE

Unless this Note is presented by an authorized representative of The Depository Trust Company, a New York corporation ("DTC"), to the Issuer (as defined below) or its agent for registration of transfer, exchange or payment, and any Note issued is registered in the name of Cede & Co. or in such other name as is requested by an authorized representative of DTC (and any payment is made to Cede & Co. or to such other entity as is requested by an authorized representative of DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL inasmuch as the registered owner hereof, Cede & Co., has an interest herein.

THIS NOTE HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), OR REGISTERED OR QUALIFIED UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES OR BLUE SKY LAW OF ANY STATE. THE HOLDER HEREOF, BY PURCHASING THIS NOTE, AGREES THAT THIS NOTE MAY BE REOFFERED, RESOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED ONLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECURITIES ACT AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AND ONLY (A) PURSUANT TO RULE 144A PROMULGATED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT ("RULE 144A") TO A PERSON THAT THE HOLDER REASONABLY BELIEVES IS A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 144A (A "QIB"), PURCHASING FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR A QIB PURCHASING FOR THE ACCOUNT OF A QIB, WHOM THE HOLDER HAS INFORMED, IN EACH CASE, THAT THE REOFFER, RESALE, PLEDGE OR OTHER TRANSFER IS BEING MADE IN RELIANCE ON RULE 144A; (B) PURSUANT TO ANOTHER EXEMPTION AVAILABLE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES LAWS; OR (C) PURSUANT TO A VALID REGISTRATION STATEMENT.

THE PRINCIPAL OF THIS NOTE IS PAYABLE AS SET FORTH HEREIN. ACCORDINGLY, THE OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF THIS NOTE AT ANY TIME MAY BE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT SHOWN ON THE FACE HEREOF. THIS NOTE IS NOT GUARANTEED OR INSURED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

# NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I STUDENT LOAN ASSET-BACKED NOTES SERIES 2012-1 SENIOR CLASS A (LIBOR)

REGISTERED NO. R-		REGISTERED \$					
Date of Issuance	Maturity Date	CUSIP No.	ISIN No.				
October 25, 2012	December 2031 Monthly Distribution Date	66705EAA6					
PRINCIPAL SUM:	**	DOLLARS**					

REGISTERED OWNER:	**	**

NorthStar Student Loan Trust I, a statutory trust organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (herein referred to as the "Issuer"), for value received, hereby promises to pay to the Registered Owner, or registered assigns, on each Monthly Distribution Date the principal sum equal to the portion of the Available Funds allocable to principal on this Note for such Monthly Distribution Date, as described in the Indenture of Trust, dated as of October 1, 2012, among the Issuer, U.S. Bank National Association, a national banking association, as indenture trustee (the "Trustee"), and U.S. Bank National Association, a national banking association, as eligible lender trustee (capitalized terms used but not defined herein being defined in Article I of the Indenture, which also contains rules as to usage that shall be applicable herein); provided, however, that the entire unpaid principal amount of this Note shall be due and payable on the Maturity Date specified above (the "Class A Maturity Date").

The Issuer shall pay interest on this Note at the rate per annum equal to the Class A Rate (as defined herein), on each Monthly Distribution Date until the principal of this Note is paid or made available for payment, on the principal amount of this Note outstanding on the preceding Monthly Distribution Date or the Date of Issuance in the case of the first Monthly Distribution Date (after giving effect to all payments of principal made on the preceding Monthly Distribution Date), subject to certain limitations contained in the Indenture. Interest on this Note shall accrue from and including the preceding Monthly Distribution Date (or, in the case of the first Interest Accrual Period, the Date of Issuance) to but excluding the following Monthly Distribution Date (each an "Interest Accrual Period"). Interest shall be calculated on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed in each Interest Accrual Period divided by 360 and rounding the resultant figure to the fifth decimal point. Such principal of and interest on this Note shall be paid in the manner specified on the reverse hereof.

The principal of and interest on this Note are payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts. All payments made by the Issuer with respect to this Note shall be applied first to interest due and payable on this Note as provided above and then to the unpaid principal of this Note.

Reference is made to the further provisions of this Note set forth on the reverse hereof, which shall have the same effect as though fully set forth on the face of this Note.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by the Trustee whose name appears below by manual signature, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture referred to on the reverse hereof, or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer has caused this instrument to be duly executed, manually or in facsimile, as of the date set forth below.

# NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I

By Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Delaware Trustee under the Trust Agreement,

	Agreement,
	ByAuthorized Signatory
Date:	
TRUSTEE'S CERTIFICA	ATE OF AUTHENTICATION
This is one of the Notes designated Indenture.	above and referred to in the within-mentioned
	U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee,
	ByAuthorized Signatory
Date:,,	

This Note is one of a duly authorized issue of Notes of the Issuer, designated as its Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Senior Class A (the "Class A Notes"), which, together with the Issuer's Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Subordinate Class B (the "Class B Notes" and, together with the Class A Notes, the "Notes"), are issued under and secured by the Indenture, to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights and obligations thereunder of the Issuer, the Trustee and the Registered Owners. The Notes are subject to all terms of the Indenture.

The Notes are and will be secured by the Trust Estate pledged as security therefor as provided in the Indenture. The Class A Notes are senior to the Class B Notes as and to the extent provided in the Indenture.

The Notes and the obligations of the Issuer contained in the Indenture are special, limited obligations of the Issuer, secured by and payable solely from the Trust Estate therein provided. The Issuer shall not be obligated to pay the Notes, the interest thereon, or any other obligation created by or arising from the Indenture from any other source.

Principal of the Class A Notes shall be payable on each Monthly Distribution Date in an amount equal to the portion of the Available Funds allocable to principal on the Class A Notes for such Monthly Distribution Date. "Monthly Distribution Date" means the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) day of each calendar month, if any such date is not a Business Day, the immediately succeeding Business Day, commencing December 26, 2012.

As described on the face hereof, the entire unpaid principal amount of this Note shall be due and payable on the Class A Maturity Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the entire unpaid principal amount of the Notes shall be due and payable on the date on which (a) an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing and (b) either the Trustee or the Registered Owners of Notes representing not less than a majority of the Outstanding Amount of the Highest Priority Notes shall have declared the Notes to be immediately due and payable in the manner provided in the Indenture.

The Notes are subject to redemption from the proceeds of a sale of Financed Eligible Loans in accordance with Section 10.03 or 10.04 of the Indenture on any Monthly Distribution Date on or after the Monthly Distribution Date next succeeding the date on which the then Pool Balance is 10% or less of the Initial Pool Balance (all as defined in the Indenture), in whole only, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof being redeemed, plus accrued interest, if any, due and payable on the Notes to such Monthly Distribution Date.

Interest on the Class A Notes shall be payable on each Monthly Distribution Date on the principal amount outstanding of the Class A Notes until the principal amount thereof is paid in full, at a rate per annum equal to the Class A Rate. The "Class A Rate" for each Interest Accrual Period, other than the first Interest Accrual Period, shall be equal to the applicable One-Month LIBOR, plus 0.70%. For the first Interest Accrual Period, the Class A Rate shall be equal to 0.96580%.

