



FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN GRADUATE PLUS INSTRUCTIONS (2009-2010)

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
Office of Financial Aid

Catholic University is a Direct Lending School. The Department of Education is the lender, rather than a bank or credit union. Through the direct lending program, Catholic University processes all of the paperwork and students and parents repay the U.S. Department of Education. We will not process Federal Family Educational Loan Program (FFEL) applications obtained through a bank or credit union.

Steps to Obtain a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan

Step 1: Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

Step 2: Complete the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan application attached and return it to the Office of Financial Aid. In addition to being credit-worthy, you must be enrolled at least half-time and meet other general federal student aid eligibility requirements. The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Application must be filled out each academic year.

Please Note: If you are requesting an increase to an existing Graduate PLUS Loan for the current year, you should submit this application indicating only the additional amount requested. A request to increase an existing Graduate PLUS Loan for the current year may result in the U.S. Department of Education performing a new credit check for the additional amount requested.

Step 3: Complete a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) on the U.S. Department of Education's Direct Loan Master Promissory Note Website at www.dlenote.ed.gov. You will need your U.S. Department of Education PIN to sign your PLUS MPN electronically. Once on the site you should select the Complete New MPN for Student Loans option and then select Graduate PLUS. Follow the steps to complete the note. If you are experiencing technical difficulty signing the Master Promissory Note online, please contact the Department of Education's customer service center for borrower's toll-free at 800-557-7394.

Step 4: Complete a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan specific Entrance Loan Counseling session at www.dl.ed.gov. If you are a first-time borrower of a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan at Catholic University, you must complete an entrance loan counseling session so that you will know your rights and responsibilities as a borrower. The on-line session will take you about twenty minutes to complete.

IMPORTANT: Your Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan will not disburse unless you complete all of the steps and the loan is approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

When indicating the amount of loan monies you are requesting, please consider what you will need for the entire academic year. The student may apply for a PLUS loan up to the estimated Cost of Attendance (COA) minus all other financial aid. The COA and the total amount of financial aid can be found on your award notice.

Cost of Attendance (COA) _____

Total financial aid award _____

Maximum you may borrow _____ (enter an amount up to this amount on the attached form)



FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN GRADUATE PLUS APPLICATION (2009-2010)

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
Office of Financial Aid

The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan is for graduate students who have borrowed the annual maximum of \$20,500 from the Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program. Your actual Federal Stafford Loan eligibility is listed on your financial aid award notification. **You should fully utilize your Federal Direct Stafford Loan eligibility before requesting additional loan funds from the Federal Direct PLUS Loan Program.** The Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loan has an interest rate of 6.80% compared to a 7.9% for the Federal PLUS Loan. Interest starts accruing on the Subsidized Stafford Loan after the one-time six month grace period which begins when you graduate, leave school or enroll less than half-time and when you are not in deferment status. Interest accrues upon disbursement for both the Unsubsidized Stafford and PLUS Loans. Both Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans enter repayment after the one-time six month grace period which begins when you graduate, leave school or enroll less than half-time. PLUS Loan repayment begins within 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed. There is no grace period for the PLUS Loan, but while you are enrolled in school on at least a half-time basis, you are eligible for an in-school deferment that allows you to postpone payments on your Direct PLUS Loan until you graduate or drop below half-time status.

You may apply for a loan in an amount up to the unmet cost of attendance. The unmet cost of attendance is the difference between the cost of attendance and your financial aid offer. If you receive any additional resources, or if your enrollment or academic standing changes at any time during the year, the PLUS loan may be reduced or cancelled.

The U.S. Department of Education Direct Loan Servicing Center will conduct a credit check before approving the loan. If the loan is denied because of an adverse credit history, the Servicing Center will notify you.

You have the option of paying interest while you are in school, or having the interest capitalized (adding it to the loan principal). A loan origination fee is charged as a percentage (up to 4 percent) of the principal amount of each Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan that a student receives. The U.S. Department of Education will deduct the fee before the loan disburses, so the loan amount received will be less than the amount originally borrowed. You will have to repay the entire amount, including the fee. The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan offers the same repayment plans as the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. Information about repayment plans is available from the Direct Loan Servicing Center at www.dl.ed.gov.

NAME: _____ CUA ID #: _____ (please print) Last First M.I.	
Loan Amount Requested (please note that this amount may be reduced depending on eligibility)	
<input type="checkbox"/> I request the maximum amount (Your application will be processed for the maximum amount if this question is left blank) <input type="checkbox"/> I request the following amount \$_____.00 <input type="checkbox"/> I request the following increase of \$_____.00 to an existing current year Graduate PLUS Loan.	
LOAN TERM (CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> ACADEMIC YEAR (half of loan in fall; half of loan in spring) <input type="checkbox"/> FALL ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SPRING ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER ONLY	Anticipated Enrollment <input type="checkbox"/> Full Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part Time <input type="checkbox"/> Dissertation Guidance/Comprehensive Exam <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (explain)

STATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE:
My signature indicates that I am applying for, am eligible to receive, and accept a Federal Direct Graduate Loan in the amount requested above. I authorize the U.S. Department of Education to investigate my credit record and determine my credit worthiness for this loan. I certify that any funds received from this loan will be used for expenses related to attendance at Catholic University and that I am eligible to receive the proceeds of this loan, and that the information provided on this form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that the acceptance and processing of this request form does not guarantee credit approval and that I must apply for approval of this loan with the U.S. Department of Education, by completing a Direct PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN). I further certify that I am not in default on an education loan nor do I owe a refund on a federal grant.

Borrower's Signature _____
Date

USE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS TO RETURN THIS FORM:

MAIL	FAX	IN-PERSON
The Catholic University of America McMahon Hall, Room 6 620 Michigan Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20064	202-319-5573	McMahon Hall Room 6

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID USE ONLY

Date Received	Date Processed	Initials