

Your Guide to the Parent PLUS Loan

This guide is intended to help you understand the **Parent PLUS Loan** (also known as the *Direct PLUS Loan for Parents*) and complete the **Parent PLUS Loan Application**.

If you would like to skip to a specific section of this guide, click on the section below. If you have not completed a **Parent PLUS Loan Application** before, we recommend reading through the entire guide.

- [What is the Parent PLUS Loan?](#)
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What is the Parent PLUS Loan?

The **Parent PLUS Loan** is a federal loan available to parents (biological, adoptive, or stepparents) of dependent undergraduate students. The **Parent PLUS Loan** is an option available to cover a student's remaining balance and/or other education-related expenses, such as books and supplies.

The **Parent PLUS Loan** has an interest rate of 5.30% and an origination fee of 4.236%.

The Parent PLUS Loan is a loan that is taken by the parent of a student. The parent will be legally responsible for the loan and any accrued interest and fees. The Parent PLUS Loan cannot be transferred to the student at any time.

What will I need to complete a Parent PLUS Loan Application?

You will need the following things to complete a **Parent PLUS Loan Application**.

- A working internet connection
- Your Parent Federal Student AID ID (FSA ID) and password – *this is the same username and password that you used to electronically sign your student's FAFSA*
- The name and address of your employer (*if you are currently employed*)

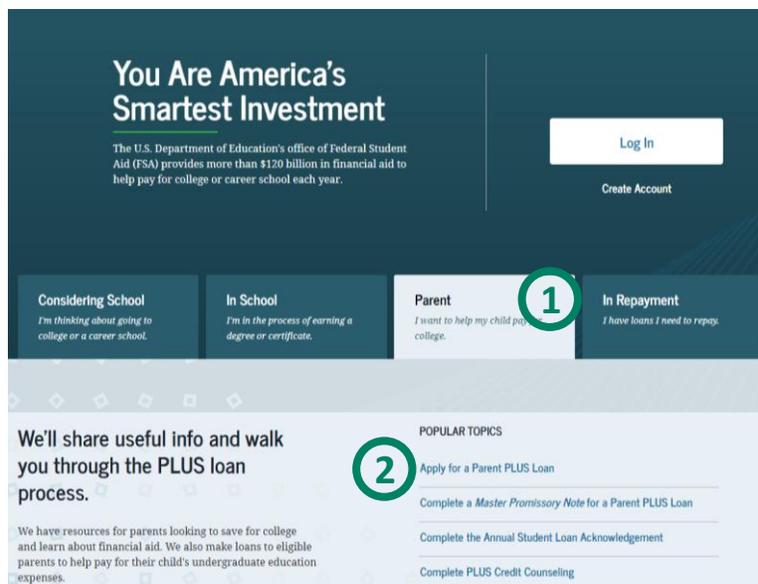
Where do I go to complete a Parent PLUS Loan Application?

You will be able to complete a **Parent PLUS Loan Application** online at *StudentAid.gov*. You can [click here](#) to go directly to the **Parent PLUS Loan Application**. Refer to the images below to navigate to the **PLUS Loan Application** from the *StudentAid.gov* homepage or your *StudentAid.gov* dashboard.

[Click here to go directly to the Parent PLUS Loan Application](#)

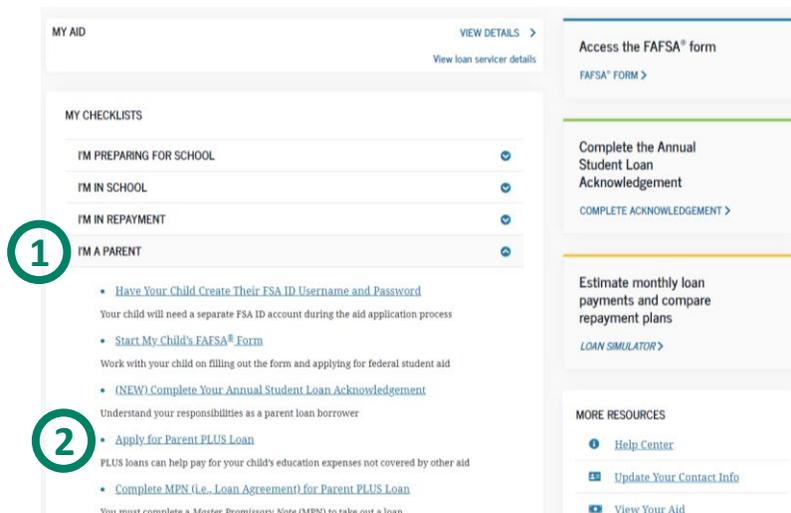
How to find the Parent PLUS Loan Application from the *StudentAid.gov* homepage