Payments of interest on this Note on each Monthly Distribution Date, together with the installment of principal, if any, to the extent not in full payment of this Note, shall be paid to the

Person in whose name this Note is registered on the Record Date by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the account designated by such Person (if such account designation is provided at least five (5) Business Days prior to such Monthly Payment Date) or, if no such account is designated, by check mailed first-class, postage prepaid to such Person's address as it appears on the records of the Trustee on such Record Date, except that, unless Individual Notes have been issued pursuant to the Indenture, with respect to Notes registered on the Record Date in the name of the nominee of the Clearing Agency (initially, such nominee to be Cede & Co.), payment shall be made by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the account designated by such nominee. If funds are expected to be available, as provided in the Indenture, for payment in full of the then remaining unpaid principal amount of this Note on a Monthly Distribution Date, then the Trustee shall notify the Person in whose name a Note is registered at the close of business on the Record Date preceding the Monthly Distribution Date on which the Issuer expects that the final installment of principal of and interest on this Note will be paid. Such notice shall be mailed or transmitted by facsimile prior to such final Monthly Distribution Date and shall specify that such final installment will be payable only upon presentation and surrender of this Note and shall specify the place where such Note may be presented and surrendered for payment of such installment.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations set forth therein, the transfer of this Note may be registered upon the records of the Trustee upon surrender for transfer of this Note at the Principal Office of the Trustee, duly endorsed for transfer or accompanied by an assignment duly executed by the Registered Owner or his attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon the Issuer shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver in the name of the transferee or transferees a new fully registered Note or Notes of the same interest rate and for a like Class and aggregate principal amount of the same maturity.

As to any Note, the person in whose name the same shall be registered shall be deemed and regarded as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes, and payment of either principal or interest on any fully registered Note shall be made only to or upon the written order of the Registered Owner thereof or his legal representative but such registration may be changed as provided in the Indenture. All such payments shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon such Note to the extent of the sum or sums paid.

The holder of this Note agrees that this Note is intended to be characterized as indebtedness for all tax purposes; provided, that if this Note is ever determined by an applicable taxing authority to not qualify as indebtedness for tax purposes, it shall be classified as an equity interest in the Issuer, which shall then be classified as a partnership for purposes of such tax regime. The holder this Note hereby covenant and agree to treat this Note as indebtedness for all tax purposes in all tax filings, reports and returns, and further agree that neither it nor any of its affiliates will take, or participate in the taking of or permit to be taken, any action that is inconsistent with the treatment of this Note as indebtedness for tax purposes unless and until otherwise required by an applicable taxing authority.

Each Registered Owner and each transferee of a Note shall be deemed to represent and warrant that the acquisition or purchase by an employee benefit plan or other retirement arrangement ("Plan") of a Note will not constitute or otherwise result in: (1) in the case of a Plan subject to Section 406 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended

("ERISA"), or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), a non-exempt prohibited transaction in violation of Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code which is not covered by a class or other applicable exemption and (2) in the case of a Plan subject to a substantially similar federal, state, local or foreign law ("Similar Law"), a non-exempt violation of such substantially Similar Law.

The Trustee shall require the payment by any Registered Owner requesting exchange or transfer of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer. The applicant for any such transfer or exchange may be required to pay all taxes and governmental charges in connection with such transfer or exchange, other than exchanges pursuant to Section 2.07 of the Indenture.

The term "Issuer" as used in this Note includes any successor to the Issuer under the Indenture.

The Issuer is permitted by the Indenture, under certain circumstances, to merge or consolidate, subject to the rights of the Trustee and the Registered Owners under the Indenture.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form in denominations as provided in the Indenture, subject to certain limitations therein set forth.

This Note shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without reference to its conflict of law provisions, and the obligations, rights and remedies of the parties hereunder and thereunder shall be determined in accordance with such laws.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Issuer, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note at the times, place and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

#### ASSIGNMENT

Social Security or taxpayer I.D. or other identifying number of assignee

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto

(name and address of assignee)
the within Note and all rights thereunder, and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints
attorney, to transfer said Note on the books kept for registration thereof, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated:

By	*
Name	
Title	
·	

Signature Guaranteed:

\*NOTICE: Signature(s) should be guaranteed by a guarantor institution participating in the Securities Transfer Agents Medallion Program or in such other guarantee program acceptable to the Trustee. The Assignor's signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as it appears upon the face of the within note in every particular without alteration or any change whatever.

#### **EXHIBIT B**

#### FORM OF CLASS B NOTE

THIS NOTE HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), OR REGISTERED OR QUALIFIED UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES OR BLUE SKY LAW OF ANY STATE. THE HOLDER HEREOF, BY PURCHASING THIS NOTE, AGREES THAT THIS NOTE MAY BE REOFFERED, RESOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED ONLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECURITIES ACT AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AND ONLY (A) PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION AVAILABLE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE STATE SECURITIES LAWS TOGETHER WITH A WRITTEN OPINION OF COUNSEL THAT SUCH TRANSFER IS EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION; OR (B) PURSUANT TO A VALID REGISTRATION STATEMENT.

THE PRINCIPAL OF THIS NOTE IS PAYABLE AS SET FORTH HEREIN. ACCORDINGLY, THE OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF THIS NOTE AT ANY TIME MAY BE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT SHOWN ON THE FACE HEREOF. THIS NOTE IS NOT GUARANTEED OR INSURED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

## NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I STUDENT LOAN ASSET-BACKED NOTES SERIES 2012-1 SUBORDINATE CLASS B (LIBOR)

REGISTERED NO. R		REGISTERED \$				
Date of Issuance	Maturity Date					
October 25, 2012 Qu	January 2032 parterly Distribution Date					
PRINCIPAL SUM:	**	DOLLARS**				
REGISTERED OWNER:	**	**				

NorthStar Student Loan Trust I, a statutory trust organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (herein referred to as the "Issuer"), for value received, hereby promises to pay to the Registered Owner, or registered assigns, on each Quarterly Distribution Date the principal sum equal to the portion of the Available Funds allocable to principal on this Note for such Quarterly Distribution Date and the funds in the Class B Collection Account, as described in the Indenture of Trust, dated as of October 1, 2012, among the Issuer, U.S. Bank National Association, a national banking association, as indenture trustee (the "Trustee"), and U.S. Bank National Association, a national banking association, as eligible lender trustee (capitalized terms used but not defined herein being defined in Article I of the Indenture, which also contains rules as to usage that shall be applicable herein); provided, however, that the entire unpaid principal amount of this Note shall be due and payable on the Maturity Date specified above (the "Class B Maturity Date").

