



2700 Bay Area Boulevard • Houston, Texas 77058 • (281) 283-2480 • (281) 283-2502(Fax)

## Office of Student Financial Aid

### Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans

The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Program is a low-interest student loan program designed to enable eligible graduate students to borrow money to pay the student's cost of attendance. Eligible graduate students may borrow annually up to the cost of attendance minus other financial aid. Financial need is not an eligibility requirement for this loan.

#### Eligibility Requirements

1. To receive Federal Direct GRAD PLUS funds, students must be enrolled for at least three credit hours.
2. Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress.
3. The student must not have defaulted on or owe a refund to any previous student aid program.
4. The student must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or permanent resident.
5. The student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
6. A credit check is performed on the student, and the student must show credit worthiness as determined by the Direct Loan Servicing Center.

**Interest Rates:** Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans have a fixed interest rate which begins to accrue at the date of disbursement. The interest rate is fixed at 7.9%. A 4% origination fee is charged at disbursement.

**Repayment:** Repayment of Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan begins 45 days after the student ceases half time attendance unless the borrower is eligible for a deferment. For information about repayment terms, repayment rates, and other terms of the PLUS Loan contact:

Borrower Services, Direct Loan Servicing Center  
P. O. Box 5609, Greenville, TX 75403-5609  
1-800-848-0979 • <https://www.dl.ed.gov>

#### The PLUS Application Process

1. Complete a FAFSA.
2. Submit a completed *Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Application* to the Office of Student Financial Aid. Keep a photocopy of the *Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Application* for your records.
3. Complete the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Entrance Counseling.
4. After UHCL has processed the *Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Application*, we will determine your eligibility. If you are eligible, you will be instructed to complete a *GRAD PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN)* for at <http://dlnote.ed.gov> (**You must wait for instructions to be given from the Office of Student Financial Aid to complete the MPN.**)
5. The loan funds will arrive approximately 10 days before the start of the semester. Any excess funds will be refunded via the student's elected refund method.
6. If your PLUS Loan is rejected, you will be notified by the U.S. Department of Education. At that time, you will be given the option of obtaining an endorser to continue the loan process.

# 2009-10 Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Application

## Student/Borrower Information

- 1.) Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.) Borrower's Name (First, MI, Last): \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) Borrower's Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
- 4.) Borrower's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_
- 5.) Borrower's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
- 6.) Borrower's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_\_
- 7.) Borrower's Permanent Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8.) Borrower's Citizenship Status:  U.S. citizen or national  
 Permanent resident/other eligible alien
- Alien Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_
  - Attach a copy of both sides of your alien registration card
- 9.) Terms for which you want the loan:  Fall  Spring (Check both boxes for a loan both semesters)
- 10.) Loan Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Note: This amount will be disbursed over the term(s) checked above. For a fall/spring loan, the amount will be split equally between the fall and spring terms.**

CONFIRMATION: I, the borrower, certify that the information provided on this form is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the University of Houston-Clear Lake to perform a credit check with the Department of Education to review my eligibility for this loan. I confirm that I wish to borrow the Amount Requested above in item 10 (under "Student/Borrower Information"), from the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Program. I understand that if the amount I request exceeds the amount for which I am eligible, my loan amount will be reduced to the amount of my eligibility. I understand this is a loan, and I am responsible for repaying the amount I borrow.

Student Borrower's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

State law requires that you be informed of the following: (1) with few exceptions, you are entitled on request to be informed about the information the University collects about you by this form; (2) under sections 552.021 and 552.023 of the Government Code, you are entitled to receive and review the information; and (3) under section 559.004 of the Government Code, you are entitled to have the University correct information about you that is incorrect. (See next page for additional disclosures).

## Privacy Act Disclosure Notice

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C.552a) requires that the following notice be provided to you. The authority for collecting the information requested on this form is §451 et seq. of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. Your disclosure of this information is voluntary. However, if you do not provide this information, you cannot be considered for a Direct PLUS Loan. The information on this form will be used to determine your eligibility for a Direct PLUS Loan. The information in your file may be disclosed to third parties as authorized under routine uses in the Privacy Act notices called "Title IV Program Files" (originally published on April 12, 1994, Federal Register, Vol. 59 p. 17351) and "National Student Loan Data System" (originally published on December 20, 1994, Federal Register, Vol. 59 p. 65532). Thus, this information may be disclosed to federal and state agencies, private parties such as relatives, present and former employers and creditors, and contractors of the Department of Education for purposes of administration of the student financial assistance program, for enforcement purposes, for litigation where such disclosure is compatible with the purposes for which the records were collected, for use by federal, state, local, or foreign agencies in connection with employment matters or the issuance of a license, grant, or other benefit, for use in any employee grievance or discipline proceeding in which the Federal Government is a party, for use in connection with audits or other investigations, for research purposes, for purposes of determining whether particular records are required to be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act, and to a Member of Congress in response to an inquiry from the congressional office made at your written request. Because we request your social security number (SSN), we must inform you that we collect your SSN on a voluntary basis, but section 484(a)(4) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1091(a)(4)) provides that, in order to receive any grant, loan, or work assistance under Title IV of the HEA, a student must provide his or her SSN. Your SSN is used to verify your identity, and as an account number (identifier) throughout the life of your loan(s) so that data may be recorded accurately.