

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS:



PLUS LOAN BORROWING

Financial Aid Department

A Federal Direct PLUS Loan (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students) has been offered as part of your student's financial aid award. This offer is made to help meet their cost of attendance (COA). The PLUS loan may allow you (the parent) to borrow on your student's behalf. The following information explains more about the PLUS loan and how to apply.

What is a Federal Direct PLUS Loan?

The Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) is an unsubsidized loan for parents to help pay for educational expenses of their dependent student (up to the cost of attendance minus all other financial assistance). PLUS loans are federal loans through the U.S. Department of Education. The Direct PLUS Loan Request must be completed annually.

Parent Eligibility Requirements

- You must be the student's biological or adoptive parent, or the student's stepparent, if the biological or adoptive parent has remarried at the time of application.
- Parent PLUS Loan borrowers must not have an adverse credit history.
- Parents and their dependent student must be U.S. citizens or eligible noncitizens, must not be in default on any federal education loans, or owe an overpayment on a federal education grant.

How to Apply

To take out a PLUS Loan, you must complete a PLUS Application **annually** and master promissory note (MPN) once.

- 1) Go to www.studentloans.gov
- 2) Click on Sign In
- 3) Enter your information
- 4) Request a Direct PLUS Loan and follow the prompts
- 5) Complete Master Promissory Note and follow prompts

You will be asked to authorize a credit check and the determination will be immediately available. You will be sent a disclosure statement when the loan is originated and when disbursements are made. The disclosure statement will include specific information including the loan amount, loan fees, and the expected loan disbursement dates.

By the numbers

Interest Rate: fixed
6.84% compounded
quarterly, following
first disbursement

Loan Origination Fee:
4.272%

Repayment begins 60
days following last
disbursement

Option to defer
repayment while student
is in school and up to 6
months after graduation

What if I Fail the Credit Check?

The following options are available if the credit check is denied:

- Appeal the decision per instructions from the credit bureau, **or**
- Obtain a credit-worthy endorser, **or**
- Request additional Unsubsidized Direct Student Loan via the “PLUS Denial Request for Additional Unsubsidized Loan” form on our website, **or**
- Pursue Alternative Student Loan (funding through a private lender)

How do I Cancel or Make Changes?

Undisbursed PLUS Loan

To cancel or change the amount of an undisbursed PLUS Loan, please email our office from the email address used on the application to request the change. This request must come from the parent borrower. You may also complete the “PLUS Loan Revision Form” on our website or make the change at www.studentloans.gov.

Disbursed PLUS Loan

- Within 120 days of disbursement:

Funds applied onto your student’s account must be returned. All accrued interest and origination fees will be reversed upon repayment. Contact the Student Business Office at (360) 650-2865 for more information.

- After 120 days of disbursement:

Please contact your loan servicer directly about your prepayment options.

How your loan is disbursed (paid out)

Western makes the PLUS loan disbursement to your student at the beginning of each quarter. Funds are applied to their student account to pay tuition, fees, University Residency (if applicable), and other authorized charges. If the loan disbursement amount exceeds your student's school charges, the extra is refunded to you in the form of a check. If you indicated the refund should be sent directly to your student, it is deposited to the bank account of their choice.

Contact Us:

Financial Aid Services Center, Old Main, Room 265, financialaid@wwu.edu, www.finaid.wwu.edu, (360) 650-3470