

2018-2019 Federal Direct (PLUS) Loan for Graduate Students

PLUS Features

- Credit-based loan that enables graduate students to borrow from the federal government to help pay for educational expenses.
- Interest rate for PLUS is 6.60% for loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2018
- Origination fee for PLUS first disbursed On or after 10/1/17 and before 10/1/18: 4.264%. Fees for loans originated on or after 10/1/18 and before 10/1/19: 4.248%.
- Allows borrowing up to the cost of education minus other financial aid received.
- Deferment may be requested while the student is enrolled at least half-time in an eligible program. Otherwise, repayment begins within 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed.
- Borrower must sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) which is valid for ten years and for all future credit-approved PLUS.
- Additional information on loan repayment including a calculator is available at www.studentloans.gov.

PLUS Application Process

Step 1: Student must complete the *2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*.

Step 2: Student must log in to studentloans.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

[Create an FSA ID](#)


[Forgot Username or Password?](#)

[FSA ID Frequently Asked Questions](#)

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

Log In

Step 3: Select the following option:

 [Apply for a PLUS Loan](#)

Step 4: Select Direct PLUS Loan Request for Graduate/Professional Student Borrowers:

 **Direct PLUS Loan Request for
Graduate/Professional Student Borrowers**

(Direct PLUS Loans are available to eligible graduate/professional
students. Students must be logged in using their own FSA ID.)

**Complete PLUS Request for
Graduate/Professional Students**

Step 5: Carefully review and answer all questions. **You should apply for the loan amount needed for the entire academic year (both fall and spring semesters).** To apply for the loan for the 2018-2019 award year, select the following:

Select an Award Year

Award Year:

2018 - 2019



School and Loan Information

Select School to Notify

U.S. Schools/U.S. 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 StudentLoans.gov.

School Name:

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOU

School Code/Branch:

G02210

School Address:

285 OLD WESTPORT ROAD

NORTH DARTMOUTH, MA 027472300

[Remove this school](#)

Select the loan amount requested option. If unsure of amount needed, select "I want to borrow the maximum Direct PLUS Loan amount for which I am eligible, as determined by the school". Loan can later be reduced by contacting the Financial Aid Office.

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. 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.

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.

Loan Amount Requested:

.00 *

(may not exceed the school's cost of attendance, minus other financial assistance that I receive).

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:

Requested Loan Period Start Date

Month:  *

Year:  *

Requested Loan Period End Date

Month:  *

Year:  *

Step 6: The results of your PLUS application and credit check will be available immediately.

If credit is approved, you will be given instructions for completing a PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN) if not completed previously. No PLUS funds can be paid to your UMD account until the PLUS MPN has been completed.

If credit is denied, you will have the option to: (1) not pursue the loan, (2) obtain an endorser, or (3) appeal the credit decision. ***If student chooses option 2 or 3 (obtain an endorser or appeal the credit decision)***, you will be required to complete PLUS entrance counseling prior to disbursement. ***Important:*** If you obtained an endorser and the endorsement process is complete, contact Financial Aid Services at 508.999.9251 for further instruction.

Step 7: The Department of Education will send the PLUS application and MPN information to UMass Dartmouth upon completion. If student is enrolled at least half-time and meets all other eligibility criteria, we will certify the loan for the amount requested or up to the cost of attendance minus other financial aid received if requested maximum amount. The PLUS will be added to the student's financial aid award and will be visible in COIN within 5-7 business days at www.umassd.edu/coin/