PLUS Features

• Credit-based parent loan for undergraduate students that enables parents of dependent undergraduate students to borrow directly from the federal government to help pay for the student’s educational expenses.

• Interest rate for PLUS is 7.60% 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 is 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. Parents borrowing PLUS for multiple children must sign an MPN for each child for whom they are borrowing.

• 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: PARENT 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.

Step 3: Select the following option:

Apply for a PLUS Loan

Step 4: Select the type of Direct PLUS Loan Request:

Direct PLUS Loan Request for Parent Borrowers

(Direct PLUS Loans are available to eligible parents of eligible dependent undergraduate students. Parents must be logged in using their own FSA ID.)

Complete PLUS Request for Parents
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 2017-2018 award year, select the following:

### Select an Award Year

**Award Year:**

- 2018 - 2019

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### Student Information

**Name**

- **First Name:**
- **Last Name:**

**Middle Initial:**

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### Personal Information

**Social Security Number:**

**Date of Birth:**

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### Permanent Address

**Address (line 1):**

- 123 Main Street

**Address (line 2):**

**City:**

- Clifton

**State:**

- NEW JERSEY

**Zip Code:**

- 07014

**Country:**

- UNITED STATES
**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 (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.

- 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:**

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

- I don’t know the amount I want to borrow. I will contact the school.
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 the student’s UMD account until this 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 parent chooses option 1 (not pursue the loan), student will be awarded additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan for the maximum amount eligible up to the established limits and not to exceed cost of attendance: Freshman/Sophomore up to $4,000; Junior/Senior up to $5,000. If parent chooses option 2 or 3 (obtain an endorser or appeal the credit decision), parent will be required to complete PLUS entrance counseling prior to disbursement. Important: If parent has obtained an endorser and the endorsement process is complete, contact Financial Aid Office 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/