The Issuer shall pay interest on this Note at the rate per annum equal to the Class B Rate (on each Quarterly Distribution Date) until the principal of this Note is paid or made available for payment, on the principal amount of the Class B Notes immediately prior to such Quarterly Distribution Date, subject to certain limitations contained in the Indenture. On each Quarterly Distribution Date, interest accrued during each of the three immediately preceding Interest Accural Periods shall be payable. The initial Interest Accrual Period shall be the period commencing on the Date of Issuance and ending on January 24, 2013 and thereafter, shall be the period beginning on and including the immediately preceding Monthly Distribution Date and ending on the day immediately preceding such current Monthly Distribution Date. Interest shall be calculated on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed in each Interest Accrual Period divided by 360 and rounding the resultant figure to the fifth decimal point. Such principal of and interest on this Note shall be paid in the manner specified on the reverse hereof. "Monthly Distribution Date" means the twenty fifth (25th) day of each calendar month or, if any such date is not a Business Day, the immediately succeeding Business Day, commencing January 25, 2013.

The principal of and interest on this Note are payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts. All payments made by the Issuer with respect to this Note shall be applied first to interest due and payable at the Class B Rate on this Note as provided above, then to the unpaid principal of this Note.

Reference is made to the further provisions of this Note set forth on the reverse hereof, which shall have the same effect as though fully set forth on the face of this Note.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by the Trustee whose name appears below by manual signature, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture referred to on the reverse hereof, or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer has caused this instrument to be duly executed, manually or in facsimile, as of the date set forth below.

	NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I
	By Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Delaware Trustee under the Trust Agreement,
	ByAuthorized Signatory
Date:,,	
TRUSTEE'S CERTI	FICATE OF AUTHENTICATION
This is one of the Notes desig Indenture.	nated above and referred to in the within-mentioned
	U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee,
	ByAuthorized Signatory

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_,

This Note is one of a duly authorized issue of Notes of the Issuer, designated as its Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Subordinate Class B (the "Class B Notes"), which, together with the Issuer's Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Senior Class A (the "Class A Notes" and, together with the Class B Notes, the "Notes"), are issued under and secured by the Indenture, to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights and obligations thereunder of the Issuer, the Trustee and the Registered Owners. The Notes are subject to all terms of the Indenture.

The Notes are and will be secured by the Trust Estate pledged as security therefor as provided in the Indenture. The Class A Notes are senior to the Class B Notes as and to the extent provided in the Indenture.

The Notes and the obligations of the Issuer contained in the Indenture are special, limited obligations of the Issuer, secured by and payable solely from the Trust Estate therein provided. The Issuer shall not be obligated to pay the Notes, the interest thereon, or any other obligation created by or arising from the Indenture from any other source.

Principal of the Class B Notes shall be payable on each Quarterly Distribution Date in an amount equal to the portion of the Available Funds allocable to principal on the Class B Notes for such Quarterly Distribution Date. "Quarterly Distribution Date" shall mean the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) day of January, April, July and October or, if such day is not a Business Day, the immediately succeeding Business Day, commencing on January 25, 2013.

As described on the face hereof, the entire unpaid principal amount of this Note shall be due and payable on the Class B Maturity Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the entire unpaid principal amount of the Notes shall be due and payable on the date on which (a) an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing and (b) either the Trustee or the Registered Owners of Notes representing not less than a majority of the Outstanding Amount of the Highest Priority Notes shall have declared the Notes to be immediately due and payable in the manner provided in the Indenture.

The Notes are subject to redemption from the proceeds of a sale of Financed Eligible Loans in accordance with Section 10.03 or 10.04 of the Indenture on any Monthly Distribution Date on or after the Monthly Distribution Date next succeeding the date on which the then Pool Balance is 10% or less of the Initial Pool Balance (all as defined in the Indenture), in whole only, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof being redeemed, plus accrued interest, if any, due and payable on the Notes to such Monthly Distribution Date.

Interest on the Class B Notes shall be payable on the principal amount outstanding of the Class B Notes until the principal amount thereof is paid in full, at a rate per annum equal to the Class B Rate. Such interest at the Class B Rate shall be payable on each Quarterly Distribution Date until the principal amount of the Class B Notes has been paid in full. The "Class B Rate" shall be equal to the applicable Three-Month LIBOR, plus 5.0%. For the first Interest Accrual Period, the Class B Rate shall be equal to 5.3200%.

Payments of interest on this Note on each Quarterly Distribution Date, together with the installment of principal, if any, to the extent not in full payment of this Note, shall be paid to the

Person in whose name this Note is registered on the Record Date by wire transfer in immediately available funds to the account designated by such Person (if such account designation is provided at least five (5) Business Days prior to such Quarterly Distribution Date) or, if no such account is designated, by check mailed first-class, postage prepaid to such Person's address as it appears on the records of the Trustee on such Record Date. If funds are expected to be available, as provided in the Indenture, for payment in full of the then remaining unpaid principal amount of this Note on a Quarterly Distribution Date, then the Trustee shall notify the Person in whose name a Note is registered at the close of business on the Record Date preceding the Quarterly Distribution Date on which the Issuer expects that the final installment of principal of and interest on this Note will be paid. Such notice shall be mailed or transmitted by facsimile prior to such final Quarterly Distribution Date and shall specify that such final installment will be payable only upon presentation and surrender of this Note and shall specify the place where such Note may be presented and surrendered for payment of such installment.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations set forth therein, the transfer of this Note may be registered upon the records of the Trustee upon surrender for transfer of this Note at the Principal Office of the Trustee, duly endorsed for transfer or accompanied by an assignment duly executed by the Registered Owner or his attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon the Issuer shall execute and the Trustee shall authenticate and deliver in the name of the transferee or transferees a new fully registered Note or Notes of the same interest rate and for a like Class and aggregate principal amount of the same maturity.

As to any Note, the person in whose name the same shall be registered shall be deemed and regarded as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes, and payment of either principal or interest on any fully registered Note shall be made only to or upon the written order of the Registered Owner thereof or his legal representative but such registration may be changed as provided in the Indenture. All such payments shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon such Note to the extent of the sum or sums paid.

The holder of this Note agrees that this Note is intended to be characterized as indebtedness for all tax purposes; provided, that if this Note is ever determined by an applicable taxing authority to not qualify as indebtedness for tax purposes, it shall be classified as an equity interest in the Issuer, which shall then be classified as a partnership for purposes of such tax regime. The holder this Note hereby covenant and agree to treat this Note as indebtedness for all tax purposes in all tax filings, reports and returns, and further agree that neither it nor any of its affiliates will take, or participate in the taking of or permit to be taken, any action that is inconsistent with the treatment of this Note as indebtedness for tax purposes unless and until otherwise required by an applicable taxing authority.

Each Registered Owner and each transferee of a Note shall be deemed to represent and warrant that the acquisition or purchase by an employee benefit plan or other retirement arrangement ("Plan") of a Note will not constitute or otherwise result in: (1) in the case of a Plan subject to Section 406 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), a non-exempt prohibited transaction in violation of Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code which is not covered by a class or other applicable exemption and (2) in the case of a Plan

subject to a substantially similar federal, state, local or foreign law ("Similar Law"), a non-exempt violation of such substantially Similar Law.