1. Click on the **Parent** tab on the homepage.
2. Click on the **Apply for a Parent PLUS Loan** link.



How to find the Parent PLUS Loan Application from your *StudentAid.gov* Dashboard

1. Click on the **I'M A PARENT** checklist
2. Click on the **Apply for Parent PLUS Loan** link



Step-by-Step Instructions to Complete a Parent PLUS Loan Application

The **Parent PLUS Loan Application** is divided into five sections.

Step 1 – Loan Information

The first step of the application will have you enter information about the loan.

1. Make sure that you are logged into the correct Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID). You can do this by making sure that you see your name and last four digits of your Social Security Number at the top of the application.

The screenshot shows the 'DIRECT PLUS LOAN APPLICATION' interface. At the top, a progress bar indicates four steps: 1. Loan Information (highlighted in green), 2. Borrower Information, 3. Review, and 4. Credit Check & Submit. Below the progress bar, a sidebar lists three sub-sections: 'Select an Award Year', 'Student Information', and 'School and Loan Information'. The main content area is titled '1 Borrower: Your Name Here' and 'Social Security Number: XXX-XX-XXXX'. A warning message states: 'Warning: Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form will be subject to penalties which may include fines, imprisonment, or both, under the U.S. Criminal Code and 20 U.S.C. 1097.' The form is divided into several sections: 'Select an Award Year' with a dropdown menu showing '2020 - 2021'; 'Student Information' with fields for 'Name' (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name) and a 'More Information' link; 'Personal Information' with fields for 'Social Security Number' and 'Date of Birth' (MM/DD/YYYY); 'Permanent Address' with fields for 'Address (line 1)', 'Address (line 2)', 'City', 'State', 'Zip Code', and 'Country' (currently set to 'UNITED STATES'); and 'Contact Information' with a 'Telephone Number' field. Each field has a red asterisk indicating it is required.

2. Select the **Award Year** of 2020-21.
3. Fill in your student's personal information. **This part of the application is for your student's personal information. You will fill out your (the borrower) information in Section 2 of the application.**

Step-by-Step Instructions Continued

- After you fill in your student's information, you will then be asked a series of questions that will establish certain conditions of the loan. Below are brief explanations about how the answer you choose will affect your **Parent PLUS Loan** in the future.

Question 1 – Request for Deferment While Student is Enrolled in School

Do you want to defer repayment of your Direct PLUS Loan while the student on whose behalf you obtained the loan is enrolled at an eligible school on at least a half-time basis?

Yes

No

If you select **Yes** to the first question, you are stating that you do not want to begin repayment until your student has graduated or is no longer enrolled at least half-time. **Interest will still accrue during this time.**

If you select **No**, you are stating that you want to begin repayment within 60 days of the loan being disbursed on your student's account. Your loan servicer will contact you with your payment's due date and the payment amount.

Question 2 – Request for 6-month Post-Enrollment Deferment

Do you want to defer repayment of your Direct PLUS Loan for 6 months beginning on the date the student ceases to be enrolled on at least a half-time basis?

Yes

No

If you select **Yes** to the second question, you are stating that you do not want to begin repayment until six months after your student has graduated or is no longer enrolled at least half-time. **Interest will still accrue during this time.**

If you select **No**, you are stating that you do want to begin repayment according to the criteria established in the first question.

Question 3 – Authorization for School to Use Loan Funds to Satisfy Other Charges

I authorize the school to use my Direct PLUS Loan to pay for other educationally related charges that the student incurs at the school, as described above.

