

Federal Family Education Loans Student Federal Financial Aid Process

1. **Complete the FAFSA.** Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for each academic year in which you would like to receive federal aid. The FAFSA can be obtained from the local library, your high school guidance counselor, a college financial aid office, or by calling 1-800-4FEDAID. The FAFSA is also available from the Department of Education’s Web site at www.fafsa.ed.gov. To make it easier to complete on-line, print out the Web Pre-Application Worksheet. FAFSAs are accepted and processed after January 1 of the year in which you plan to attend school. Be sure to indicate that you want to be considered for a student loan by answering “yes” to that question on the FAFSA.

2. **Receive your SAR.** Once your FAFSA is processed, a Student Aid Report (SAR) is created. One copy is sent to you in the mail and electronic copies are sent to all the schools you listed on the FAFSA. If you filed a paper FAFSA, allow 6–8 weeks to receive your SAR. If you filed an electronic FAFSA over the Internet, allow 1–2 weeks to receive your SAR.

3. **Receive your Award Letter.** The school(s) use data from your SAR to determine your financial aid award for the current academic year and sends you an award letter by email or US Mail. Pay particularly close attention to the type of federal loan(s) noted in your award letter. If there is mention of the *William D. Ford Direct Lending Program*, contact your school for the appropriate promissory note.

4. **Complete the Federal Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN).** When completing the MPN, be sure to write the name of your school (please do not abbreviate the name of the school, i.e. U of C), city and state, and school code (if known), in the upper right-hand corner of the master promissory note. After the MPN is completed entirely, make a copy for your records and mail the original to the address your credit union has instructed. **YOU ARE DONE!**

5. **Your Credit Union will complete the application process for you!** Once you have completed your MPN, your credit union will send the original note to the loan processor—Great Lakes. The school noted on your MPN will then be provided with a School Certification Form to complete and send back to the loan processor. A list of the processing centers is shown below with toll-free numbers to call and check on the status of your loan disbursements. You may also access www.mygreatlakes.org for information on your account. Once the loan is guaranteed, you will receive a disclosure outlining the amount of the loan, disbursement dates, and the interest rate.

Credit Union State Location:	Send completed MPNs to:	For questions on applications, approved loan amounts, and loan disbursement dates:	Want to look up loan information yourself?
OH, MI, KY	Great Lakes PO Box 182174 Columbus, OH 43218-2174	1-800-377-9095	Go to www.mygreatlakes.org
AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, ID, KS, ME, MN, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY	Great Lakes PO Box 64080 St. Paul, MN 55164-0080	1-800-366-0032	To access IBIS (Internet Borrower Inquiry Service) Click on “Borrower” and log in. New Users click on “Register” and follow the instructions.
All other states	Great Lakes PO Box 7987 Madison, WI 53707-7987	1-800-236-6600	

6. **PLUS Loan.** If your financial aid award is not sufficient to cover your cost of education, your parents or stepparents can apply for a PLUS loan (if you are a dependent undergraduate student). Or if you are a professional or graduate student, you may be eligible to apply for a PLUS loan. See your credit union for more information and to request a PLUS Master Promissory Note.

Federal Family Education Loans 2008-2009 Quick Reference Guide

Loan Type		Federal Subsidized Stafford	Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Dependent	Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Independent	Federal Parent PLUS/ Grad PLUS
Eligible Borrowers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent undergraduate • Independent undergraduate • Graduate or professional • Based on financial need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent undergraduate • Not based on financial need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent undergraduate • Graduate or professional • Not based on financial need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creditworthy parent of dependent undergraduate • Graduate or professional • Not based on financial need
Annual Borrowing Limits	Year 1	\$3,500	\$3,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	\$7,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	Eligible loan amount—the cost of education less financial aid the student receives
	Year 2	\$4,500	\$4,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	\$8,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	
	Year 3	\$5,500	\$5,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	\$10,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	
	Year 4	\$5,500	\$5,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	\$10,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	
	Year 5	\$5,500	\$5,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	\$12,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	
	Grad	\$8,500	N/A	\$20,500 minus subsidized Stafford awarded	
Aggregate Limits	Undergraduate	\$23,000	\$23,000 minus subsidized Stafford total previously borrowed	\$46,000 minus subsidized Stafford total previously borrowed	No cap
	Graduate	\$65,500	N/A	\$138,500 minus subsidized Stafford total previously borrowed	
Interest Rate		6.0% Undergraduate Fixed - 6.8% Graduate	Fixed - 6.80%	Fixed - 6.80%	Fixed - 8.50%
		For loans disbursed between 07/01/98 and 06/30/06: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variable – In-school, grace and deferment 6.62% Repayment 7.22% 			Variable – 8.02%
Borrower Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Default Fee: 0% (for loans to attend two- and four-year public and private undergraduate institutions and graduate and professional schools) 1% (from loan proceeds, for loans to attend for-profit school) 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origination Fee: 3% (from loan proceeds)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origination Fee: 1.0% (from loan proceeds) 				
Disbursement	Loan proceeds are sent to the school, generally in at least two disbursements.				Loan proceeds are sent to the school, co-payable to the borrower and school, generally in at least two disbursements.
Repayment	Repayment begins six months after the student drops below half-time status or graduates. May prepay any part of loan at any time without penalty. The government pays the interest on the loan while the student is in school and for six months after leaving school (including graduation).		Same as subsidized Stafford. However, interest is payable from the date of disbursement and, if deferred, will be capitalized to the loan balance after the in-school, grace, or deferment period ends. Unsubsidized Stafford borrowers can avoid the extra cost of capitalization altogether by paying the accrued interest monthly or any time before it is capitalized.		First payment is due within 60 days after final disbursement. May prepay any part of loan at any time without penalty. Grad PLUS borrower may receive a deferment while he /she is enrolled on at least a half-time basis.
	Repayment Schedules				
	Standard (regular principal and interest payments over 10 years) Borrower automatically gets this option, unless they specify otherwise. Graduated (2–4 years interest only payments followed by standard payments) Income-Sensitive (based on gross income) Extended (regular principal and interest payments over 25 years)				
Borrower has up to 10 years to repay with a \$50/month minimum payment. Borrower has up to 25 years to repay if their first loan was made on or after 10/7/98 with a balance greater than or equal to \$30,000					

Federal consolidation loans allow a borrower to consolidate multiple federal education loans into a single new loan. Ask your credit union if they offer this option.