



**St. John's University**  
**Office of Student Financial Services**  
Federal Direct PLUS Loan for Graduate or Professional Students  
2026-2027

**Effective in 2026-2027: Only students who qualify for the legacy provision may borrow Graduate PLUS loans. For more information on legacy provision eligibility, visit [www.stjohns.edu/OB3](http://www.stjohns.edu/OB3)**

**Applications for Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans are processed online through the U.S. Department of Education student loan website at <https://studentaid.gov>**

- The borrower must sign into the website using their FSA ID (the same FSA ID that was used to sign the student's FAFSA) to apply.
- Once signed in, the borrower must click on "Request a PLUS Loan" to begin.

**PLUS PROCESS CONSISTS OF FOUR STEPS:**

**Step 1: Personal Information:** Personal information of student borrower.

**Step 2: Student & Loan Info:**

- Select **2026-2027** as the Award Year.
- Select "**NEW YORK**" as the School State and "**SAINT JOHN'S UNIVERSITY**" as the school name.
- Enter a requested loan amount.
  - The borrower enters a specific amount to borrow for the school year or may elect to borrow the maximum amount for which they are eligible. The maximum amount the PLUS borrower may request is the cost of attendance minus all other financial aid received.
  - The borrower may later cancel or reduce an undisbursed loan at any time. A disbursed Federal Direct PLUS loan for Graduate or Professional students may be cancelled or reduced within **thirty days** of the date of disbursement. St. John's Loan Change Form is available online at [www.stjohns.edu/services/financial](http://www.stjohns.edu/services/financial).
  - The amount the borrower chooses to apply for will not affect the result of the application.
  - ***When choosing an amount, please borrow only what is really needed and remember that loans must be repaid.***

**Step 3: Review Application**

**Step 4: Credit Check & Submit:** Authorize the review of credit history and submit the application.

**Please note: The credit check is valid for 180 days; therefore, you should not apply for a loan before May 1st.**

**Additional Step for New Direct PLUS Loan Borrowers:**

All new Direct PLUS Loan borrowers must complete a separate PLUS Loan for Graduate or Professional Students Entrance Interview at <https://studentaid.gov>

**When will the borrower be notified of the result of the application and credit check?**

- The borrower will be notified **immediately** of the result.
- If approved, the borrower will be directed to complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN) if a Federal Direct PLUS MPN has not been completed previously.

**What are the options for the borrower denied for a Federal Direct Loan for Graduate or Professional Students?**

- PLUS borrower can opt to provide documentation of extenuating circumstances and appeal the decision.
- PLUS loan borrower can opt to obtain an endorser with a more favorable credit history to act as a co-signor. The endorser must complete a process, similar to the original application, either online or through the mail. The online process requires that the endorser have a FSA ID. The borrower who has been denied will automatically be mailed a

paper Endorser Package. Both processes require that the endorser know the Loan Reference ID which will be provided to the denied borrower via email or can be viewed by the denied borrower when signed onto <https://.studentaid.gov>

- *Please note: There is now a regulatory provision that requires special loan counseling for any PLUS Loan applicant who has an adverse credit history but who qualifies for a PLUS Loan through the process for reconsideration due to extenuating circumstances or by obtaining an endorser for the loan. If you are required to complete this special loan counseling you will be notified by the US Department of Education and directed to the student loans website at <https://.studentaid.gov>. Any PLUS Loan with this requirement **cannot** be processed until counseling is completed.*

### How will the student receive the loan funds?

- Once an application has been approved and a MPN has been properly completed credit will be given by St. John's for the amount approved for disbursement less all applicable fees.
- The approved amount will automatically be split equally between the fall and spring semesters.
- Funds will be disbursed by the federal government to the St. John's student account at the beginning of each semester according to the disbursement schedule set by St. John's.

### What is the interest rate on federal loans?

The interest rate for all federal PLUS loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2026 and before July 1, 2027 is 9.07%.

### What fees, if any, are associated with these loans?

An origination fee of the total loan is assessed and deducted prior to loan disbursement. The origination fee for Graduate PLUS loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2026 is 4.228%. Origination fees are set by the U.S. Department of Education and may change each year. Origination fees are deducted before the loans are disbursed to St. John's, therefore the amount credited to the student's account will be less than the total amount borrowed.

### Is there a federal processing deadline?

In accordance with federal guidelines St. John's University may not originate a loan for a period in the academic year in which a student is no longer enrolled. Therefore, students enrolled for the academic year who are interested in borrowing a loan must complete the loan process within the academic year. Students who enroll for one semester in an academic year must complete the process within the period of enrollment for the semester.

To learn more about various federal loan programs, debt management and to view sample repayment plans please visit:

[www.stjohns.edu/financialaid](http://www.stjohns.edu/financialaid)

<https://studentaid.gov>

<https://www.mymoney.gov>

#### **Important Notice:**

- You should monitor the status of your loan by checking your UIS account and St. John's email address
- St. John's will begin processing 2026-2027 loans beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **It is the policy of St. John's University to process loans only after an admission deposit has been paid and the loans have been accepted by the student on their UIS account.**
- If you wish to reinstate a loan you have already declined or modify a loan you have already accepted, please print, complete and return a Student Loan Change Form available online at <http://www.stjohns.edu/services/financial>