Graduate PLUS Loan Guide

Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan

Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans are credit-based loans funded by the U.S. Department of Education. These loans can help a student pay their net cost (their cost of attendance minus total grants and scholarships). The Grad PLUS loan is an optional program for graduate students who wish to access *additional* resources beyond what their direct student loan covers. Grad PLUS loans are not based on financial need and are only available to students currently enrolled at least half-time. For additional information about this type of loan, visit: <u>https://studentaid.gov/app/launchPLUS.action</u>

Graduate PLUS Loan Eligibility

• Must be currently enrolled graduate student to apply for Federal Direct Grad PLUS loans.

To Apply for the Graduate PLUS Loan

- Visit: <u>https://studentaid.gov</u>
- Sign in using your FSA ID (You can create an FSA ID if you do not have one)
- Select "Request a Direct PLUS Loan," then scroll down the page and select "Graduate/Professional Direct PLUS Loan"
- When completing the application, make sure to authorize an immediate credit check and make sure you are in the academic year for which you want the loan. *Multiple academic years may be available!* You will be alerted immediately following completion of the application if you have been approved for the PLUS loan.
- If the PLUS loan is approved, complete the PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN) as directed. An MPN is required in order for funds to be disbursed.
- Once your PLUS loan is approved, it will be certified by Saint Martin's University and added to your financial aid package.

REMINDER: CURRENT BORROWING AFFECTS YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE! As with any loan, Federal Direct Graduate/Professional PLUS loans must be repaid. Budget carefully; borrow only what you need.





