



Graduate PLUS Loan Acceptance Instructions 2026-27 academic year

The U.S. Department of Education makes Direct PLUS Loans to graduate or professional students through schools participating in the Direct Loan Program. You should take out your full Direct Unsubsidized Loan eligibility before borrowing any Direct PLUS Loan funds.

Note: A Direct PLUS Loan is commonly referred to as a Grad PLUS loan when made to a graduate or professional student. **This loan is only available to the "Legacy" borrowers.**

Here's a quick overview of Direct PLUS Loans:

- The U.S. Department of Education is your lender.
- You must not have an [adverse credit](#) history. A credit check will be conducted. If you have an adverse credit history, you may still be able to receive a PLUS loan if you meet additional requirements.
- The maximum PLUS loan amount you can receive is the cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received.

[Learn more about grad PLUS loans](#) at [studentaid.gov](#).

How to Apply

1. Fill out, sign, and submit a 2026-2027 FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](#), or have a valid FAFSA already completed.
2. APPLY for a **2026-2027** Graduate PLUS loan at [studentaid.gov](#) on or after May 1, 2026. The result of the credit check is displayed immediately on the screen, and depending upon your preference, you'll either receive confirmation of this decision via email or regular mail. The credit decision is good for 180 days.
3. Complete an electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN for Direct PLUS Loans) and Loan Entrance Counseling at [studentaid.gov](#). *If you completed a PLUS MPN in a previous year, and your application **did not** require an endorser, you can skip this step.*
4. *Optionally, and FYI only, complete the annual student loan acknowledgment (ASLA) at [studentaid.gov](#).*

Disbursement Process

Funds are applied to your student account based on our [disbursement schedule](#). Once all allowable, institutional charges have been paid, a credit balance created by the receipt of the PLUS Loan will result in a refund check being mailed to your or electronically refunded, depending upon your preference (set up with Student Accounts). If you would like to request that excess PLUS Loan funds instead be returned to the lender, please complete and return the [Financial Aid Return Authorization](#) form to the Student Accounts Office.

Disclosure

Before receiving a PLUS Loan, carefully read the promissory note and your legal and financial rights and responsibilities as a borrower.

If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to contact our office at 541-962-3550 or toll free at 800-452-8639. You may also contact us by email at loanprocessing@eou.edu. Our loan processor, Junell Brock, can be reached directly at 541-962-3394.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and we look forward to you having a successful year here at Eastern Oregon University.

Eastern Oregon University Financial Aid Office
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