The Trustee shall require the payment by any Registered Owner requesting exchange or transfer of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer. The applicant for any such transfer or exchange may be required to pay all taxes and governmental charges in connection with such transfer or exchange, other than exchanges pursuant to Section 2.07 of the Indenture.

The term "Issuer" as used in this Note includes any successor to the Issuer under the Indenture.

The Issuer is permitted by the Indenture, under certain circumstances, to merge or consolidate, subject to the rights of the Trustee and the Registered Owners under the Indenture.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form in denominations as provided in the Indenture, subject to certain limitations therein set forth.

This Note shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without reference to its conflict of law provisions, and the obligations, rights and remedies of the parties hereunder and thereunder shall be determined in accordance with such laws.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Issuer, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note at the times, place and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

#### **ASSIGNMENT**

Social Security or taxpayer I.D. or other identifying number of assignee

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto

(name and address of assignee)
the within Note and all rights thereunder, and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints
attorney, to transfer said Note on the books kept for registration thereof, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated:

By	*
Name	
Title	
·	

Signature Guaranteed:

whatever.

\*NOTICE: Signature(s) should be guaranteed by a guarantor institution participating in the Securities Transfer Agents Medallion Program or in such other guarantee program acceptable to the Trustee. The Assignor's signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as it appears upon the face of the within note in every particular without alteration or any change

#### **EXHIBIT C**

# FORM OF MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION DATE CERTIFICATE

This Monthly Distribution Date Certificate (the "Certificate") is being provided by NorthStar Student Loan Trust I (the "Issuer") pursuant to Section 5.04(c) of the Indenture of Trust, dated as of October 1, 2012 (as amended, the "Indenture"), among the Issuer, U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (the "Trustee"), and U.S. Bank National Association, as eligible lender trustee. All capitalized terms used in this Certificate and not otherwise defined shall have the same meanings as assigned to such terms in the Indenture.

Pursuant to this Certificate, the Issuer hereby directs the Trustee to make the following

## **Monthly Distribution Date**

aepos	its and	distributions to the Persons or to the account specified below by	′ 3:00 p.m. (	New
York	City tir	ne) on, (the "Monthly Distribution Date"),	to the exte	nt of
		nt of Available Funds received during the immediately preceding of		
		ion Fund (or, if necessary, other Available Funds on deposit in the		
-		n Section 5.04(c) of the Indenture), (w) the amount transferred		
_		erve Fund pursuant to Section 5.08 of the Indenture, (x) the amount		
	-	ent Rebate Fund pursuant to Section 5.07 of the Indenture,		
		om the Capitalized Interest Fund pursuant to Section 5.03 of the		
		nt transferred from the Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 5.05(b), The Trustee shall make the following deposits and distributions		
		ity, and the Trustee shall comply with such instructions:	in the folio	wing
oraci	or prior	ity, and the Trustee shall comply with such instructions.		
(i)	(A)	Amounts to be deposited to the Department Rebate Fund	\$	-
		necessary to bring the balance of the Department Rebate Fund		
		to the expected Department Rebate Interest Amount;		
	(B)	Payments required under any applicable Joint Sharing	\$	_
	( <b>D</b> )	Agreement;	Ψ	
(ii)	(A)	The Administration and Servicing Fee to the Master Servicer;	\$	-
	(B)	The Servicing Fee to the Servicer;	\$	
	( <b>D</b> )	The servicing rec to the servicer,	Ψ	
	(C)	The Trustee Fee and Trustee Expenses to the Trustee;	\$	-
	(D)	The Eligible Lender Trustee Fee to the Eligible Lender Trustee;	\$	-
(iii)	Δ μου	ants to be deposited to the Trustee Expense Reserve Fund equal to	\$	_
(111)		Ψ		
	****	ustee Expense Reserve Fund Deposit;		

(iv)	Class A Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount to the Class A Noteholders;	\$							
(v)	Amounts to be deposited to the Reserve Fund necessary to reinstate the balance of the Reserve Fund up to the Specified Reserve Fund Balance;								
(vi)	vi) The remaining Available Funds to the Class A Noteholders (until paid in full);								
(vii)	Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount to the Class B Noteholders;	\$							
(viii)	The remaining Available Funds to the Class B Noteholders (until paid in full), and	\$							
(ix)	any unreimbursed fees and expenses or indemnification amounts owed by the Issuer; and	\$							
(x)	Remaining amounts released to the Issuer.	\$	-						
	Total Distributions	\$	-						
	The Available Funds from the immediately preceding Collection Period on this Monthly Distribution Date.	\$							
	If required, other Available Funds on deposit in the Collection Fund.	\$	-						
	Specified Reserve Fund Balance for such Monthly Distribution Date.	\$							
	Pool Balance for such Monthly Distribution Date.	\$							
[Quar	terly Distribution Date] [Applicable on Quarterly Distribution Date C	Only]							
York on amour Class	Pursuant to this Certificate, the Issuer hereby directs the Trustee to make and distributions to the Persons or to the account specified below by City time) on	3:00 p.m. the extent ion Period ng deposits	(New of the in the s and						
(i)	Class B Noteholders' Interest Distribution Amount to the Class B Noteholders; and	\$							
(ii)	The remaining Available Funds to the Class B Noteholders (until paid in full).	\$							

# **Fund Transfers**

	Pursuant	to this	Certificate,	if a	pplicable,	the	Issuer	further	hereby	directs	the	Trustee	to
withdr	aw from:												

moneys are not available to make the amount equal to \$, repres in the Collection Fund to make the transfers to repurchase student loans 5.04(c)(i) through (iv) of the Indent Outstanding, Section 5.04(c)(vii) of	deposit to the Collection Fund (i) to the extended transfers from the Capitalized Interest Fund, are enting the amount of insufficient Available Funds transfers required by Sections 5.04(b) (other than from the Servicer or any Guaranty Agency) and ure and, after the Class A Notes are no longer the Indenture, and (ii) an amount equal to at on deposit in the Reserve Fund in excess of the
amount equal to \$, repres in the Collection Fund to make the transfers to repurchase student loans 5.04(c)(i) through (iv) of the Indent Outstanding, Section 5.04(c)(vii) of	t Fund for deposit to the Collection Fund (i) are enting the amount of insufficient Available Funds transfers required by Sections 5.04(b) (other than from the Servicer or any Guaranty Agency) and ure and, after the Class A Notes are no longer the Indenture, and (ii) an amount equal to at required to be transferred to the Collection Fund d
respects, is in compliance with the provisi	formation herein is true and accurate in all material ons of the Indenture and that the Trustee may arther duty to examine or determine the information
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer delivered as of the date written below.	has caused this Certificate to be duly executed and
	NORTHSTAR STUDENT LOAN TRUST I
	By: NORTHSTAR EDUCATION SERVICES LLC, as Sub-Administrator
	ByAuthorized Signatory
	- · · ·

# EXHIBIT D REPORT TO NOTEHOLDERS

#### **EXHIBIT E**

# FORM OF INVESTMENT LETTER FOR CLASS A NOTES

NorthStar Student Loan Trust I U.S. Bank National Association

Re: NorthStar Student Loan Trust I,

Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Senior Class A

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned (the "Purchaser") intends to purchase certain of the above referenced Class A Notes (the "Class A Notes") issued by NorthStar Student Loan Trust I (the "Issuer") pursuant to the Indenture of Trust, dated as of October 1, 2012 (the "Indenture"), among the Issuer, U.S. Bank National Association, as eligible lender trustee, and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (the "Trustee"). Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein shall have the respective meanings ascribed to them in the Indenture.

