



Go to the [Department of Education website](#). Click the “Sign In” link and follow the instructions to “Request a PLUS Loan”. You will need the same Federal Student Aid PIN you used to complete your student’s FAFSA. Complete all requested data and authorize the Department of Education to check your credit.

If credit approved, first time Federal Direct PLUS Loan borrowers must complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN). This is completed on the same website: <http://studentloans.gov>

Once step one is complete, our office will transmit the PLUS Loan request to the Department of Education for final approval.

Upon final approval from the Department of Education, the loan will show as anticipated aid on your student’s fee bill. The MPN must be complete before this will occur. Funds for the loan will disburse to your student’s account approximately 10 days prior to the start of classes.

---

### **How much can my parent borrow?**

The PLUS Loan Eligibility amount listed in your award package on the Student Administration System represents the maximum amount your parent(s) can borrow. It represents your Cost of Attendance minus any financial aid you have been offered. Although this amount represents the maximum your parent(s) can borrow, you and your parent(s) should always borrow the minimum amount needed to cover your costs.

Your parent should plan to borrow enough up front to cover both fall and spring.

### **What if my parent is credit denied for the Federal Direct PLUS Loan?**

If credit denied, the parent will be presented with three options at the end of the web application process:

Apply with a credit-worthy endorser to continue with the PLUS Loan process and complete PLUS Counseling **OR**

Appeal the credit decision from the Department of Education if your parent feels he/she has extenuating circumstances or incorrect information on his/her credit report and complete PLUS Counseling **OR**

---

**Can more than one parent borrow a Federal Direct PLUS Loan for the same year?**

Yes, as long as the total amount does not exceed the student's Cost of Attendance. Each parent would need to complete a separate online application and MPN via the

## **Federal Direct PLUS Loan for Graduate Student Borrowers:**

### **As a Graduate Student, am I eligible to borrow a Federal Direct PLUS Loan?**

If you apply for a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, you will undergo a credit check with the U.S. Department of Education. Borrowers with adverse credit, a defaulted Federal student loan, or who owe an overpayment on a Federal Student Aid grant are not eligible. You are considered to have an adverse credit history if you have one or more debts with a t

**Should I accept all of my Federal Direct Stafford Loan eligibility prior to requesting a Federal Direct PLUS Loan?**

Yes! The Federal Stafford Loan has a lower interest rate and fees than the Federal Direct PLUS Loan. You should always exhaust your Stafford eligibility prior to borrowing a PLUS loan. The interest rate on a Stafford Loan is 5.84% (compared to 6.84% for a PLUS Loan). The fees charged on a Stafford Loan are 1.073% (compared to 4.272% for a PLUS Loan). **It is in your best interest to maximize Stafford eligibility before borrowing a PLUS Loan.**

---

**What if I am credit denied for the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan?**