

Quick Reference Guide to **FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS**

	Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan
Application Process:	Submit FAFSA	Submit FAFSA	Submit FAFSA Parent must submit separate application.
Borrower:	Student	Student	Parent of Dependent Student*
Interest Rate:	Fixed 3.76%	Fixed 3.76%	Fixed 6.31%
Principal Payments Deferred While in School:	Yes	Yes	Possible while student is in school. Parent must contact servicer to request.
Interest Payments Deferred While in School:	Yes. The government pays the interest while student is in school.	Yes, however interest accrues during deferment. Student has the option to pay interest while in school; if not paid, interest will be added to the principal loan balance.	Possible while student is in school. Parent must contact servicer to request. Interest accrues during deferment. Parent has the option to pay interest as it accrues; if not paid, interest will be added to principal loan balance.
Grace Period:	6 months after graduation. Interest is paid by government during grace period. Repayment of loan begins after grace period.	6 months. Interest accrues during grace period. Student has option to pay interest during grace period; if not paid, interest is added to principal loan balance. Repayment of loan begins after grace period.	Possible for 6 months after student graduates. Parent must contact servicer to request. Interest accrues during grace period. If interest is not paid, it will be added to principal loan balance.
Annual Loan Maximum:	Year 1 = up to \$3,500 Year 2 = up to \$4,500 Year 3-4 = up to \$5,500 Amounts depend on financial need.	Dependent Students*: Year 1 = \$5,500 Year 2 = \$6,500 Year 3-4 = \$7,500 Less amount received in Subsidized loan. Independent Students**: Year 1 = \$9,500 Year 2 = \$10,500 Year 3-4 = \$12,500 Less amount received in Subsidized loan.	Total Cost of Attendance listed on award letter minus all other financial aid.
Standard Length of Repayment:	10 years. Other repayment plans available, including plans based on income.	10 years. Other repayment plans available, including plans based on income.	10 years. Extended repayment plans available.
Fees***:	1.069%	1.069%	4.276%
Credit Check Required:	No	No	Yes
Based on Need:	Yes	No	No

*You are considered an **independent** student if you are: at least 24 years old; married; have children; a graduate student; a veteran; a member of the armed forces; an orphan, ward of the court, or homeless. If none of those apply, you are considered a **dependent** student.

**Dependent students whose parents cannot borrow a Parent PLUS loan because of adverse credit history are eligible for the additional Independent Student loan funds. Contact our office for more information.

***Fees are deducted from the loan at disbursement. So, the amount you actually receive will be slightly less than the amount you have to repay.



Learn more about your federal loan options at
<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans>



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

FINANCIAL AID

Frequently Asked **QUESTIONS**

Q: Why is my financial aid package from DU different than the packages I received from other schools?

A: Every school determines eligibility for institutional aid differently. Other colleges and universities are likely to have different costs as well as different amounts of financial aid (especially grant funds) to offer to students. Therefore awards will vary from school to school. Although DU is not able to meet the full need of every student, we use every method possible to coordinate adequate resources to enable you to invest in your education at the University of Denver.

Q: Does DU match financial aid packages from other schools?

A: Your package from DU includes the maximum amount of financial aid we are able to offer. Unfortunately, we do not have enough funding to match award offers from other institutions, and are therefore unable to negotiate financial aid packages.

Q: My financial aid application does not fully capture my family's financial situation. Is there anything I can do?

A: If you and/or your family have experienced an unexpected change to your financial situation since you filed your 2015 tax return, and that information is not reflected in your FAFSA or CSS PROFILE, you may submit a Special Circumstances form (also known as an "appeal"). Examples that may constitute a special circumstance include loss or reduction of employment or wages, bankruptcy or foreclosure, or loss of child support. Examples that do *not* constitute a special circumstance include reduction in 401K or investment values, parents' refusal to contribute to a student's education, unwillingness to borrow loans, or lack of credit-worthy co-signers. Please contact our office for more information about submitting an appeal.

Q: Why wasn't I offered work-study?

A: The amount of funding we have available for this type of aid is extremely limited. In fact, only about 20% of our currently enrolled, eligible students have work-study. Therefore, many students who would otherwise be eligible won't have it offered as a part of their financial aid package. If you don't see work-study on your award letter, chances are that funding has been depleted. If you choose to attend DU and submit your admission deposit, you may contact us to submit your name to the work-study waitlist.

Q: Why wasn't I offered a Federal Perkins loan?

A: Just like work-study, the amount of funding we have available for this type of aid is extremely limited. Therefore, many students who would otherwise be eligible won't have it offered as a part of their financial aid package.

Q: What if I don't qualify for enough aid from DU or federal loans to attend?

A: DU Financial Aid will help in every way possible, but only you and your family can decide if it is financially feasible for you to enroll. We encourage you to use scholarship search services and apply for many private scholarships. Credit-based loan programs and a payment plan are also available. We urge you and your parents to research these options carefully, compare programs and features, and borrow responsibly. Learn more about your options by reviewing the "Steps to Managing Unmet Cost" brochure included in this packet.

Q: Will I receive the same amount of financial aid every year I'm at DU?

A: If your family financial situation remains the same, DU will make every effort to provide you with a similar financial aid package each year, provided you apply for aid on time and there are not significant changes in available federal and state funding.



Additional resources to help you understand your award offer are available at
www.du.edu/financialaid/resources/award



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