



GRAD PLUS Loan Guide

Federal Direct GRAD PLUS Loan

Federal Direct GRAD 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: <https://studentaid.gov/app/launchPLUS.action>



GRAD PLUS Loan Eligibility

Only currently enrolled graduate students are eligible to apply for Federal Direct GRAD PLUS loans.

To Apply for the GRAD PLUS Loan

- Visit: <https://studentaid.gov>
- 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 you are asked for a loan period, this is the period of time you want the loan to cover. For example, if you want to cover summer, fall and spring semesters, you’ll request “May 2025 – May 2026”.
- 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.

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.