



University of Pittsburgh

Applying for a Federal Graduate PLUS Loan

Federal Direct **Graduate PLUS** loans are borrowed by the **graduate student**.

The **Graduate Student**, will need the following:

- The **student** FSA ID
- **Student** social security number and date of birth
- Permanent Address and Mailing Address
- Telephone number
- E-mail Address
- Alien Registration Number (if eligible non-citizen)
- Employer Name and Address

Go to the Federal Student Aid website, studentloans.gov

- Sign in by clicking the green “Log In” button.
- Enter the FSA ID and FSA ID Password. *If you are unsure of your FSA ID, it can be obtained by going to fsaid.ed.gov.*

As of May 10, 2015 you must have a verified FSA ID (Username & Password) instead of a PIN to log in to StudentLoans.gov.

[Create an FSA ID.](#)

If you have a [verified FSA ID](#), log in to StudentLoans.gov.

For assistance, call: 1-800-557-7394.

Log In

FSA ID Username or E-mail Address

FSA ID Password

Log In

[Create an FSA ID](#)

[Forgot Username or Password?](#)

[FSA ID Frequently Asked Questions](#)

For assistance, call 1-800-557-7394.

IMPORTANT: The PLUS application is a two-step process. For the loan to disburse, you MUST complete BOTH steps!

Step 1- Determining Credit Eligibility-Credit Check

- Click “Request a Direct PLUS” on the center of the page. Completing this portion will allow the Department of Education to perform a credit check to determine your eligibility for the loan. The student should indicate on the application the amount they wish to borrow.

- [Complete Counseling](#) (Entrance, Financial Awareness, PLUS, Exit)
- [Complete a Master Promissory Note](#)
- **[Request a Direct PLUS Loan](#)**
- [Endorse a Direct PLUS Loan](#)
- [Complete Direct Consolidation Loan Application and Promissory Note](#)
- [Complete Income-Driven Repayment Plan Request](#)
- [Co-sign Spouse's Income-Driven Repayment Plan Request](#)
- [I am not sure](#) (we will ask you a series of questions to direct you)

- Once the PLUS request is submitted, the student will be notified if the credit has been approved.
 - If you are approved, you must proceed to step two.
 - If the credit was denied, the student may apply with an endorser (a person they choose and agrees to co-sign the loan). Follow the instructions provided if you wish to pursue this option.
 - If the student chooses not to apply with an endorser, the school will be notified of the denial. **NO FURTHER ACTION IS REQUIRED** of you. **DO NOT** proceed to step two.

NOTE: PLUS Counseling is required if the U.S. Department of Education has informed the student that he/she has an adverse credit history and the student has obtained an endorser or documented to the satisfaction of the U.S. Department of Education that there are extenuating circumstances related to his/her adverse credit history.

Step 2- Complete Master Promissory Note (MPN)

- Master Promissory Note **ONLY** needs to be completed if:
 - You are credit approved for the loan and wish to accept it.
 - You were credit denied, and are applying with an endorser.
- Select “Complete a Master Promissory Note” on the home page and then “Graduate PLUS.”

You **DO NOT** need to complete an MPN if you are denied and do not want a PLUS loan.

The screenshot shows a web interface with two columns. The left column lists navigation options, with 'Complete a Master Promissory Note' highlighted in a red box. The right column is titled 'Select the type of Direct Loan you would like to receive' and lists four options: 'Subsidized/Unsubsidized', 'Graduate PLUS' (highlighted in a red box), and 'Parent PLUS'. Each option includes a brief description of the loan type and eligibility requirements.

- Complete ALL questions on the first and second screens. Select “Continue” at the bottom of each screen once completed.
- You must read ALL the terms and conditions (click on the “+” by each category to read) in order to accept the terms. Read the certification at the bottom of the Terms and Conditions page, check the box to acknowledge and select “Continue.”
- Review the information you entered on the previous screens to verify accuracy. You will then need to “Sign” the MPN which is done by typing your name and clicking “Sign.”

First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:

- A screen will appear indicating that your MPN has not been submitted yet. You must scroll down to review the MPN in its entirety before submitting. Then click “Submit.”
- You will receive a confirmation once your MPN has been submitted and have the option to save and/or print a copy of your completed MPN.

You have successfully submitted your MPN. You will receive a confirmation email shortly. The school you selected will be notified of your MPN completion within the next 24 hours.

Your school will tell you what loans, if any, you are eligible to receive. If you have questions regarding your loan eligibility, the next steps in the processing of your loan, when the loan will be disbursed (paid out), or no longer wish to receive the loan, contact your school's financial aid office.

Access [PLUS Counseling](#) for more information on PLUS borrowing.

Click [here](#) to view, save and/or print a copy of your completed MPN.