

# IMPORTANT LOAN INFORMATION FOR THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

## WESTMINSTER COLLEGE PARTICIPATES IN THE WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM

THROUGH THE FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM, STUDENTS AND PARENTS WILL BORROW FUNDS DIRECTLY FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

### COMPLETING FEDERAL STAFFORD LOAN — ANNUAL STUDENT LOAN ACKNOWLEDGMENT, MPN & ENTRANCE COUNSELING

## Instructions

- Go to [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)
- Log in using the Student's FSA ID and Password
- Choose "Complete Aid Process" tab
- Choose "Complete Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment"
- Select "Start" and complete the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment
- Return to the "Complete Aid Process" tab and choose "Complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN)"
- Complete Master Promissory Note for Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans
- Return to "Complete Aid Process" tab and select "Complete Entrance Counseling"
- Select "Start" and complete counseling

AN ANNUAL STUDENT LOAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE AND ENTRANCE COUNSELING MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE LOAN FUNDS ARE APPLIED TO YOUR STUDENT ACCOUNT.

### Maximum Direct Stafford Loan Eligibility

Subsidized Stafford Loans	Unsubsidized Stafford Loan*
\$3500 first year students	\$2000
\$4500 sophomores	\$2000
\$5500 juniors	\$2000
\$5500 seniors	\$2000

\*The Unsubsidized Stafford Loan eligibility is a result of the 2008 Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act (ECASLA)

**Note: The Direct Stafford Loans have a fixed interest rate. The Department of Education will deduct origination fees before the loan is disbursed to your school account**



### Helpful Hints

- Your FSA ID is the ID you created when you submitted your FAFSA.
- You can answer the Entrance Counseling questions using estimated figures.
- Your Reference information for your MPN should be people you have known for at least 3 years. The first reference should be a parent or guardian, the second should be someone outside of your household

*Please note: Westminster College will not certify a Direct Stafford Loan for any student until the student actively accepts their financial aid award.*

## Direct Parent Plus Loans

Parents can complete a Federal Parent Plus Loan application at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) using the **Parent's** FSA ID. If approved, the maximum annual amount a parent can borrow in the Direct Parent Plus Loan is the annual cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room, board, books, and personal expense allowance) less the financial aid the student is receiving for the academic year.

### Please note:

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required by the U.S. Department of Education before a student can receive a Direct Stafford or Parent Plus Loan
- If approved for the Parent Plus Loan, the parent must complete a Parent Plus Loan Master Promissory Note at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)
- If a parent is **denied** a Direct Parent Plus Loan because of adverse credit history, the student becomes eligible for additional Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan. Additional Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan eligibility is \$4000 for first year and sophomore students and \$5000 for junior and senior students.
- The Direct Parent Plus Loans have a fixed interest rate.
- The Department of Education will deduct origination fees before the loan is disbursed to the student's school account.

*Parent Plus Loan applications for the current academic year will be accepted by the Department of Education after April 1st.*

## Private Education Loans

There are a number of privately funded loan programs that provide funds to credit worthy students.

**Most undergraduate students will need a qualified co-signer.** Although the interest rates and terms may not be as generous as the Federal Loan programs, some students and their parents may be interested in this type of borrowing. Students are strongly encouraged to pursue the lower cost federal loans before private loans.

Below is a list of lenders that Westminster College students have chosen over the past three years. This list is not exclusive and any lender may be used even if they are not listed:

### Private Lenders:

Citizens	Common Bond	Lend Key	Sallie Mae
College Avenue	Discover	PA Forward	Sun Trust
Commerce Bank	First National Bank of PA	PNC Bank	

### Federal Credit Unions:

ARC	Kemba	PA State Employees	Tri State
Butler Armco	Members 1st	Priority First	White Rose
Clearview	Mercer County Community	Rutgers	
Corry	Merrimack Valley	Service 1st	
Everence	Mountain Laurel	Thrivent	
Grove City Area	NEA Member	Timberland	

The maximum amount of additional loan a student can borrow is the annual cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room, board, books, and personal expense allowance) less the financial aid the student is receiving for the academic year.

## Questions?

Contact the Financial Aid Office

Phone: (724) 946-7102

Email: [finaid@westminster.edu](mailto:finaid@westminster.edu)