Bloomsburg   LOCK HAVEN   MANSFIELD

COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

What is a Federal Direct Student Loan?

- A loan made through the federal government in the student's name.
- No credit worthiness required.
- Low, fixed interest rates.
- Multiple repayment options.
- Borrowing limits per academic year.
- Potential loan forgiveness based on certain criteria.
- **Get more information**.

Who may apply for a Federal Direct Student Loan?

- Undergraduate, graduate, & doctoral level students.
- Must be enrolled in a degree level program at least half-time.
- Must meet **eligibility** requirements.

How do I apply for a Federal Direct Student Loan?

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS. It is important that you complete all steps to ensure that your loan application is properly processed. Failure to do so will delay the certification of your loan. **This process must be completed by the student, not by the parent.**

STEP 1 - Complete Loan Entrance Counseling

Federal regulations require students to complete entrance counseling before the release of the first disbursement of their loan. When a student borrows a loan, you are obligated to repay it after graduation or if enrolled less than half-time.

- Visit **studentaid.gov**.
- Under "Loans and Grants" select *Loan Entrance Counseling*.
- Under "Select Your Student Status to Begin" select your appropriate status:
  - *I am an Undergraduate Student*
  - *I am a Graduate or Professional Student*
- Log in to start using the student's FSA ID number, not parent's id.
- Complete requested information and follow instructions given.
- For technical or site related issues or have questions, please call Federal Student Aid Information Center 1-800-433-3243.

STEP 2 - Submit Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN)

The MPN is a legal document stating that you promise to repay all of your student loans. The MPN is valid for 10 years without having to complete a new one each year.

- Visit **studentaid.gov**.
- Under "Loans and Grants" select *Master Promissory Note (MPN)*.
- Under "Choose the Direct Loan MPN you want to preview or complete" select *your appropriate status.*
  - *I am an Undergraduate Student*
  - *I am a Graduate/Professional Student* (Note: Once logged in you will need to select the MPN for Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans.)
- Log in to start using the student's FSA ID number, not parent's id.
- Complete requested information and follow instructions given.
- For technical or site related issues or have questions, please call Federal Student Aid Information Center 1-800-433-3243.

STEP 3 - What Happens Next?

- Our office will certify your loan once all required items have been received (i.e. completed FAFSA, verification of at least half-time enrollment in an eligible program, and **satisfactory progress** earned).
- In order for a student loan to be approved and disbursed, the student must **accept the loan**, complete the master promissory note, and complete loan entrance counseling before the last day of enrollment for the term in which the loan is processed. The student must be enrolled at least half-time at the time of disbursement.
- Get more information on how to **reduce/cancel** the loan.