



SUMMER 2014 DIRECT PLUS LOAN FACT SHEET FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Graduate Federal Direct PLUS is a federal credit-based loan, which is available to assist students with the costs of higher education. The student borrower must pass the PLUS loan credit check review and cannot have an adverse credit history. The student borrower must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States. The student must be enrolled for at least 6 credit hours in a degree-granting program. The credit hours must be accepted towards his/her degree program. Repeat classes cannot count towards the credit hour requirement. An enrolled student must be making satisfactory academic progress and have no outstanding balance due from a prior period of enrollment at Boston University.

During the 2013/2014 academic year, the interest rate was established at 6.41%, fixed for the life of the loan. The specific interest rate that a borrower is charged will be included in a disclosure statement that is sent out after the first disbursement of the loan. Interest begins to accrue on the date of the first loan disbursement.

Repayment for the Graduate Federal PLUS loan begins 60 days after you have received the last installment of the loan. However, as long as you are enrolled at least half-time (6 credits), you will be granted a deferment that allows you to postpone payments while you are continuing your education. Your account will be placed in an in-school deferment status. There is no grace period for the PLUS loan, so you will be expected to begin repayment as soon as your deferment ends. Your Loan Servicer will notify the student of his/her payment start date between 30-60 days before the deferment period ends.

Students may annually borrow a Direct PLUS up to the cost of the student's education less any financial aid the student is receiving. However, students are strongly urged to borrow no more than they are able to repay. A loan fee of 4.288% will be deducted from the loan prior to disbursement.

How Do I Apply?

Loan eligibility cannot be determined until the student is registered for the Summer Session. It is important that the Graduate PLUS Loan request be submitted as soon as possible after the student registers for summer classes.

The borrower must complete the four separate steps below:

- 1) Complete the Summer 2014 PLUS Request Form. This form authorizes the U.S. Department of Education to perform a credit review.
- 2) Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at fafsa.gov, if you have not already done so.
 - Submit the [2014/2015 FAFSA](#) if you are a NEW student, a student who received federal student aid during Summer Term 2013 or a student who is enrolling in classes that begin on or after 07/01/14.
 - Your [2013/2014 FAFSA](#) information may be utilized if you are a current student, received federal aid for the 2013/2014 academic year and wish to apply for a summer loan.
- 3) Prior borrowers who completed a PLUS promissory note for the 2013/2014 academic year are not required to complete a new PLUS promissory, unless an endorser was required to secure that loan. First time borrowers and all other borrowers are required to complete a new PLUS promissory note.

To complete the PLUS promissory note, the borrower does so online at studentloans.gov. The borrower will be required to use his/her U.S. Department of Education issued PIN to complete the online promissory note. If the borrower does not have a PIN or cannot recall his/her PIN, please go to pin.ed.gov to secure one. Boston University will be notified within 3-5 business days that you have completed your promissory note online.

Failure to complete the promissory note at least two weeks before the end of the loan period may result in cancellation of the loan.

- 4) The borrower must complete entrance counseling for the Graduate Federal Direct PLUS loan. The requirement may be completed online at studentloans.gov. Entrance counseling must be completed before loan eligibility can be finalized and before funds can be disbursed to Boston University.

Consortium Agreements

*If you are enrolled in a degree program at Boston University and take classes at a different institution, you must have a **Consortium Agreement** completed by two parties: (1) Financial Aid Office at the institution you are attending during the summer and (2) your school's academic office at Boston University. The completed Consortium Agreement should be forwarded to the BU Financial Assistance with your Graduate Direct PLUS Request Form. The consortium agreement must be submitted **at least 3 weeks** before the end of your summer classes in order for Boston University to review your summer loan request.*

If you are enrolled in a degree program at another institution and take classes at Boston University, you may be eligible for a summer Direct Loan. You should first check with your home institution (where you are matriculated as a degree candidate) to see if your home institution will process the summer loan. If they are unwilling, you may submit your request for a summer loan to Boston University along with a Consortium Agreement completed by your home institution.

SUMMER 2014 DIRECT PLUS REQUEST FORM FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Please PRINT and COMPLETE the Loan Request form below and submit it to:

Fax: 617-358-5620
Attn: Janet Turner

Mail: Boston University / Sargent College
Graduate Financial Aid
635 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215

The borrower wishes to apply for a Graduate Direct PLUS Loan in the amount of \$ _____ based on the summer registration listed below.

Number of credits: Summer Session I _____ Summer Session II _____

Any funds anticipated for Summer 2014 from a source other than this loan:

Source _____ Amount \$ _____
Source _____ Amount \$ _____

_____-_____-_____
Social Security Number

First Name Middle Initial Last Name

_____-_____-_____
BU ID Number

_____-_____-_____
Date of Birth
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Address:

Street Name

U.S. Citizenship Status (check one)

(1) ___ U.S. Citizen or National

(2) ___ Permanent Resident/Other
Eligible Non-Citizen

If (2), alien registration No.

City State Zip Code

Home Phone Number

E-mail Address

Summer Phone Number

By my signature below I acknowledge that the above information is true and correct. I understand that I must notify Boston University Financial Assistance regarding any and all changes to the above information. I understand that changing my enrollment may reduce or eliminate my eligibility for a Direct PLUS Loan.

Student's Signature Date