



Office of Student Financial Aid

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GRADUATE PLUS LOAN FAQ

What is a Graduate PLUS loan?

A Graduate PLUS loan is a low-interest, unsubsidized loan available to qualifying graduate students. The interest rate is fixed at 7.9%.

Who is the lender for Graduate PLUS loans?

Graduate PLUS loans are processed through the Direct Loan Servicing Center (DLSC), a division of the U. S. Department of Education. The DLSC has several locations throughout the country. Refer to correspondence from the DLSC for the address and phone number of the location administering your Graduate PLUS loan. If you would like to select a different lender, please contact the OSFA.

Are all graduate/professional students automatically eligible for the Graduate PLUS loan?

No, the DLSC conducts a credit check on each Graduate PLUS application, which usually takes 7-10 days to complete. Generally, you will be approved for a Graduate PLUS loan as long as you do not have an adverse credit history and you are not in default on a federal student loan.

How do I apply for a Graduate PLUS loan?

Once you've been awarded all eligible subsidized and unsubsidized loans, you may apply for a Graduate PLUS loan by completing the Graduate PLUS Loan Application. You may obtain an application online at www.financialaid.ku.edu.

I've already borrowed a subsidized and/or unsubsidized Direct Loan, do I need to complete another Master Promissory Note (MPN)?

Yes. If you are receiving a Graduate PLUS loan for the first time, you must complete a MPN. You may complete an electronic MPN at <http://dlenote.ed.gov> > select Complete MPN for student loans > Loan Selection Type: Graduate PLUS. A MPN must be completed before funds will be available. (Note: for the "Borrower Section," list yourself as the student and the borrower.)

Do I need to complete a Graduate PLUS MPN each year?

No, a Graduate PLUS MPN remains active unless you do not borrow Graduate PLUS funds through the DLSC for a period of 12 months or longer or if any subsequent Graduate PLUS loan request is denied by the DLSC.

How much can I request to borrow?

You may request to borrow up to your Cost of Attendance (as determined by KU OSFA) minus any other financial assistance. If you have questions regarding your eligibility, please contact the OSFA.

How long will it take to process my Graduate PLUS application?

Typically, the application process takes 7-10 days.

When will I receive my funds?

Approved loan funds will be applied directly to your student account once the credit approval and an electronic MPN acknowledgement are received.

When do I begin repaying the loan?

Repayment begins 6 months after you graduate or drop below 6 credit hours (during the academic year).

What types of repayment plans are available?

There are three repayment options offered through the DLSC:

The *Standard Repayment Plan* requires monthly payments of at least \$50 (payment amount varies depending on the amount borrowed) over a fixed period of time (maximum of 10 years). Compared to other plans, the Standard Repayment plan generally results in lower total interest paid since it has a shorter repayment period and a higher monthly payment requirement.

The *Extended Repayment Plan* requires monthly payments of at least \$50 over a period of 12-30 years, depending on the amount borrowed.

The *Graduated Repayment Plan* enables a borrower to start out with low payments. An increase in monthly payments is required every two years.

To estimate your payment for any repayment plan, you may access a repayment calculator at www.finaid.org/calculators.

I have not received my funds and I have questions about the loan, who should I contact?

Please contact the OSFA at (785) 864-4700, financialaid@ku.edu or check the items on your 'To Do List' at <https://sa.ku.edu> > *Enroll & Pay* > *Student Center* > *To Do List*.

I have questions about loan repayment, who should I contact?

Please contact the DLSC at (800) 557-7394. You will also receive correspondence from the DLSC regarding interest accrual and repayment.

The OSFA is providing the above information as a courtesy. Outside of maintaining the OSFA Web site, the OSFA does not promote, validate, or maintain the Web sites listed. URL addresses and Web site contents frequently change. The URL addresses listed were accessible as of January 2007. A Web site appearing here does not necessarily imply that the University of Kansas or the OSFA agree with the material contained on or linked to the Web sites.