THIS LETTER, OR A FACSIMILE COPY HEREOF, WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE ABOVE ADDRESSEES NO LATER THAN THE DATE OF PURCHASE.

In connection with the purchase of the Class A Notes, the undersigned, as an authorized officer or agent of the Purchaser and on behalf of the Purchaser hereby agrees to the following terms and conditions and makes the representations and warranties stated herein with the express understanding that the truth and accuracy of the representations and warranties will be relied upon by the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator and the Trustee:

- 1. The Purchaser is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its creation and is authorized to purchase and invest in the Class A Notes. The person executing this investment letter on behalf of the Purchaser is duly authorized to do so on the Purchaser's behalf.
- 2. The person executing this investment letter on behalf of the Purchaser and making the certifications included herein is the chief financial officer, a person fulfilling an equivalent function, or other executive or authorized officer of the Purchaser or, if the Purchaser is a member of a "family of investment companies," the certification is submitted by an executive officer of the Purchaser's investment advisor.
- 3. The Purchaser acknowledges that it is familiar with Rule 144A ("Rule 144A") promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and certifies that it is described in one or more of the categories set forth in Appendix A attached hereto and is a "qualified institutional buyer" (a "QIB") as that term is defined in Rule 144A. The person executing this investment letter on behalf of the Purchaser further certifies as follows:

- (a) The Purchaser owned and/or invested on a discretionary basis at least (i) \$100,000,000 in "eligible securities" (as defined in Appendix A attached hereto); or (ii) if the Purchaser is a dealer registered under Section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), at least \$100,000,000 in "eligible securities," in each as of the end of the Purchaser's most recent fiscal year (such amounts being calculated in accordance with Rule 144A);
- (b) If the amount specified in clause (a) above is less than \$100,000,000, the Purchaser is a dealer registered pursuant to Section 15 of the Exchange Act acting in a riskless principal transaction on behalf of a QIB; and
- (c) If the Purchaser decides to purchase Class A Notes for the accounts of others, it will only purchase Class A Notes for accounts that independently qualify as QIBs as defined in Rule 144A (unless the undersigned is an insurance company (as described in Appendix A) and is purchasing for the account of one or more of its "separate accounts" (as defined in Appendix A hereto)).
- 4. The Purchaser is acquiring the Class A Notes for its own account or for the account of a QIB, in each case for investment, or for investment purposes and not with a view toward selling or transferring the Class A Notes or any portion thereof in connection with any distribution thereof, in whole or in part, subject to any requirement of law that the disposition of the Purchaser's property or the property of such investor account or accounts be at all times within its or their control and subject to its or their ability to resell the Class A Notes pursuant to any applicable exemption from registration available under the Securities Act.
- Neither the undersigned nor anyone acting on its behalf has (a) offered, pledged, sold, disposed of or otherwise transferred the Class A Notes, any interest in the Class A Notes or any other similar security to any Person in any manner; (b) solicited any offer to buy or accept a pledge, disposition or other transfer of the Class A Notes, any interest in the Class A Notes or any other similar security from any Person in any manner; (c) otherwise approached or negotiated with respect to the Class A Notes, any interest in the Class A Notes or any other similar security with any Person in any manner; (d) made any general solicitation by means of general advertising or in any other manner; or (e) taken any other action, that (in the case of any of the acts described in clauses (a) through (d) above) would constitute a distribution of the Class A Notes under the Securities Act, would render the disposition of the Class A Notes a violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act or any state securities law or would require registration or qualification of the Class A Notes pursuant thereto. The undersigned will not act, nor has it authorized or will it authorize any Person to act, in any manner set forth in the foregoing sentence with respect to the Class A Notes, any security issued in exchange therefor or in lieu thereof or any interest in the foregoing (but without prejudice to its right at all times to sell or otherwise dispose of the Class A Notes in accordance with the requirements of the Indenture and this Investment Letter).
- 6. The Purchaser understands that the Class A Notes have not been registered under the Securities Act or any state securities or "Blue Sky" laws and are being sold in reliance on exemptions from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and any such laws for nonpublic offerings. The Purchaser further understands that the Class A Notes and any security

issued in exchange therefor or in lieu thereof must be held indefinitely unless subsequently registered under the Securities Act and any applicable state securities or "Blue Sky" laws or unless exemptions from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and such laws are available.

- 7. The Purchaser has received a copy of the Offering Memorandum dated April \_\_\_, 2012 (the "Private Offering Memorandum") relating to the Class A Notes, and recognizes that an investment in the Class A Notes involves significant risks. The Purchaser understands that there is no established market for the Purchaser's Class A Notes and that none will develop and, accordingly, that the Purchaser must bear the economic risk of an investment in the Class A Notes for an indefinite period of time.
- 8. The Purchaser acknowledges that none of the Issuer, the Trustee or any person representing the Issuer or the Trustee has made any representation to it with respect to the Issuer or the offering or sale of any of the Class A Notes, other than the information contained in the Private Offering Memorandum or requested by the Purchaser as described in paragraph 10 hereof, which has been delivered to it and upon which it is relying in making its investment decision to acquire Class A Notes.
- 9. The Purchaser has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of investments in the Class A Notes. The undersigned understands that there may be restrictions on the ability of certain investors, including, without limitation, depository institutions, either to purchase the Class A Notes or to purchase investments having characteristics similar to those of the Class A Notes representing more than a specified percentage of the investor's assets. The Purchaser has sought such accounting, legal and tax advice as it has considered necessary to make an informed investment decision, and is able to bear the economic risks of such an investment for an indefinite period of time and can afford a complete loss of such investment.
- 10. The Purchaser has had the opportunity to ask questions of and receive answers from the Issuer concerning the purchase of the Class A Notes and all matters relating thereto or any additional information deemed necessary to its decision to purchase the Class A Notes. The Purchaser has reviewed and has made its decision to invest on its review of the Indenture and the Private Offering Memorandum and on certain other information it has obtained and that it deems relevant to its investment in the Class A Notes. The Purchaser has made its own independent review of credit and related matters applicable to the Issuer, the purchase and holding of the Class A Notes and otherwise to its investment in the Class A Notes.
- 11. The Purchaser understands that none of the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator or the Trustee makes any representation as to the proper characterization of the Class A Notes for legal investment or other purposes, or as to the ability of particular investors to purchase the Class A Notes for legal investment or other purposes, or as to the ability of particular investors to purchase the Class A Notes under applicable investment restrictions.
- 12. The Purchaser agrees on its own behalf and on behalf of any investor account for which it is purchasing the Class A Notes, to offer, sell or otherwise transfer such Class A Notes only (a) in a transaction complying with Rule 144A, to a person it reasonably believes is a QIB

purchasing for its own account or for the account of a QIB to whom notice is given that the resale or other transfer is being made in reliance on Rule 144A; or (b) pursuant to another exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act. If at some future time the Purchaser wishes to dispose of or exchange any of the Class A Notes, the Purchaser will not do so unless before any such sale, transfer or other disposition the Purchaser has furnished to the Trustee an Investor Letter substantially in the form of Exhibit E to the Indenture, executed by the proposed transferee.

