

LOANS

Loans and Loan Processing

Some student packages will contain a recommended loan to help meet your financial need. In addition, students often choose to borrow for unusual expenses or to help with the expected parent contribution. Guided by the availability of funds, we will offer you the most advantageous loan program for which you qualify. After we determine your eligibility to borrow, you will be required to complete an online entrance interview and sign an electronic promissory note with the lender. Once you have completed all the required steps, Duke will certify the loan and the proceeds will be credited directly to your account at the Bursar's Office.

The average loan debt for undergraduate students who graduated in the 2007 aid year was \$23,392. While we encourage students and their families to borrow with care, we do understand that borrowing for one's education is an important investment in the future. That said, please borrow wisely, taking on no more debt than is necessary and manageable.

Loans Terms and Amounts

Please see loan types and maximum amounts in "Types of Financial Aid" pg.

Loan Application Procedures

Federal Stafford Loans

First Time Borrowers

1. Complete Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov (web link)
2. Accept the loan on [Duke University Student Center](#) (web link)
3. Complete Stafford/Perkins Entrance Counseling at www.mappingyourfuture.org (web link)
4. Choose a [Stafford Loan Lender](#) (web link)
5. Go to that Stafford lender's website and complete the Federal Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note
6. Once Entrance Loan Counseling has been completed and the Master Promissory Note has been completed the loan will be certified by the Loan Office.

Continuing Students

1. Complete the Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov (web link)
2. Accept the loan on [Duke University Student Center](#) (web link)
3. The loan will be certified.

Federal Perkins Loans

First time borrowers

1. Complete Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov (web link)
2. Accept the loan on [Duke University Student Center](#) (web link)
3. Complete Stafford/Perkins Entrance Counseling at www.mappingyourfuture.org (web link)

4. You will receive the Perkins Loan Master Promissory note and Truth-in-Lending Disclosure Statement by mail from the Student Loan Office starting mid-June. Sign and return both forms to:

Office of Student Loans
2106 Campus Drive
Durham, NC 27708

Continuing Students

1. Complete Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov (web link)
2. Accept the loan on [Duke University Student Center](#) (web link)
3. You will receive the Truth-in-Lending Disclosure Statement by mail from the Student Loan Office starting mid June. Sign and return the form to:

Office of Student Loans
2106 Campus Drive
Durham, NC 27708

Federal PLUS

During application process a credit check will be conducted, but there are no income or collateral requirements

1. Review [PLUS Loan Lender List](#) (web link)
2. Select Lender
3. Complete your PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note online at the lender website

Duke's Recommended Lender List

Stafford, PLUS, and alternative loans are offered by a variety of banks and lending agencies. Students have the right to have the lender of their choice. The Duke University Financial Aid Office is committed to providing our students and their families with accurate information about the best available rates, benefits and service. We have created a Recommended Lender List to help with the selection process. Our research indicates that the lenders listed below offer excellent customer service, competitive interest rates and borrower benefits. If you chose to borrow with a lender from outside the Recommended Lender List, we will be happy to process it for you. Duke University will not discourage, refuse or delay certification of a borrower's loan eligibility. The application procedures and steps to follow remain exactly the same.

Our Recommended Lenders for 2009-2010 are:

- Access Group
- College Foundation
- J P Morgan Chase
- Suntrust
- Wells Fargo

Recommended Lender Selection Process

Duke's recommended lenders are chosen annually by a committee of financial aid professionals. Each year, Duke University sends a Request for Information (RFI) to a number of lenders. The responses from the lenders are then analyzed based on the following criteria:

- Promotes responsible borrowing
- Processes both Federal Stafford and Federal PLUS Loans
- Demonstrates a default rate that is comparative to the national level
- Has a responsive customer service center
- Provides the same competitive benefits to all borrowers
- Financially stable

Duke University does not receive, and will not accept, inducements from lenders in exchange for inclusion in our recommended lender list.

Loan Repayment

Federal Stafford Loan Program

- Begins 6 months after graduation or less than half time enrollment from the University
- Payment up to 10 years
- Graduated and income sensitive payment options available

Federal Perkins Loan Program

- Begins 9 months after graduation or less than half time enrollment from the University
- Borrower will receive a monthly billing statement from Duke University's billing servicer, Educational Computer Systems, Inc. (ECSI).
- Payments are due on the first day of each month; please allow sufficient time for mailing. Payments with an accompanying remittance statement should be mailed to:

Duke University
C/O ECSI, Educational Computer Systems
181 Montour Run Road
Coraopolis , PA 15108-9408

Access account information about your Perkins Loan through [Educational Computer Systems Inc.'s web site \(http://www.ecsi.net/bwr/borrower.html\)](http://www.ecsi.net/bwr/borrower.html). You can:

- View account status/balance
- Update address and telephone number
- View payment history
- Print 1098-e tax interest statements
- Make payments online

Federal PLUS

Repayment for PLUS begins 60 days after last disbursement of loan unless the parent indicates on the application that they wish to defer payment until 6 months after the student graduates. Standard repayment period is 10 years.