If you check this box, you will allow the school to use funds for other educationally related charges, such as an athletic fee, a parking pass, or books from our online bookstore.

Question 4 – Credit Balance Option

If there is a credit balance after your Direct PLUS Loan has been applied to the student's school account, to whom do you want the school to pay the credit balance?

Me

The Student

Our policy is to refund any additional credit due to the **Parent PLUS Loan** to the parent borrower.

Step-by-Step Instructions Continued

- Next, you will need add **Greensboro College** to your **PLUS Loan Application**. The easiest way to do this is by selecting **North Carolina** from the first drop-down menu, then typing **Gre** in the second box and selecting **GREENSBORO COLLEGE** from the results that pop up.

If you have previously completed a PLUS Loan Application for another college/university, you will need to complete another application for Greensboro College.

School and Loan Information

Select School to Notify

U.S. Schools/US Territory Schools

Non U.S. Schools

Choose a state:

- Select -

Search school by name:

Select or type

The school you selected is participating in the Direct PLUS Loan application process through StudentAid.gov.

School Name:
GREENSBORO COLLEGE

School Code/Branch:
G02930

School Address:
815 WEST MARKET STREET
GREENSBORO, NC 274011875

[Remove this school](#)

- The next section of the application asks for you to request the amount that you would like to borrow. **Our office will contact you if you are approved for the Parent PLUS Loan to tell you the maximum amount you can borrow and to have you confirm the amount you would like to borrow.** You are not bound to the amount you request on the application.

Loan Amount Requested

For each academic year, you may borrow up to - but not more than - the school's cost of attendance, minus the amount of other financial assistance that you receive (if you are a graduate or professional student) or that the student receives (if you are a parent borrower). The school determines the cost of attendance based on federal guidelines. It is important not to borrow more than you can afford to repay, even if you are eligible to borrow more.

6 I want to borrow the maximum Direct PLUS Loan amount for which I am eligible, as determined by the school.

I would like to specify a loan amount.

I don't know the amount I want to borrow. I will contact the school.

Loan Period [More Information](#)

Specify the loan period for which you are requesting a Direct PLUS Loan:

7 Requested Loan Period Start Date

Month: August Year: 2020

Requested Loan Period End Date

Month: May Year: 2021

Exit Continue **8**

- For the **Requested Loan Period Start Date**, select **August 2020**.

For the **Requested Loan Period End Date**, select **May 2021**.

- Click the blue **Continue** button to continue to Step 2 of the application.

Step-by-Step Instructions Continued

Step 2 – Borrower Information

This section of the application has you fill out your personal information.

9. After selecting your Citizenship Status and typing in your Permanent Address, make sure you check the box to confirm that this is your current permanent address.

DIRECT PLUS LOAN APPLICATION

1 Loan Information✓ 2 Borrower Information3 Review4 Credit Check & Submit

Borrower: YOUR NAME HERESocial Security Number: XXX-XX-XXXX

Borrower Information

Loan Default Status
You aren't in default on any federal student loans.
Based on information received from the National Student Loan Data System, you aren't in default on any federal student loans.

Citizenship Status [More Information](#)

U.S. Citizen or National
 Permanent Resident/Other Eligible Non-Citizen
 Neither of the above

Permanent Address [More Information](#)

Address (line 1): State:

Address (line 2): Zip Code:

City: Country:

9 This is my current permanent address. If permanent address information is incorrect, update as needed.

Is your mailing address different than your permanent address? [More Information](#)

Yes No

Contact Information

10 **Email Address:** [More Information](#)
To update your Email Address, visit the "Contact Information" page.

Telephone Number:

Mobile Phone Number:
To update your Mobile Phone Number, visit the "Contact Information" page.

Employer's Information [More Information](#)

I am not employed

Employer's Name: **Work Number:**

Address (line 1): **State:**

Address (line 2): **Zip Code:**

City: **Country:**

ExitContinue **11**

10. Your **Contact Information** is linked to your Parent FSA ID. If you need to update this information, you will need to update the information on your Parent FSA ID profile.