- 13. The Purchaser agrees that the Purchaser is bound by and will abide by the provisions of the Indenture, the restrictions noted on the face of the Class A Notes and this Investment Letter. The Purchaser agrees that it will provide to each person to whom it transfers such Class A Notes notice of the restrictions on transfer of the Class A Notes. The Purchaser will comply with all applicable federal and state securities laws, rules and regulations in connection with any resale or transfer of the Class A Notes by the Purchaser.
- 14. The Purchaser acknowledges that any proposed assignee of a beneficial ownership interest in the Class A Notes will be deemed under the Indenture to have made agreements and representations substantially similar to those set forth above. The Purchaser understands that each of the Purchaser's Class A Notes will bear a legend restricting transfer of the Class A Notes substantially to the effect set forth in the Private Offering Memorandum under the caption "Notice to Purchaser."
- 15. The Purchaser understands that it is the Issuer's intention that the Class A Notes be treated as debt of the Issuer for federal income tax purposes, and by its acceptance of its Note, agrees to so treat the Note and to take no action inconsistent therewith.
- 16. The interpretation of the provisions hereof shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York without regard to principles of conflicts of laws.
- 17. The Purchaser hereby certifies to the Issuer and the Trustee that either (a) it is not an employee benefit or other plan subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") (each, a "Plan"), and it is not acquiring the Class A Notes directly or indirectly for, or on behalf of, a Plan or any entity whose underlying assets are deemed to be "plan assets" (within the meaning of 29 CFR § 2510.3-101 (the "Plan Assets Regulation")) of such a Plan; or (b)(i) the acquisition and holding of the Class A Notes will not result in a nonexempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or other similar, applicable federal and state laws; and (ii) if the Class A Notes are subsequently deemed to be "plan assets" (within the meaning of the Plan Assets Regulation), it will promptly dispose of the Class A Notes.
- 18. The Purchaser understands that the offer and sale of the Class A Notes to it is being made in reliance on Rule 144A and that applicable exemptions from the registration or qualification requirements under state securities laws require that the Purchaser be a QIB under the applicable state securities law. The Purchaser will notify each of the addressees of this Investment Letter of any changes in the information and conclusions herein on or before the date

of purchase. Until such notice is given, each purchase of Class A Notes by the Purchaser will constitute a reaffirmation of the statements made in this Investment Letter as of the date of such purchase and the addressees of this Investment Letter will continue to rely on the statements and agreements made herein in connection with sales of Class A Notes to the Purchaser made in reliance on Rule 144A.

- 19. If the Purchaser is acquiring any Class A Notes as a fiduciary or agent for one or more investor accounts, the Purchaser represents that it has sole investment discretion with respect to each such account and that it has full power to make on behalf of such account the representations, confirmations, acknowledgments and agreements set forth in this investment letter.
- 20. If the Purchaser proposes that the Class A Notes be registered in the name of a nominee, such nominee has completed the Nominee Acknowledgment below.
- 21. This Investment Letter will be deemed valid for the institution named on the signature page below. If there are additional institutions (e.g., subaccounts or mutual funds) to be designated as a QIB by this Certificate, the undersigned will provide a list of such institutions.

Dated,,	Very truly yours,	
	[NAME OF PURCHASER]	
	By	
	Name	
	Title	

### NOMINEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

2 3	es and agrees that as to the Note being registered in
its name, the sole beneficial owner there	of is and shall be, the
Purchaser identified above, for whom the und	dersigned is acting as nominee.
Dated,	Very truly yours,
	[NAME OF PURCHASER]
	By Name Title

#### APPENDIX A

- 1. Qualified Institutional Buyer ("QIB") means any of the following institutions:
- (a) An institution referred to in any of clauses (i) through (xiii) below that in the aggregate owns or invests on a discretionary basis at least \$100 million in "eligible securities" (defined in Section 2 below); provided, that such institution is buying for its own account or for the accounts of other QIBs.
  - (i) Insurance Company. An insurance company as defined in Section 2(13) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). A purchase by an insurance company for one or more of its separate accounts (as defined in Section 2(a)(37) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act")), which are neither registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act nor required to be so registered, is deemed to be a purchase for the account of the insurance company.
  - (ii) *Investment Company*. An investment company registered under the Investment Company Act.
  - (iii) *Investment Adviser*. An investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Advisers Act").
  - (iv) *Issuer*. A corporation (other than a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(2) of the Securities Act or a savings and loan association or other institution referenced in Section 3(a)(5)(A) of the Securities Act of a foreign bank or savings and loan association equivalent institution).
  - (v) Partnership; Business Trust. A partnership, Massachusetts or similar business trust.
  - (vi) *Plan*. A plan established and maintained by a state, its political subdivisions, or any agency or instrumentality of a state or its political subdivisions for the benefit of its employees.
  - (vii) Employee Benefit Plan. An employee benefit plan within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.
  - (viii) *Trust Fund.* A trust fund whose trustee is a bank or trust company and whose participants are exclusively plans of the types identified in paragraph (vi) or (vii) above, except trust funds that include as participants individual retirement accounts or H.R. 10 plans.
  - (ix) 501(c)(3) Organization. Any organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

