






2008–2009

Graduate PLUS Loan Guide



This guide will provide you (the borrower) with information for Federal Parent PLUS Loans, which are a part of the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). Your electronic Financial Aid Notification (eFAN) will let you know the amount of PLUS that you are eligible to borrow.

GRADUATE PLUS FACT SHEET

<i>Graduate PLUS Loan</i>	
Program Description 	PLUS Loans are available to graduate students enrolled at least half time (4 units) who have borrowed the allowable maximums from the Stafford Loan Program. Students may borrow up to the full cost of their education (each academic year), less any other aid received for that year.
Eligibility 	The borrower must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident in order to qualify. A credit check is required before the lender can determine your eligibility for PLUS. If you do not meet the federal credit requirements, you may still be able to receive a PLUS loan by applying with an endorser (co-signer). If denied, please contact the lender for instructions on providing an endorser. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be completed annually.
Interest Rate ¹	For loans disbursed on/after July 1, 2007: 8.50% fixed. Interest starts accruing at disbursement.
Fees ² 	3.0% origination fee charged by US Dept. of Education. 1.0% loan default fee charged by the guarantor ³ .
Repayment	The loan enters repayment within 60 days after the last disbursement. However, while you are enrolled at least half time, the payments are automatically deferred. After graduation, you can postpone repayment to align your PLUS and Stafford loans by filing a forbearance request with your lender. Standard repayment period of 10 can be extended ⁴ .

¹ Contact the Financial Aid Office or your lender to check interest rates on loans borrowed for different loan periods.

² All fees are deducted from the loan amount prior to disbursement of funds.

³ UCLA uses EdFund or USAF to obtain guarantees for the lenders on our electronic lender list. Please inquire at the Financial Aid Office to inquire, which guarantor works with your lender.

⁴ Please contact your lender to find out about various PLUS repayment options.

In order for loan funds to be disbursed by the lender, loans must be certified before the last day of the academic period, for which the loan is offered.



APPLYING FOR A GRADUATE PLUS LOAN

- **Accept** the loan on your electronic Financial Aid Notification (eFAN).
If you would like to borrow less than the amount offered, indicate the amount you want to borrow on the eFAN.
- **Select your lender** on the eFAN lender drop-down menu. Please refer to 'Selecting a Lender' section on page 3 for additional information on your lender options.
- *If you are a first time borrower at UCLA, complete a Master Promissory Note.* For any of the electronic lenders listed on UCLA's list and the eFAN drop-down menu, go to <https://opennet.salliemae.com> to complete your MPN.
- If you select a non-electronic lender, please contact the lender directly for instructions on how to complete your MPN.
- *For 2008-2009, all graduate borrowers at UCLA are required to complete a **new GradPLUS Debt Management Session** with Student Loan Services.* This requirement includes students who completed DMS requirement in the past for their Stafford loans. To satisfy the new DMS requirement on line, go to www.loans.ucla.edu.

What are the Graduate PLUS credit requirements?



- No delinquencies of 90 days or more on repayment of any debt.
- No debts discharged in bankruptcy during the past 5 years.
- No evidence of default, foreclosure, tax lien, repossession, wage garnishment or write-off of Title IV financial aid debt during the past 5 years.



You do not have to borrow a loan through one of UCLA's electronic lenders. If you want to select a different lender, enter the lender's name on the eFAN and your loan will be processed via a manual process and disbursed via paper checks each quarter.

ACCESS TO YOUR LOAN INFORMATION

UCLA uses Sallie Mae's OpenNet platform to originate (process) loans for all of our electronic lenders. OpenNet is a lender neutral platform and its' use is not intended to endorse the use of any specific lender on the list. OpenNet will allow you to:

- Complete and e-sign your Master Promissory Note (MPN)
- Get real-time information on the status of your loans
- Update your demographic information and references
- Print out your MPN for your records or to submit to the lender if you prefer not to e-sign
- Access history of all FFELP loans borrowed while at UCLA.



GRAD PLUS DISBURSEMENTS



The total loan amount you accept on your eFAN will be divided equally among the terms of your enrollment at UCLA each academic year. If you apply with one of UCLA's electronic lenders, your loan will be disbursed via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and applied to your UCLA Billing & Receivables Account (BAR). Any funds left after BAR charges are paid, will be refunded to you.

If you choose to work with a lender that does not work with UCLA electronically, your loan will be disbursed via a paper check that will need to be picked up from Student Loan Services each term.

You must be enrolled at least half time (4 units) in order for your Stafford loans to be disbursed. If you drop below half time enrollment or withdraw from school, you will be billed for all or part of the loan disbursed to you for that term.



SELECTING A LENDER

You have the right to request a cancellation or a reduction of your loan provided that you submit written notification to the Financial Aid Office.

You will be mailed additional information regarding all applicable deadlines. For additional information, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

In order to facilitate the application process for our borrowers and to allow for electronic disbursement of funds, UCLA has set up an electronic process with various partners listed on the electronic lender list, which you can access at:

<http://www.fao.ucla.edu/publications.html>

Listing of the lenders on the eFAN and our electronic lender list is not a guarantee of their benefits or an endorsement of their services.

You do not have to borrow from one of the electronic lenders listed. If you prefer to borrow from a lender with which we do not work with electronically, please contact them directly to complete your loan application. Please note that we will not be able to disburse funds electronically for lenders that do not participate in UCLA's electronic process. Please check with the Financial Aid Office for additional information.

You may contact Sallie Mae to obtain information on any loan borrowed through one of UCLA's electronic lenders:

Sallie Mae Loan Servicing Center

P. O. Box 147020

Gainesville, FL 32614-7020

<https://opennet.salliemae.com>

Phone: 888-272-5543

Fax: 800-848-1949

The repayment benefits listed will remain in effect when your loan is in repayment regardless of the sale and/or servicing arrangement between the lender and Sallie Mae. **Borrower benefits are subject to change by the lender without prior notice.**