11. After filling out your Employer's information, click the blue **Continue** button at the bottom right.

Step-by-Step Instructions Continued

Step 4 – Review

DIRECT PLUS LOAN APPLICATION

1 Loan Information ✓ 2 Borrower Information ✓ 3 **Review** 4 Credit Check & Submit

i This page will be populated with the information from the previous steps. You'll have the opportunity to verify that it's correct or update as needed by selecting "Edit."

12. Review your **Parent PLUS Loan** information in this section then click the blue **Continue** button.

Step 5 – Credit Check and Submit

This section of the application will have you authorize the U.S. Department of Education to check your credit history.

13. Check the two boxes then click the blue **Continue** button to submit your **Parent PLUS Loan Application**.

DIRECT PLUS LOAN APPLICATION

1 Loan Information ✓ 2 Borrower Information ✓ 3 Review ✓ 4 **Credit Check & Submit**

Borrower: YOUR NAME HERE Social Security Number: XXX-XX-XXXX

Certifications

You must review the **IMPORTANT NOTICES** before you can continue.

[Open Important Notices](#)

 If you have placed a security freeze on your credit file, you must lift or remove the freeze at each credit bureau before you continue. Your application will not be processed if you have a security freeze.

You must read and agree to the statements below by clicking on the boxes.

I certify that

- (1) the information I have provided on this Direct PLUS Loan Request for Supplemental Information is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and is made in good faith, and
- (2) I have read and understood the entire Direct PLUS Loan Request for Supplemental Information, including the Important Notices.

For the loan that I am requesting by completing this Direct PLUS Loan Request for Supplemental Information, I authorize the U.S. Department of Education to check my credit history for the purpose of determining my eligibility for the loan(s), and to report information about my loan eligibility to persons and organizations permitted by law to receive that information.

Your Direct PLUS Loan Request for Supplemental Information cannot be processed unless you authorize the U.S. Department of Education to check your credit history. One of the eligibility requirements for receiving a Direct PLUS Loan is that you must not have an adverse credit history, unless you meet certain other requirements. The credit decision resulting from your credit decision will be sent to the school that you have selected.

14. After you click the continue button, you will be taken to a **Confirmation Page** that lets you know if you have been approved for the **Parent PLUS Loan**. Information about what you will need to do next is below.

What happens if I am approved for the Parent PLUS Loan?

Confirmation

You have successfully submitted a Direct PLUS Loan request and your credit has been approved.

You will receive a confirmation email shortly. The school you selected will be notified within the next 24 hours.

Though your credit has been approved, all other [eligibility requirements](#) must be met before your loan can be awarded.

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.

[View your completed Direct PLUS Loan applications.](#)

Next Steps Required in the Direct PLUS Loan Process

Complete an MPN

You don't have a Direct PLUS Loan MPN on file for John Doe. If you are borrowing for more than one student, you will need to complete a separate MPN for each student.

Loans cannot be disbursed without an accepted Master Promissory Note on file. You may either complete the MPN(s) now, or come back at a later time.

Each MPN must be completed in a single session and may take up to 30 minutes to complete.

If you are approved for the **Parent PLUS Loan**, you will be notified on the **Confirmation Page** after you have submitted the application. Our office will be notified within 24 hours after you have been approved and we will contact you to let you know the maximum amount you can borrow using the **Parent PLUS Loan**. **You will need to respond to this email from our office to confirm how much you would like to borrow.**

You will also need to complete a [PLUS Mater Promissory Note](#) for your loan. This is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education.

What happens if I am not approved for the Parent PLUS Loan?

Final Step

Based on the credit history returned by the credit agency, we are unable to approve your credit.

You may still borrow a Direct PLUS Loan if you:

- Obtain an endorser [and](#) complete PLUS Credit Counseling
- or
- Document [extenuating circumstances](#) to the satisfaction of the U.S. Department of Education and complete PLUS Credit Counseling.

All other [eligibility requirements](#) must also be met before your loan can be awarded and your school will tell you what loans, if any, you are eligible to receive.

How would you like to proceed?

Indicate how you want to proceed by checking the appropriate box below and then clicking "Submit". Your response will be reported to the school that you selected when completing the Direct PLUS Loan Request (application).