- (x) Business Development Company, Section 2(a)(48). A business development company as defined in Section 2(a)(48) of the Investment Company Act.
- (xi) Business Development Company, Section 202(a)(22). A business development company as defined in Section 202(a)(22) of the Investment Advisers Act.
- (xii) Small Business Investment Company. A small business investment company licensed by the U.S. Small Business Company Administration under Section 301(c) or (d) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended.
- (xiii) Bank; Savings and Loan. A bank as defined in Section 3(a)(2) of the Securities Act, a savings and loan association or other institution as referenced in Section 3(a)(5)(A) of the Securities Act or a foreign bank or savings and loan association or equivalent institution that has an audited net worth of at least \$25 million in its latest annual financial statements, as of a date not more than 16 months preceding the date of sale in the case of a U.S. bank, or savings and loan association, and not more than 18 months preceding such date of sale for a foreign bank or savings and loan association or equivalent institution.
- (b) **Dealer.** A dealer registered pursuant to Section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") acting for its own account or the accounts of other QIBs, that in the aggregate owns or invests on a discretionary basis at least \$10 million of securities of issuers that are not affiliated with the dealer; provided, that securities constituting the whole or a part of an unsold allotment to or subscription by a dealer as a participant in a public offering shall not be deemed to be owned by such dealer.
- (c) **Dealer Acting in a Riskless Principal Transaction.** A dealer registered pursuant to Section 15 of the Exchange Act, acting in a riskless principal transaction (as defined in Rule 144A) on behalf of a QIB.
- (d) *Investment Company*, *Part of a Family*. An investment company registered under the Investment Company Act, acting for its own account or for the accounts of other QIBs, that is part of a family of investment companies (as defined in Rule 144A) which own in the aggregate at least \$100 million in eligible securities.
- (e) Entity, All of the Equity Owners of which Are QIBs. Any entity, all of the equity owners of which are QIBs, acting for its own account or the accounts of other QIBs.
- 2. **Eligible Securities/Discretionary Basis.** In determining the aggregate amount of securities owned or invested on a discretionary basis by an entity, the following instruments and interests shall be excluded: securities issued by issuers that are affiliated with the purchaser or, if the purchaser is an investment company seeking to qualify as a QIB pursuant to Section 1(d) above, are part of that purchasers "family of investment companies;" bank deposit notes and

certificates of deposit; loan participations; repurchase agreements; securities owned but subject to a repurchase agreement; and currency, interest rate and commodity swaps.

The value of eligible securities must be calculated based on cost to the purchaser (or on the basis of market value if (a) the entity reports its securities holdings in its financial statements on the basis of their market value and (b) no current information with respect to the cost of those securities has been published).

In determining the aggregate amount of securities owned by an entity or invested by the entity on a discretionary basis, securities owned by subsidiaries of the entity that are consolidated with the entity in its financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles may be included if the investments of such subsidiaries are managed under the direction of the entity, except that, unless the entity is a reporting company under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, securities owned by such subsidiaries may not be included if the entity itself is a majority owned subsidiary that would be included in consolidated financial statements of another enterprise.

#### **EXHIBIT F**

# FORM OF INVESTMENT LETTER FOR CLASS B NOTES

NorthStar Student Loan Trust I U.S. Bank National Association

Re: NorthStar Student Loan Trust I,

Student Loan Asset-Backed Notes, Subordinate Class B

### Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned (the "Purchaser") intends to purchase certain of the above referenced Class B Notes (the "Class B Notes") issued by NorthStar Student Loan Trust I (the "Issuer") pursuant to the Indenture of Trust, dated as of October 1, 2012 (the "Indenture"), among the Issuer, U.S. Bank National Association, as eligible lender trustee, and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (the "Trustee"). Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein shall have the respective meanings ascribed to them in the Indenture.

THIS LETTER, OR A FACSIMILE COPY HEREOF, WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE ABOVE ADDRESSEES NO LATER THAN THE DATE OF PURCHASE.

In connection with the purchase of the Class B Notes, the undersigned, as an authorized officer or agent of the Purchaser and on behalf of the Purchaser hereby agrees to the following terms and conditions and makes the representations and warranties stated herein with the express understanding that the truth and accuracy of the representations and warranties will be relied upon by the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator and the Trustee:

- 1. The Purchaser is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its creation and is authorized to purchase and invest in the Class B Notes. The person executing this investment letter on behalf of the Purchaser is duly authorized to do so on the Purchaser's behalf.
- 2. The person executing this investment letter on behalf of the Purchaser and making the certifications included herein is the chief financial officer, a person fulfilling an equivalent function, or other executive or authorized officer of the Purchaser or, if the Purchaser is a member of a "family of investment companies," the certification is submitted by an executive officer of the Purchaser's investment advisor.
- 3. The Purchaser acknowledges that it is an institutional "Accredited Investor" as defined in Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) of the Securities Act of 1933.
- 4. The Purchaser is acquiring the Class B Notes for its own account for investment, or for investment purposes and not with a view toward selling or transferring the Class B Notes

or any portion thereof in connection with any distribution thereof, in whole or in part, subject to any requirement of law that the disposition of the Purchaser's property or the property of such investor account or accounts be at all times within its or their control and subject to its or their ability to resell the Class B Notes pursuant to any applicable exemption from registration available under the Securities Act.

- Neither the undersigned nor anyone acting on its behalf has (a) offered, pledged, sold, disposed of or otherwise transferred the Class B Notes, any interest in the Class B Notes or any other similar security to any Person in any manner; (b) solicited any offer to buy or accept a pledge, disposition or other transfer of the Class B Notes, any interest in the Class B Notes or any other similar security from any Person in any manner; (c) otherwise approached or negotiated with respect to the Class B Notes, any interest in the Class B Notes or any other similar security with any Person in any manner; (d) made any general solicitation by means of general advertising or in any other manner; or (e) taken any other action, that (in the case of any of the acts described in clauses (a) through (d) above) would constitute a distribution of the Class B Notes under the Securities Act, would render the disposition of the Class B Notes a violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act or any state securities law or would require registration or qualification of the Class B Notes pursuant thereto. The undersigned will not act, nor has it authorized or will it authorize any Person to act, in any manner set forth in the foregoing sentence with respect to the Class B Notes, any security issued in exchange therefor or in lieu thereof or any interest in the foregoing (but without prejudice to its right at all times to sell or otherwise dispose of the Class B Notes in accordance with the requirements of the Indenture and this Investment Letter).
- 6. The Purchaser understands that the Class B Notes have not been registered under the Securities Act or any state securities or "Blue Sky" laws and are being sold in reliance on exemptions from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and any such laws for nonpublic offerings. The Purchaser further understands that the Class B Notes and any security issued in exchange therefor or in lieu thereof must be held indefinitely unless subsequently registered under the Securities Act and any applicable state securities or "Blue Sky" laws or unless exemptions from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and such laws are available.
- 7. The Purchaser recognizes that an investment in the Class B Notes involves significant risks. The Purchaser understands that there is no established market for the Purchaser's Class B Notes and that none will develop and, accordingly, that the Purchaser must bear the economic risk of an investment in the Class B Notes for an indefinite period of time.
- 8. The Purchaser acknowledges that none of the Issuer, the Trustee or any person representing the Issuer or the Trustee has made any representation to it with respect to the Issuer or the offering or sale of any of the Class B Notes, other than the information requested by the Purchaser as described in paragraph 10 hereof, which has been delivered to it and upon which it is relying in making its investment decision to acquire Class B Notes.
- 9. The Purchaser has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of investments in the Class B Notes. The undersigned understands that there may be restrictions on the ability of certain investors,

including, without limitation, depository institutions, either to purchase the Class B Notes or to purchase investments having characteristics similar to those of the Class B Notes representing more than a specified percentage of the investor's assets. The Purchaser has sought such accounting, legal and tax advice as it has considered necessary to make an informed investment decision, and is able to bear the economic risks of such an investment for an indefinite period of time and can afford a complete loss of such investment.

