

Federal Direct PLUS Loan for Parents

How do I apply for a Direct PLUS Loan?

A parent borrower can complete a PLUS loan application at studentaid.gov using an FSA ID. Your FSA ID is the same login used to electronically sign the FAFSA. You can create an FSA ID and password at the site if you do not have one. Next, choose the “I’m a Parent” option and apply for the Parent PLUS Loan. Be sure your child has filed a FAFSA and requested electronic submission to Quinnipiac University.

What if I have an adverse credit history?

Individuals who have an adverse credit history still may be able to receive a Direct PLUS Loan by obtaining an endorser or by appealing their credit decision with the Department of Education. The borrower is required to complete an online PLUS Credit Counseling Session on studentaid.gov if the PLUS loan requires an endorser or is overturned on appeal. Additional details and requirements can be found on studentaid.gov

If a parent borrower is unable to secure a PLUS loan, the undergraduate dependent student may be eligible to receive an additional unsubsidized loan to help pay for their educational expenses. The school’s financial aid office will offer the additional loan as part of the student’s financial aid package once the PLUS denial is received at its office.

What additional steps must I take to receive my loan?

Borrowers are required to sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) agreeing to the PLUS loan terms. The PLUS Loan MPN is located on studentaid.gov and must be completed before the loan funds can disburse to the school.

How much can I borrow?

The maximum PLUS loan amount you can borrow is the cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial assistance received.

What is the current interest rate?

The interest rate for the Direct PLUS Loan is a fixed rate of 9.083% for loans disbursing on or after July 1, 2024 for the 2024–25 academic year. Interest rates are determined for one academic year at a time, and rates for upcoming school years are released on studentaid.gov each May for the following school year.

Other than interest, is there a charge for this loan?

Yes, there is a 4.228% loan origination fee charged on all Direct PLUS Loans. The fee will be proportionately deducted from each loan disbursement before the funds are disbursed to the school. Please take into consideration the fee when determining the amount you will borrow.

How will I receive my loan?

Direct PLUS Loan funds are applied to the school account to pay for tuition, fees, housing and food, and other school charges. If any loan funds remain, One Stop will refund the overage to you to help you pay other education expenses.

How do I pay back my loan?

When you receive your Direct PLUS Loan, you will be contacted by your loan servicer, who will supply regular updates on the status of your loan and information on repayment.

When do I begin repaying my loan?

Your Direct PLUS Loan enters repayment once the loan is fully disbursed (paid out) to the school for the academic year; however, the parent borrower may request a deferment of payments for up to an additional six months after the child ceases to be enrolled at least half time in school. Interest continues to accrue on the loan during deferment. You may choose to pay the accrued interest or allow the interest to capitalize when the deferment period ends.

Which types of repayment are available?

There are several repayment plans designed to meet the different needs of borrowers. The servicing company will help you to understand the options, including the standard, extended and graduated repayment plans. If you are unable to make your scheduled loan payments, contact your servicer immediately.

As a parent borrower, can I transfer my loan to my child?

No, a Direct PLUS Loan made to a parent cannot be transferred to the child. You, the parent, are responsible for repaying the loan.

Please refer to studentaid.gov for additional information regarding federal student aid. Contact the U.S. Department of Education or the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 800-433-3243 for customer support and more detailed information on the Parent PLUS Loan.

This information was obtained from studentaid.gov

Private Educational Lenders – Student Borrowing

Private educational loans are available for students to borrow with the assistance of a credit-worthy co-signer. Please refer to qu.edu/loans for additional information on student borrowing. Scroll down to view the various loan types listed in the Explore Your Loan Options section. Click on a specific loan type to see more information.

For specific details on private student loans, we recommend you research elmselect.com, which offers unbiased information on lenders, their interest rates, co-signer requirements, repayment options and a link to their loan applications. Neither Quinnipiac University nor its affiliates will give preference to a particular lender or loan program, so borrowers are strongly encouraged to carefully review all loan options.