



WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

STUDENT NAME: _____

WIN: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

WMU Student Financial Aid

1903 W Michigan Ave

Kalamazoo MI 49008-5337

(269) 387-6000

finaid-info@wmich.edu

2019-20 FEDERAL GRADUATE PLUS LOAN

Note: This completed application must be received in our office at least **30 days** prior to student's last date of enrollment in 2019-20.

Please complete the information below if you are a graduate student and wish to apply for the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan.

\$_____ Please indicate the maximum amount you would like to borrow for the semesters indicated below.

NOTE: this amount may be reduced depending upon other factors such as estimated costs, additional resources, eligibility for the federal direct loans.

Indicate the semester(s) for which you are applying:

_____ summer II 2019

_____ fall 2019

_____ spring 2020

Master Promissory Note: In addition to this application (and your FAFSA), you must complete a Federal Graduate PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at **studentloans.gov**. If you have already completed this MPN previously, it is not necessary to complete this step.

Loan Entrance Counseling: You will also need to complete Federal PLUS Loan Entrance Counseling at **studentloans.gov**. If you have already completed Federal PLUS Loan Entrance Counseling previously, it is not necessary to complete this step.

Please note: When a Federal PLUS Loan status is "Accepted" in GoWMU, we have received your application. It does not mean your loan has been approved by the Department of Education. Watch your email / U.S. mail for updates.

I authorize the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education to investigate my credit record and report information concerning my credit to the proper persons and organizations.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Return your completed form to Bronco Express on the lower level of the Bernhard Center. You may also email or mail to the address above. Be sure to include your name and WIN on all pages. Missing information may delay the processing of financial aid.



Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Information Sheet

What is the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS?

The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan enables a graduate student to borrow money for educational expenses. You must be enrolled at least half-time. It is available through the Federal Direct Loan Program at WMU. The Direct Graduate PLUS Loan is additional assistance beyond the Federal Direct Subsidized or Unsubsidized Loan Program.

Award eligibility is based on the information supplied on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The maximum amount you may borrow is based on the cost of attendance for the loan period minus other estimated assistance, including eligibility for the Federal Direct Subsidized or Unsubsidized Loan Program. However, applicants are encouraged to borrow the minimum amount needed to cover your actual costs. See an estimated cost of attendance calculator on our website, wmich.edu/finaid.

Who may borrow a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan?

The borrower of a Federal Grad PLUS Loan is the student if they are admitted to a graduate degree-granting program, are enrolled at least half-time and do not have adverse credit history.

How do I apply for a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan?

First, complete the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan application and return it to Student Financial Aid. Then, complete the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at studentloans.gov. The MPN is required of all first-time borrowers, unless otherwise notified. The Federal Direct Loan Servicer will complete a credit check on the borrower.

What if I don't pass the credit check?

If you don't pass the credit check, you will be notified in writing by the Federal Direct Loan Servicing Center and they will indicate that you have the following options:

- **Appeal:** If you think there may be an error in how the credit worthiness was determined.
- **Endorsement:** You may obtain someone else who does not have adverse credit history to endorse the loan. This person would be responsible to repay the loan if you are unable to make the payments.

Who receives the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan funds?

WMU receives the funds from the federal government. We will apply the Federal Grad PLUS Loan (and any other financial aid the student is receiving) to the direct educational charges on the student's account (usually tuition, fees, room and board) and then to other authorized charges. If any funds remain after the student's bill is paid, a refund will be sent to the student.

How do I repay the loan?

After you have accepted the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, a "Disclosure Statement" will be sent to you by the Department of Education indicating the amount you are borrowing, the loan period and the loan fees. The repayment period begins on the date of the final loan disbursement for the loan period and the first payment is due within 60 days after the day the loan is fully disbursed. Interest begins to accumulate at the time the first disbursement is made. For more information about your loan account, interest rates or repayment plans, visit studentloans.gov or call the Direct Loan Servicing Center at (800) 848-0979.

Am I eligible for a postponement of payments if I am enrolled at least half-time?

Yes, if you are enrolled on at least a half-time basis at an eligible school, payments may be postponed. You must apply for an In-School Deferment from the Direct Loan Servicing Center. To apply for a deferment contact Direct Loan Servicing by telephone, (800) 848-0979.

Questions? Please call Bronco Express at (269) 387-6000 or email us at finaid-info@wmich.edu.