- I want to obtain an endorser. [More Information](#)
- I want to provide documentation of extenuating circumstances. [More Information](#)
- I do not want to pursue a Direct PLUS Loan at this time. [More Information](#)
- Undecided. [More Information](#)

Under federal law, you're entitled to a free credit report if a company takes adverse action against you, such as denying your application for credit, insurance, or employment, and you ask for your report within 60 days of receiving notice of the action.

The notice will give you the name, address, and phone number of the credit reporting company. Otherwise, a credit reporting company may charge you up to \$11.00 for another copy of your report within a 12-month period.

[View Credit Check Details](#)

To obtain a copy of your credit report, contact:

- Equifax: 1-800-685-1111, [equifax.com](#)
- Experian: 1-888-397-3742, [experian.com](#)
- TransUnion: 1-800-916-8800, [transunion.com](#)

[BACK](#)

[Continue](#)

If you are not approved for the **Parent PLUS Loan**, you will be notified on the **Confirmation Page** after you have submitted the application.

What happens if I am not approved for the Parent PLUS Loan? (Continued)

On the **Confirmation Page**, you can select how you would like to proceed. There are four options available to you. Below is a brief description about each option.

Undecided/Do Not Want to Appeal or Find an Endorser

If you do not want to pursue the options listed below, your student will be offered additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student Loans. The amount offered to your student is determined by their year in school. Freshmen and Sophomores are offered an additional \$4,000. Juniors and Seniors are offered an additional \$5,000.

Our office will automatically add the additional Unsubsidized Loan to your student's financial aid. Your student will need to accept or decline the additional loans by logging into their [Pride Page](#).

If you obtain an endorser or successfully appeal the credit decision, we will have to remove the additional Unsubsidized Loan from your student's financial aid.

Obtain an Endorser

If you are not approved, you can look for someone to endorse your **Parent PLUS Loan**. An endorser is essentially a cosigner and is someone who agrees to repay the loan if you do not repay the loan. **The endorser cannot be the student listed on the PLUS Loan Application.** The endorser will also undergo the same credit check.

The endorser will need the following information to endorse your **Parent PLUS Loan**:

1. A Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID)
2. Your Endorser Code (if you are not sure, our office will be able to provide you with it)
3. Reference Information for two people with different U.S. addresses

A **Parent PLUS Loan** can be endorsed online by [clicking here](#).

You (not the endorser) will need to complete a [PLUS Master Promissory Note](#). This is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education.

You (not the endorser) will also need to complete [PLUS Credit Counseling](#). This is an exercise (similar to Loan Entrance Counseling for students) to help you understand the obligations associated with borrowing a **Parent PLUS Loan**.

If you are planning to have your Parent PLUS Loan endorsed, please contact our office and let us know.

What happens if I am not approved for the Parent PLUS Loan? (Continued)

Appeal the Credit Decision

(Provide Documentation of Extenuating Circumstances)

You will need to provide the U.S. Department of Education with information about why the credit decision is incorrect **or** inform them of extenuating circumstances that have caused the adverse credit history.

[Click here for more information about the documentation you will need to provide](#) and [click here to appeal the credit decision](#).

If you appeal the credit decision, please contact our office and let us know. You will also need to complete a [PLUS Master Promissory Note](#) and [PLUS Credit Counseling](#).

What other options do I have if I am not approved for a Parent PLUS Loan?

- Setting up a monthly payment plan – [click here for more information](#)
- Paying out-of-pocket
- Your student's other parent can apply for the Parent PLUS Loan

*Note: The additional Unsubsidized Loan offered will **not** increase if both parents are not approved. If the other parent is approved, we will have to remove the additional Unsubsidized Loan from your student's financial aid.*

- Private student loans – in most cases, the student will need a credit-worthy co-signer
- Private PLUS loans – some lenders provide private loans to parents and other qualifying borrowers

Our office offers a [Loan Comparison Tool](#) to help you compare private loan lenders.

If you have any questions regarding the **Parent PLUS Loan** or how to cover your student's remaining balance, feel free to contact us at **(336) 272-7102, ext. 5217** or sfs@greensboro.edu