



Parent PLUS Loans

YOUR NEXT STEPS

WHAT IS A PARENT PLUS LOAN?

It's a loan in a parent's name used to assist a student with educational expenses. This loan is provided by the Department of Education and is credit-based, so some families are not eligible. The current interest rate can be determined by visiting **studentaid.gov**. The option is available to defer the loan while the student is enrolled at least half-time in school, and there are a variety of repayment options.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A PARENT PLUS LOAN

To apply for a Parent PLUS Loan, a student must first accept aid and/or loans on Ursa. After your student accepts aid and/or loans on Ursa, follow these steps to apply for a Parent PLUS Loan:

- 1 Go to **studentaid.gov**.
- 2 Click on the Parent tab, "I want to help my child pay for college."
- 3 Under "Popular Topics," click on "Apply for a Parent PLUS Loan."
- 4 Click on the "Log In to Start" button. You will need to log in using the parent FSA ID and password. These will be the same the parent used to complete the FAFSA.
- 5 Complete the application, including the credit check.

Loans may take up to three weeks to process once the school year is underway.

After completing the application, if approved, you will be given instruction on how to complete the Master Promissory Note, if needed. The entire Parent PLUS Loan application process must be completed in a single session. It takes approximately 20 minutes to complete the application.

IF YOU'RE DENIED

Your student may be able to borrow additional funds under their own name. Please contact UNC Financial Aid before arriving on campus for more information. You may also choose to contact Applicant Services to appeal the denial and may decide to seek an endorser (cosigner) to pursue a PLUS Loan approval. To do so:

- 1 The endorser will need to create an FSA ID and password and then log in to **studentaid.gov**.
- 2 The endorser will select the "Complete an Endorser Addendum" option and complete the steps using the endorser code provided to the parent borrower.
- 3 Then the parent borrower should go to **studentaid.gov** and sign a new promissory note after the loan is endorsed. A new promissory note must be done after an endorsement is completed for any PLUS Loan.
- 4 The parent borrower also will need to complete credit counseling after the loan is endorsed.

Learn more about financial aid and budgeting at unco.edu/financial-aid/publications-resources/