- 10. The Purchaser has had the opportunity to ask questions of and receive answers from the Issuer concerning the purchase of the Class B Notes and all matters relating thereto or any additional information deemed necessary to its decision to purchase the Class B Notes. The Purchaser has read, understands and is fully familiar with the Basic Documents and related agreements and has made its decision to invest based on such review and on certain other information it has obtained and that it deems relevant to its investment in the Class B Notes. The Purchaser has made its own independent review of credit and related matters applicable to the Issuer, the purchase and holding of the Class B Notes and otherwise to its investment in the Class B Notes.
- 11. The Purchaser understands that none of the Issuer, the Administrator, the Sub-Administrator or the Trustee makes any representation as to the proper characterization of the Class B Notes for legal investment or other purposes, or as to the ability of particular investors to purchase the Class B Notes for legal investment or other purposes, or as to the ability of particular investors to purchase the Class B Notes under applicable investment restrictions.
- 12. The Purchaser agrees on its own behalf and on behalf of any investor account for which it is purchasing the Class B Notes, to offer, sell or otherwise transfer such Class B Notes only pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and delivery of a written Opinion of Counsel acceptable to and in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Issuer and the Trustee that such transfer may be made pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act, describing the applicable exemption and the basis therefor, which Opinion of Counsel shall not be an expense of the Trustee or the Issuer. If at some future time the Purchaser wishes to dispose of or exchange any of the Class B Notes, the Purchaser will not do so unless before any such sale, transfer or other disposition the Purchaser has furnished to the Trustee an Investor Letter substantially in the form of Exhibit F to the Indenture, executed by the proposed transferee.
- 13. The Purchaser agrees that the Purchaser is bound by and will abide by the provisions of the Indenture, the restrictions noted on the face of the Class B Notes and this Investment Letter. The Purchaser agrees that it will provide to each person to whom it transfers such Class B Notes notice of the restrictions on transfer of the Class B Notes. The Purchaser will comply with all applicable federal and state securities laws, rules and regulations in connection with any resale or transfer of the Class B Notes by the Purchaser.
- 14. The Purchaser acknowledges that any proposed assignee of a beneficial ownership interest in the Class B Notes will be deemed under the Indenture to have made agreements and representations substantially similar to those set forth above. The Purchaser understands that each of the Purchaser's Class B Notes will bear a legend restricting transfer of the Class B Notes.

- 15. The Purchaser understands that it is the Issuer's intention that the Class B Notes be treated as debt of the Issuer for federal income tax purposes, and by its acceptance of its Class B Note, agrees to so treat the Class B Note and to take no action inconsistent therewith.
- 16. The interpretation of the provisions hereof shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York without regard to principles of conflicts of laws.
- 17. The Purchaser hereby certifies to the Issuer and the Trustee that either (a) it is not an employee benefit or other plan subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") (each, a "Plan"), and it is not acquiring the Class B Notes directly or indirectly for, or on behalf of, a Plan or any entity whose underlying assets are deemed to be "plan assets" (within the meaning of 29 CFR § 2510.3-101 (the "Plan Assets Regulation")) of such a Plan; or (b)(i) the acquisition and holding of the Class B Notes will not result in a nonexempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or other similar, applicable federal and state laws; and (ii) if the Class B Notes are subsequently deemed to be "plan assets" (within the meaning of the Plan Assets Regulation), it will promptly dispose of the Class B Notes.
- 18. The Purchaser acknowledges that, notwithstanding any other provision of the Indenture, with respect to any Class B Notes, no transfer (or purported transfer) of all or any portion of such Notes shall be effective, and any such transfer (or purported transfer) shall be void *ab initio*, and no Person shall otherwise become a holder of such Notes if (i) at the time of transfer (or purported transfer) such Notes are traded on an established securities market or readily tradeable on a secondary market or (ii) after giving effect to such transfer (or purported transfer) the Issuer would have more than 95 holders of Class B Notes, Certificates and any other interests in the Issuer treated as equity for federal income tax purposes. For purposes of determining whether the Issuer will have more than 95 holders, each person indirectly owning an interest in the Issuer through a partnership (including an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes), a grantor trust or an S corporation (each such entity a "flow through entity") shall be treated as a holder.
- 19. The Purchaser will notify each of the addressees of this Investment Letter of any changes in the information and conclusions herein on or before the date of purchase. Until such notice is given, each purchase of Class B Notes by the Purchaser will constitute a reaffirmation of the statements made in this Investment Letter as of the date of such purchase and the addressees of this Investment Letter will continue to rely on the statements and agreements made herein in connection with sales of Class B Notes to the Purchaser.
- 20. If the Purchaser is acquiring any Class B Notes as a fiduciary or agent for one or more investor accounts, the Purchaser represents that it has sole investment discretion with respect to each such account and that it has full power to make on behalf of such account the representations, confirmations, acknowledgments and agreements set forth in this investment letter.

nomine		If the Purchaser nominee has com							_		in t	he nai	me of a
signatu		This Investment below.	Letter	will	be	deemed	valid	for the	e ir	ıstituti	on n	amed	on the
Dated (	October	25, 2012				Very tru	ly you	ırs,					
						Great La	akes H	igher I	Edu	cation	Corp	oratio	on
						By Name _							
						Title							

## NOMINEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The undersigned hereby acknowledges	and agrees that as to the Note being register	ed in
its name, the sole beneficial owner thereon	f is and shall be	, the
Purchaser identified above, for whom the unde	rsigned is acting as nominee.	
Dated,,	Very truly yours,	
	[NAME OF PURCHASER]	
	ByName	
	Title	

#### **EXHIBIT G**

### NOTICE OF INTEREST RATES

NorthStar Student Loan Trust I c/o Wilmington Trust, National Association Rodney Square North 1100 North Market Street Wilmington DE 19890 Attention: Corporate Trust Administration NorthStar Education Services LLC Suite 800 444 Cedar Street St. Paul. MN 55101-2133 Date) is \_\_\_\_% The Class A Rate and the Class B Rate for the Interest Accrual Period beginning on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ and ending on \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_ are as follows: Class A Rate—\_\_\_\_\_% (being One-Month LIBOR Rate plus 0.70%) Class B Rate—\_\_\_\_% (being Three-Month LIBOR Rate plus 5.0%) IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Trustee has caused this Notice of Interest Rates to be duly executed and delivered as of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee

By \_\_\_\_\_\_Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXHIBIT H**

### NOTICE OF INTEREST DISTRIBUTION AMOUNTS

NorthStar Education Services LLC Suite 800 444 Cedar Street St. Paul, MN 55101-2133

	erest Distribution Amount and the Class B Noteholders' Monthly Distribution Date on, are as
• Class A Noteholders'	Interest Distribution Amount—\$
• Class B Noteholders'	Interest Distribution Amount—\$
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Amounts to be duly executed and del	ne Trustee has caused this Notice of Interest Distribution livered as of,
	U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee
	R <sub>V</sub>
	By Name:
	Title: