

The U.S. Department of Education makes Direct Parent PLUS Loans to eligible borrowers through schools participating in the *Direct Loan* Program.

The U.S. Department of Education is your lender.

To be eligible for the Parent PLUS loan you must be:

- the parent (biological, adoptive, or in some cases, stepparent) of a dependent undergraduate student enrolled at least half-time at an eligible school;
- not have an adverse credit history; and
- [meet the general eligibility requirements for federal student aid](#). If you are borrowing on behalf of your child, your child must also meet these requirements.
- Your child must complete the FAFSA

The school's financial aid office will provide instructions about their process for requesting a Direct PLUS Loan. Many schools require that you request a Direct PLUS Loan at StudentLoans.gov. The request form has a list of schools that participate in the Direct PLUS Loan Program; if you select your (or your child's) school from the list, the site will notify you if your school does not use the StudentLoans.gov process. If that is the case, check with the school to find out how to request a PLUS loan.

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?

For Direct PLUS Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2017, and before July 1, 2018, the interest rate is 7%. These are fixed interest rates for the life of the loan.

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

Yes, there is a loan fee on all Direct PLUS Loans. The loan fee is a percentage of the loan amount and is proportionately deducted from each loan *disbursement*. The percentage varies depending on when the loan is first disbursed, as shown in the chart below.

On or after Oct. 1, 2017, and before Oct. 1, 2018	4.264%
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How will I receive my loan?

The school will first apply Direct PLUS Loan funds to the school account to pay for tuition, fees, *room and board*, and other school charges. If any loan funds remain, your school will give them to you to help pay other education expenses. [Get more information about receiving aid.](#)

What happens after I receive my loan?

When you receive your Direct PLUS Loan, you will be contacted by your [loan servicer](#) (you will repay your loan to the loan servicer). Your loan servicer will provide regular updates on the status of your Direct PLUS Loan, and any additional Direct Loans that you receive.

For more information on the Parent Plus Loan you can review the following resource from the Department of Education.

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/direct-loan-basics-parents.pdf>