



FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

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2019- 2020 Federal Graduate PLUS Loan Information & Request Form

Federal Direct Grad PLUS loans are available to graduate and professional students attending school at least half time (4 units of 500 level coursework). These loans are credit based and available regardless of financial need. The amount of eligibility depends on the estimated cost of attendance. There is no grace period on Direct Grad PLUS Loans and repayment begins within 60 days of your final disbursement.

✓ Eligibility Information

- Complete the 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.gov. CSUDH school code: **001141**.
- Once the school has received your FAFSA, additional documents may be required. Check your “To Do List” on my.csudh.edu and submit the necessary information to the Financial Aid Office.
- A financial aid offer will be available for review on the Student Center at my.csudh.edu.
- An Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan is offered and must be acknowledged by you. The Financial Aid Office recommends acceptance of this loan prior to applying for the Grad PLUS.
- Must be enrolled in at least 4 units (500 series) each semester in a graduate degree or graduate certificate program and maintaining CSUDH Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards
- Not have an adverse credit history.

✓ Apply Online

- You must log on to <https://studentloans.gov>, select “Apply for a Direct PLUS Loan,” select “Direct PLUS Loan Application for Graduate/Professional Students” and complete the application.
- If approved, you must complete the Graduate PLUS entrance counseling and Master Promissory Note online at <https://studentloans.gov> and complete and submit the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan Request Form to the CSUDH Financial Aid Office.

✓ Fees and Loan Limits

- There is a 4.248% processing fee for loans first disbursed before October 1, 2019 (fee is subject to change after October 1, 2019). Keep this in consideration when determining the amount of your request.
- The Graduate PLUS Loan interest rate is fixed for loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2019 and before July 1, 2020 at 7.08%.
- Graduate and professional degree students are eligible to borrow up to their cost of attendance minus other estimated financial assistance.

✓ If PLUS is Denied

- The U.S. Department of Education Student Loan Support Center will notify you and explain why the loan was denied. The Student Loan Support Center will also provide the name and address of the credit bureau that supplied the credit data.
- You will have the following options:
 - Reapply for the loan with an endorser on <https://studentloans.gov>. Notify the Financial Aid Office after the Endorser has been approved and the Endorser Addendum has been completed.
 - Appeal the decision online at studentloans.gov. If you feel that the information your credit decision is based on is incorrect or you believe you qualify for a review based on extenuating circumstances, you may begin the process in one of the following ways:
 - Log in to <https://studentloans.gov> and select “Document Extenuating Circumstances” on the left navigation bar. Follow directions. The Student Loan Support Center will contact you with further instructions.
 - Contact the Student Loan Support Center between 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. They may be reached toll-free at 1-800-557-7394.
- If your loan is approved upon appeal or obtaining an approved endorser, you will need to complete a separate PLUS Credit counseling at <https://studentloans.gov>.

