



Southwestern University

Financial Aid Office

How to Apply for Loans

For more information on loans, visit our [Loan Information](#) page.

Parent Loans

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan

PLUS Loan applications are completed by the parent on the [Direct Loan website](#). Until the steps below have been completed, SU will have no loan information for you.

Important message for first-time Parent PLUS borrowers: While a parent borrower need only complete an Master Promissory Note (MPN) once, borrowers must apply for the Parent PLUS loan each year they wish to borrow.

New Parent Borrowers

1. [Sign in](#) using your (parent) [FSA ID](#) from the FAFSA process
2. Click on "Request a Direct PLUS Loan" to complete the PLUS Loan application
3. Complete and sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN)

Returning Parent Borrowers

1. [Sign in](#) using your (parent) [FSA ID](#) from the FAFSA process
2. Click on "Request a Direct PLUS Loan" to complete the PLUS Loan application

Don't qualify for PLUS Loan? Click [here](#) for more information

Student Loans

Federal Direct Stafford Loan

Steps are to be completed by the student, and are only required for first-time borrowers. Begin the process on the [Direct Loan website](#).

Important message for first-time Stafford Loan Borrowers: Until you've completed the steps below, your loan funds will not be disbursed to the school.

1. [Sign in](#) using your (student) [FSA ID](#) from the FAFSA process
 2. Click the link to "Complete Counseling" and choose complete Entrance Counseling for Sub/UnSub
 3. Complete and sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN).
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Federal Perkins Loan

If you have been awarded a Perkins Loan, you must complete Entrance Counseling and sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) on the [Heartland/ECSI website](#). Heartland ECSI has provided answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for your convenience.

Alternative/Private Loans

Private lending institutions provide credit-based loans that are used for educational expenses. Interest rates and fees vary, typically based on the credit rating of the borrower/co-borrower. There are private loans for both students and parents. Visit our [Private Loans](#) page for more info and access to our [Preferred Lender List](#).